

SMW PRESTO Inc.
General Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2007

Dave Cicha called the September meeting of PRESTO for the 2007-2008 school year to order at 7:00 p.m.

Reading and Approval of Minutes:

The May 2007 general meeting minutes were distributed and reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the May minutes. May minutes were approved. The August 2007 general meeting minutes were distributed and reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. August minutes were approved.

Officers' reports:

Treasurer's Report:

Todd Crow presented the Jul/Aug report providing itemized expenditures as well as the current checking, and savings account totals. In addition to the current itemized expenses Todd stated that the uniform cleaning bill and one \$500.00 scholarship was yet to be posted. He also asked for any outstanding receipts for the August picnic to be turned in as soon as possible.

Standing Committee Reports:

• Picnic – Beth Cicha

Beth reported for Michelle Gehring. A record number of members were in attendance (estimated around 50). Considering the extreme heat this was amazing. Suggestions from participants were being compiled and will be placed in a notebook. This will be given to the Bolters for next year picnic chair. Beth expressed thanks to Michelle Gehring for facilitating the games and acquiring the donations for prizes. She also thanked those who bought T-shirts and memberships.

• Uniforms – Beth Cicha

Beth reported for Michelle Kring who was ill. The uniforms have been received from the cleaners. There are few uniforms missing. They are believed to be in the possession of some of last year's seniors. Beth will make an effort to retrieve them. Two uniforms still need to be cleaned. They were being repaired. The current cost for the cleaning was \$762.65. This brought the cost in under budget. Uniform contracts will be sent home in the next week. The contract for this year must be approved. See New Business for discussions.

• Ways & Means – Susan Holcomb

PRESTO will be manning the concessions during the homecoming game, Thursday Oct 4th. Susan requested individuals to sign up for concession duty during the homecoming game for one-hour shifts. The visitor side has openings and four people are needed to attend pre-game training at 6:00 pm. Beth noted that in the past, PRESTO has received as much as \$2000.00 from the sales.

• Membership Database – Beth Cicha

Beth reported for Tammy & Rick Karsten. Currently 30 individuals have paid for PRESTO membership. Some have paid, but have not completed the form. A form needs to be completed for

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the membership database. Once membership Database is completed each chair will receive a list of volunteers for their committee.

- Chaperones – Brenda Barrand
Chaperones will be needed not only for local concerts, but also for the possible San Francisco trip in April. Brenda asked individuals to sign up for chaperoning and note whether or not they might be available for the San Francisco trip.
- PTA Liaison – Cheryl Scott
Cheryl Scott reported for PRESTO at the last PTA meeting.
- Banquet – Anita Hawkins
The end of the school year orchestra banquet will be held on May 14th, 2008. Anita is looking for junior parents to purchase the senior gifts and work along side her for the planning. Several planning ideas were offered based on last years banquet. Pictures of the seniors were taken during orchestra concerts and used as decorations for the tables. Todd Crow offered to work on a slideshow for the banquet.

Director's Report:

Mr. Mulvenon had a prior commitment to attend the annual NE District KMEA dinner/meeting and was unable to attend the PRESTO meeting. Beth Cicha presented the following notes from a phone conversation prior to the meeting:

“(Mr. Mulvenon received) administration approval for the 4/17-4/20/08 trip to San Francisco. These dates are after the musical (4/3-4/5), after the KSHSAA Regional. Solo/Small Ensemble (4/12), and the next day after the KSHSAA State Large Ensemble Music Festival (4/16) and before the KSHSAA State Solo/Small Ensemble Festival (4/26/08). He doesn't know how much the airfare will cost, but the festival fees/room costs and a couple of the meals will be \$350.00 per student. There will be 4 students to a room. For every 20 students, a chaperone stays at the hotel for free, but has to pay for airfare. He is figuring that it will cost \$800.00 per student. A deposit will be required in early October. While he was talking to me, Ms. VanLeeuwen was talking to two choir Moms who would be researching airfares. The trip will be available to students including freshmen. His goal is to have 90% of orchestra students participate in the trip. He needs a percent from each instrument to go so they can play. They will use pieces of music from the first concert. There won't be any band members going so it will be strings only. The violins and violas will be carried onto the plane. Cellos and basses will be rented for a nominal fee and the cost spread out through the total cost of the trip. Within a week, he will give out information to students about a meeting for all choir and orchestra parents. He will ask Presto to send out an email to members about the meeting also. He is asking that one parent come for every student. At the meeting, Curtis and Ms. Van Leeuwen will answer questions and have the materials from the Festival Manager. For fund-raising, Curtis has been talking to Marty Pile (sp?) who is the guy who set up cookie dough, catalog fund-raising in the past. Curtis would like to sell candy, gourmet coffee beans, Hyvee and Price Chopper coupon books. He wants to make most of the fund raising as things that are always available to the students so they can individually fund raise.

