

SMW Presto Inc.
General Meeting Minutes
Jan. 9, 2006, 7:00 p.m.

The January meeting of the 2005-06 school year was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by President Reid Hillmer.

Minutes from the Dec. 6, 2005 meeting were accepted as written.

The Treasurer's report listed a total balance of \$7,026.95, noting that the projected profit on the T-shirt sales was approximately \$40 short. The actual profit on this year's T-shirt sale was \$61. The report was accepted as provided.

Standing Committees

Chaperone: No report.

Communication: Rick and Tammy Karsten discussed the need for photo releases for student photos on the PRESTO website. Curtis Mulvenon was going to check on this question.

Membership: No report.

Uniforms: Committee chair Michelle Kring indicated that about half a dozen students did not pick up their garment bags after the Winter Concert. She and Curtis will work on distribution. Curtis mentioned that he has received a box of brand new boys' uniforms. He suggested contacting Vera Kunard, last year's Uniform Chairman, to check if she knows anything about this mysterious order.

Ways & Means: No report.

Hospitality: No report.

Banquet: No report.

Picnic: Chair needed for this event.

Chair Announcements

Reid and Jean Hillmer extended kudos to the entire team that was involved with the Winter Concert ... set-up, clean-up, lights, music (by the students and their awesome director!!!), classy decorations, tasty cookies and punch, etc. New SMWest principal Dr. McClean made a point of saying he enjoyed the performance. The group noted that there were a lot of people in the building that night because a basketball game was scheduled on the same night. They were treated to a "taste" of the West Orchestra excellence. The group also discussed that the combination of all three groups together was quite impressive and gave the freshman an incentive and inspiration to excel. Angie Shelton, secretary, sent thank you notes to Coke, Hen House, and the Sheraton.

Director's Report

Curtis Mulvenon continues to seek out information on a Spring 07 Orchestra trip for next year's seniors, juniors, and sophomores. This trip will be to an Adjudicated Festival where the group will receive comments from a panel of judges. Both the West Choir and West Orchestra will be attending. This combination provides a greater number of participants and therefore reduces the per person price. Also, there will be the possibility of performing together. Dates are still unavailable. He is shooting for a trip cost per person of no more than \$500 so as not to be financially burdensome. He will need 95% of the orchestra members in attendance. Curtis explained that fundraising monies will go into separate accounts for students, not into a general trip fund. Therefore, if a student does not participate in fundraising activities, he or she will not benefit from the funds raised.

Curtis will discuss the "Valentine's Day gigs" with students this week. Beth Cicha and Michelle Kring have volunteered to make phone calls to market this activity to corporations like Sprint, Hallmark and others. Curtis envisions many different combinations for the quartets such as, 4 violins; 2 violins and 2 cellos; 1 cello, 1 bass, and 1 violin, 1 violas; 4 violas, etc.

New Business

Senior Gift: The group decided on a framed picture of the senior group for the senior gift again this year. Jean Hillmer will be contacting photographers. The group discussed having individual pictures taken of interested students before a concert date from 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. and having a mandatory group picture taken at 6:15 p.m. before an upcoming concert. All parents will be given the opportunity to purchase these photos; seniors will receive only the senior group picture free as a gift at the end-of-the-year banquet.

Banquet: May 17th is the date for the last concert and end-of-the-year banquet. Jean Hillmer is double checking with the West office that another event has not been scheduled in the cafeteria on top of our event. Last year Senior Sizzle had a last-minute date change, which ended up on the Orchestra banquet night. Although the event times did not conflict, the need to start decorating early for Senior Sizzle meant the Orchestra Banquet theme was "casino-ish" last year. The banquet fee will be approximately \$10 per person to cover food, drinks, décor, etc. The possibility of borrowing themed decorations from a local PTA or PTSA was discussed as a way to cut costs.

Picnic: August 13th, the Sunday before school starts next year, was suggested as the picnic date. A chair for this event is needed because shelter reservations and other preparations need to begin.

Scholarship: PRESTO will be providing one \$500 scholarship again this year. Robb Dudek will be contacted for a copy of last year's scholarship application. This application will be put on the website in February. The deadline for applications from seniors has been set as April 15.

Collage Concert: The group discussed several items in regard to this March 2 concert:

- Program: We will accept advertising for the Collage Concert program at \$100 for full page ads; \$60 for half page ads; and \$40 for quarter page ads. PRESTO has already received \$50 from Ken Beckmann for an ad in the program.
- Target Audience: We intend to market this concert to 4th through 8th grade students and their parents. We hope to attract approximately 800 people for the evening.
- Giveaways: Beth Cicha and Kathy Saenger will make calls about giveaway donations as well as program ads. Perhaps we can obtain REW certificates, rosin, and maybe even a “big prize” like a CD player from Best Buy.
- School Prize: Students will be given an invitation flyer. Those returning to the concert with the flyer will enter their school/themselves in a contest. Somehow we will choose a “winner” of a special SMWest Orchestra concert for their school either by percentage of students present or luck of the draw.
- Food: Cookies and punch will be served. We will probably order 1000 cookies.
- Donation: After the concert but before the audience goes to the reception area, there will be an opportunity for them to make a donation to the SMWest Orchestra. The goal will be to cover the event’s expenses with the advertising fees so that all donations will be profit.

Coming Events

- Middle School Orchestra Festival, Jan. 10.
- State Orchestra, Feb. 23-25 in Wichita.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The next PRESTO meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 7 in Room 151.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Boyd
Angie Shelton, Secretary

Note: Meeting minutes for the current school year are posted on the internet at www.prestowest.org.