



McCallum Orchestra Booster

Minutes

Sunday, Sept 22, 2024 **DRAFT**

Location: Brentwood Social House

Time: Sunday, Sept 22, 2024, 5:30 pm

Board Members Present: Nhaila H, President; Christy H, Vice President; Katrina H, Treasurer; Gretchen C, Secretary

Quorum: Yes

- bylaws §3.04, "A quorum of the Board of Directors for the conduct of business shall consist of at least three (3) officers in attendance.")
- bylaws § 2.03. "The members present at any membership meeting of the organization, provided at least ten (10) members are present, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business."

Austin ISD: none

Student Rep: Imogen H

Members Present: Mandy B, Corie C, Aleisha K, Natalie M, Cara S, Heather T, Hannah V, Rachael HP

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the August 2024 meeting were sent in advance by email from Gretchen, with paper copies available, one minor clarification made by Christy. Motion to approve minutes by Nhaila, seconded by Katrina.

Meeting Opened/President Nhaila

Student Council: The first Student Orchestra Meeting was held. Planning first social - considering Rollerskating with pizza at Playland Skate. An Honorary Orchestra Member child was suggested (Ms. E was contacted by the sponsoring organization) to the students who are in favor. Plan to have a meet/greet. The child loves classical music and will be attending MAC performances, perhaps including a work of her choice.

Trip (Cara): Planning is going well with the new company "Educational Travel Adventures."

Location: Washington D.C. (though lodging will be outside of D.C. to lower the cost)

Dates: planned 6/11-15/2025 (to avoid the week of high school graduations)

Includes all breakfasts at hotel, 4 dinners

Cellos/Basses rented, students bring bows; violas/violins brought by students as carry-on

Student price \$2125 (3-4 students per room, flights/transportation and meals as above included, admissions to outings included);

Chaperone price \$2312 (if in a double room), \$2687 (if in a single)

Historically 60-70 students and 10-20 chaperones attend

Plan to attend National Symphony orchestra at Kennedy Center

Potential outings: Library of Congress, Supreme Court, National Museum of African American Culture, Zoo or Smithsonian, Arlington National Cemetery

Students will perform at a Cathedral

Trip Insurance is available, can cancel up to 48 hours in advance (with 70% back or if medical documentation 100%)

Pay on their website

Cara responded to a question: she will check if students can come to trip without the flight, flight is not yet decided, undetermined cost for checked bags

Nhaila: How to pay for directors to be on the trip?

UIL rules for booster clubs have to be followed and still being worked out; Dr. P. and Nhaila discussing

2023 NY trip paid the two directors \$2000 each out of the MOB funds

Treasurer (Katrina): August financials presented, not much activity, approx \$20K in account

PO Box rented at Central Park Post Office (N. Lamar) for 1 year, this will prevent important mail from being lost/held in MAC office (as happened in 2022)

Proposed Budget for 2024-25 presented (break even budget), Treasurer averaged expenses over 3 years to determine the budget

Treasurer notes that Banquet loses money each year (about \$800 per year)

Discussion of banquet (see below)

Budget approval motion by Nhaila, second by Mandy, unanimous approval by group

End of Year Banquet (Christy): The previous banquet chair has talked with Christy, new point person, no committee for banquet yet.

Oasis location popular, examples of other group banquet prices given by members present, avg is one student plus one adult \$40-50. Some organizations pay for all students but adult prices are higher to make up for that (price for Orchestra banquet last year \$20 students, \$35 adults)

Discussion of whether better planning for numbers and perhaps paying for students so that each student actually provides an RSVP, some examples of food running out in 2023 when students came late from another event.

Lesson Assistance Program (Mandy): application process explained and application (paper copy) available for members to review. Low application number in the first week available. Paper copies will be available at school now (student rep agreed to take them and bring to school). Mandy will make QR code fliers for directors to announce and post in the music rooms. Mandy will ask directors if they have any students to nominate, in particular, students from last year's program. Christy will send out the link for the application on the social media platforms.

Fundraising - Rachael

Idea: Haunted House run by students, need to figure out where it can be held (noted by Gretchen who attended the booster club meeting with Dr. P – all school location events have to be requested by the teacher sponsor, limited availability of locations already with the PAC being completely booked). Discussion followed with some ideas for ways to plan a low-key event but consensus was that a lot of plans would be needed, nothing was definitely decided. Reminder by Nhaila that \$10,000 will be needed to stay in line with last year's fundraising and goals to support the students' financial needs.

Idea: Auction for students to perform as quartets for individuals

Idea: QR code for donations as a "ticket" handed out at the door, could use the account on Ludus for the "tickets"

Idea: mobilize the students to ask for \$ from business

Idea: Valentine's event: students can sell "music-grams" at school for someone to play a short song

Secretary - Gretchen

Need to decide how to make minutes from meetings available to all members as required by Booster Club guidelines from Dr. P (same as UIL guidelines). Suggestions for email (would have to be through CutTime) or put on MOB website. Motion to put on website by Hannah, second by Nhaila, passed by unanimous consent

Need a solution for keeping records for posterity. Perhaps Google Workspace? To allow access to folders for multiple board members or sub-committees and access for year to year continuity. Nhaila will present a potential solution at the next meeting.

Programs - Christy

Previously, Monica made programs twice a year (fall and Spring). Cost is \$2000. Spring should continue due to Senior salutes in the spring – members present agreed. Would save money if used a virtual program with a QR code. Perhaps the tickets for fundraising would have a QR code available.

Christy will contact the Lamar Orchestra Booster president about having programs for Fall Concert available in this fashion (Lamar shares the Fall performance with MAC). It's possible to re-use the same tickets for fundraising and concerts if we replace the information on the program link with the most up to date program information. Theme for October Fall Concert is "planets" and Christy has some ideas already

Meeting for October same place (Brentwood Social House). Violet Crown not avail anymore for large groups on Sunday evenings(per Gretchen who emailed with the manager). Gretchen will email BSH's manager.

10/20/24 Sunday 5pm (not 5:30pm since BSH closes at 7p)

Meeting adjourned