

Ooltewah High School Band Boosters

Meeting Minutes

Date: January 22, 2019

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: OHS Band Room

The meeting was called to order by: Glen Olson, Vice President

Motion to approve Minutes: Christina Gregory (1st), Charleen Rader (2nd)

Welcome:

Dr. Ellison

The 2019 Spring and Summer calendar has been posted on Charms and the Band website at www.ooltewahband.org

For the students that made All East Senior Clinic, please bring in your money to Dr. Ellison.

I am so proud of our students and what they have accomplished this year. We have a rich history at Ooltewah and we want to keep it going. Here are some updates on what the band students have done the past few months:

- In December, the students participated in the Angel Tree Project that provided Christmas for four children at Brown Academy. They also brought in socks, scarves, hats, etc. for the Re-stock the Closet Campaign that provides necessities to people in the Chattanooga area that are living in homeless shelters.
- At Carols by Candlelight, the OHS Band and Choir presented an outstanding concert to a packed house at Ooltewah United Methodist Church.
- Three of our students made the top band at Junior Clinic.
- We had 20 students make All East Senior Clinic (more than any other band in Hamilton County).
- We had 7 students make All State, which will be held in April in Nashville, TN

Upcoming Events

- Concert Festival will be in March for our Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble
- Spring concert in May
- We are in the planning stages for next year's Marching Show

Band Booster Board elections will be held at the February meeting. We need five people to form a committee and solicit names for those that might be interested in running for office. The Nomination Committee Members include:

- 1) Matt Henson;
- 2) Cliff Dockery;
- 3) Melissa Steger;
- 4) Jeff Neely;
- 5) Amy Elston

Treasury Report was prepared and presented by Jennifer Dockery. Please see Jennifer with any questions you may have regarding the report. For those with outstanding balances, letters/statements have been sent out and calls have been made. Please see Jennifer or a Board member to either pay your balance or to set-up a payment plan.

Financial Update

The Band Booster Organization is experiencing a cash flow shortage. This is due to several factors. 1) Over budget from the 2017 season and underpayment of owed student band fees; 2) Fundraisers that did not perform as expected along with the loss of some fundraisers, such as the BBQ Sale and the UTC Football/Basketball Program Sales.

Dr. Ellison has met with the Mrs. Cass, Principal at OHS, to provide transparency with what is happening in the organization. The Band Booster Board will be meeting with her in the next couple of weeks.

The Band Booster Organization started the 2018 season with \$16k in debt as of June; then another \$15k was added on for expenses related to band camp. In total, we started the 2018 season in debt at \$31-32k.

The 2018 budget had a projected spend of \$251,000. So far, we have only spent around \$99k for the year keeping costs low by attending local competitions. Unfortunately, we have expenses for staff and current commitments, etc. that need to be paid. Our expected expenses are \$7,500 per month until the end of the fiscal year.

The Band Booster Board has been reaching out to students/parents with outstanding Band fees to collect payment by way of mailing letters/statements and most recently making calls and speaking directly with parents. If you have not paid your fees, checks can be either mailed to the Band Booster mailbox at P.O. 162 Ooltewah, TN 37363 or brought in to Dr. Ellison. We also have options to pay by Paypal (go to www.ooltewahband.org), click on Pay Band Fees at the bottom (a 2.7% processing fee will apply). We also have a Square that can accept credit card payments.

This shortfall will affect what we are able to accomplish this next band season. Budgeting and Fundraising will be extremely important avenues to help us get out of this shortage and prepare for the future. The Band Booster Board is asking for help by way of volunteers to serve on the following committees:

Fundraising Committee

We need help with fresh ideas for fundraising, corporate sponsorships, and grants. We need people that are willing to help with the planning, organization, and legwork of pulling together our fundraisers. Our Fundraising Committee includes the following members:

- 1) Michael Rader; 2) Jennifer McGlohon; 3) Tracy Johnson; 4) Sara Gore; 5) Dee Dee Kerns; 6) John Johnson

Budget and Finance Committee

We need individuals that will help set a realistic budget for the upcoming 2019-2020 Fiscal year. Our Budget and Finance Committee members include:

- 1) John Smith; 2) Angela Washington; 3) Ryan Nelson; 4) Jason McGlohon; 5) Stafford Turner; 6) Dawn Johnson

Upcoming Fundraising Opportunities

- Ironman – May 19th, 2019; Elisa Wilson has agreed to be the new contact and organizer for this event. Be on the lookout for Volunteer Signups. Participating in this event is one way our Band gives back to the Community.
- Pancake Breakfast (Beef O'Brady's) – February 23rd; Tickets will be \$5.00 and we are asking all Band and Colorguard members to sale 10 tickets. This has the potential to be a big fundraiser for the band.
- Amazon If you shop with Amazon, go to the band's website (www.ooltewahband.org) and click on the amazon link. The link will take you to the Amazon site and you will log in like normal. If you use the link on the band website, a portion of the sale will be donated back to the Ooltewah Band.
- Publix will no longer be using the scannable cards. With their new program, you will need to go to the following website and register: www.publix.com/partners. Once you sign up, select the Ooltewah Band, then enter your phone number at checkout to help earn money for the band when you shop at Publix. This is good at any Publix, so please encourage your family and friends to register, as well.
- GL Script Update
Michele Steves (423) 310-9111 has information on how to use the program and enrollment codes for anyone that wants to take advantage of this money making opportunity.

Q&A

Clarification was requested regarding this year's budget and expenses.

What can we do to hold the parents/students with outstanding fees accountable for paying? How much is still owed in outstanding student fees? Have we offered payment plan options to these individuals?

Can individuals make donations?

Ideas were discussed on how to handle unpaid fees in the next school year. How can we engage and recruit middle schools to joining the OHS band?

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 pm