Curtis wants to get answers for the following:

Do any parents have a connection to an airline? Do any parents want to help research airfare deals?

(Tonight) he would like us to write down questions and get those to him. He will (then) type up the answers

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and include them in the email about the meeting. Curtis had asked that I read the following statement about the trip information:

'I know you have a lot of questions about the San Francisco trip that I don't have answers for right now. Please ask the questions anyway.'

Curtis is asking parents to email him with questions about the trip. He will compile those questions to send out in an email with answers. Parents can call or email me as well.

(In regards to current class progress), all of the classes are doing well. He is very pleased with their work. Block 1 and 7 are working on the 3rd movement of Geometric Dances and Andante Festivo by Sibelius. Block 2 is working on the 4th movement of Benjamin Britten's Simple Symphony, the 3rd movement of Choreography, and the Overture to the Messiah. He'll give audition information to Block 2 students on Friday, 9/14/07, for the Chamber Orchestra. The audition music for the Chamber Orchestra will be the audition music they already have for the District Music Festival. He will be having the students do a small quartet project at the end of this first semester.

Old Business:

No unfinished business.

New Business:

Uniform contracts: A copy of last year's contract was provided for review and discussion centered on the \$15.00 rental charge. Questions were raised about charging less for uniform rentals if the cleaning cost for this year came in under the budgeted amount. It was pointed out that repairs on the uniforms previously were not factored into the costs. For the last two years Angie Shelton's mother had mended uniforms at no charge. Also a couple of uniforms may have to be replaced. Rex Railsback suggested that the additional revenue might be saved from year to year to cover new uniforms, which will probably be needed in the near future. Dave Cicha pointed out that district is normally responsible for the replacement of the entire orchestra's uniforms. It was pointed out that it was the Director's call on when uniforms would be replaced. Discussion concerning replacement of new uniforms was tabled. The decision was made to continue with current rental fee on contract. Motion was made by Mr. Crow and seconded by Mr. Railsback to keep the rental fee and the uniform contract the same other than required date changes. Motion passed. A motion was made to provide Angie Shelton's mom, Carol Sutcliffe with a gift not to exceed \$50.00 for the mending and repair of uniforms at no cost for the last few years. The motion was seconded and approved by a vote. Sabrina Croke will purchase the gift and send a card.

Homecoming Float: Students Kayla Viets (Student officer) and Rachel Bolter addressed the meeting requesting money in the amount of \$150.00 to cover expenses for an Orchestra Float in the Homecoming Parade. The Orchestra student officers would like to get all orchestra members involved in creating the float. They anticipate renting a trailer for the float and purchasing decorations and candy to throw. A motion was made by Rex Ralsback and seconded by Bruce Viets to provide up to \$150.00 for trailer, candy, and decorations. Students agreed to make inquires about borrowing a trailer. The motion passed.

Fall Concert: A question was asked if a volunteer was needed to provide cookies and punch at the upcoming fall concert. It was determined that in the past the fall concert did not have refreshments. No further plans were made.

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San Francisco Trip: Questions for Mr. Mulvenon included the following:

- What constitutes 90% of the orchestra?
- About how many students (including choir) are expected to attend?
- What is the district policy on the ratio of chaperones to students?
- How would students/chaperones be divided between the various flights?
- What kind of transportation arrangements have been made within San Francisco (performance, sightseeing, etc.)

Laura and Rachel Bolter indicated they might have a family member who is a pilot who could assist with booking a flight. They will look into it.

Fundraiser ideas were discussed to assist the orchestra. It was pointed out that PRESTO would be assisting Mr. Mulvenon whenever possible and all ideas would need to be cleared through the Director. It was suggested that a silent auction of signed celebrity pictures (which were collected last year in anticipation of a fundraiser) and other basket items with a dinner and a performance (perhaps featuring some vocals) might be profitable. Offering this during the fall concert was not an option because of the time limitation. It was suggested an extra performance might be added. Beth Cicha stated she would talk to Mr. Mulvenon about the idea and report back.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn by Bruce Viets and seconded by Todd Crow at 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Sabrina Crooke, PRESTO secretary

Note: Next PRESTO meeting will be held 10/16//07