

Simsbury Friends For Music and the Performing Arts  
Meeting Minutes September 17, 2018  
Submitted by Marianne Longo

In Attendance: Angela Griffin, Elisabeth Hodson, Marianne Longo, Veronica Grossman, Karen Cantelmo, Melissa Richards, Anna Vdovenko, Wanda Kirejczyk, Christine Lill, Marie Winiarski, Diana Yeisley.

- **Meeting Minutes:** June minutes approval motioned by Roni Grossman, seconded by Wanda Kirejczyk and accepted.
- **Treasurer's Report**
  - Current income from membership is around \$10,847.
  - Last year we raised about \$7000 at forms and photo fair versus \$2500 this year.
  - Total bank balance including savings is around \$44,000.
  - Karen purchased a card reader for use at concerts.
- **Membership**
  - Speaking at concerts
    - Scripting is important for consistent message and emphasis that all monies go to students. Elisabeth has scripting for our pitch and will write something for teacher to say to reiterate need for donations at end of concert
  - Want to put membership form with envelope in the concert programs Roni has volunteered to design the envelope
  - Will put all members into drawing for (2) tickets to "Kiss Me Kate" Drawings will be at winter concerts at HJMS and SHS for a total giveaway of (4) tickets
  - To remind parents that they did not get the form in the mail, we will:
    - Send an email out on listserv with a link to the SFFMPA membership form
    - Marie will send email to last year's members who have not yet signed up for this year
    - Roni will explore having envelopes printed for inclusion at concerts
    - Angela will have music teachers post hyperlink to SFFMPA membership form on their websites
    - Melissa will pursue having our notice pinned to Discussion (not just announcements) on FB pages: SNU, Drama Mamas and Pappas, Call Board
  - We will get back into the summer mailing for 2019 – we will pay a percent of postage so that we can be included
- **Webmaster / Social Media**
  - We will create an Instagram account, Melissa Richards agreed to do this
  - Martha Hogan is a good resource for photo permissions. All students in the musical sign releases
- **Liaison**
  - Same liaisons as last year except Lyn Yu will have a co-liaison at her school Kim Sudnick.
- **Director's Report**
  - JoAnna Ferrari will be on maternity leave. Gabriel Remillard and Kevin Huhn will provide teacher coverage for her leave
  - Simsbury Singers has been selected to perform April 6 at NAFME Eastern Division Conference

- We will have student orchestral performers on stage with Black Violin at the Bushnell on October 24. [www.blackviolin.net](http://www.blackviolin.net)
- Jeanne Freeman is the Townwide Guest Artist this year. She is an Irish Fiddle Artist. The concert this year is for orchestra. [www.jeannefreemanmusic.com](http://www.jeannefreemanmusic.com)
- **Fundraising**
  - Meadow Farms Fundraiser – Wanda Kirejczyk
    - Packets have arrived at all schools
    - Angela will ask music teachers to email her confirmation when the packets have been sent home
    - Wanda will get digital flyer from Meadow Farms with our fundraising information on it and forward it to Melissa to post on the SFFMPA web page
    - The fundraiser ends 10/5 but Wanda will continue to collect orders after that date
    - Parents are encouraged to place orders on line so merchandise mails immediately
  - An Evening with Friends Fundraiser – Marianne Longo
    - Simsbury Inn - March 8, 2019 with snow date March 9; 7-11 PM
    - Cocktail attire, black tie optional
    - Ticket price \$75 per person
    - Contract with Simsbury Inn includes passed and fixed appetizers, carving station and desserts. Cash Bar. They donated infused water, a second bartender, a second carving station attendant and 15 dinners for student volunteers.
    - We have the ballrooms and the lobby area with the grand piano, coat check
    - Performances throughout the night including students for prelude / interlude; alumni; faculty and community artists.
    - Emily Bautista is not available, but we will pursue a video message and maybe an Alumni mash up, they can send clips and we can assemble them
    - Diana Yeisley will secure a radio or TV personality to emcee
    - **Next steps: Need to lay out format of evening, length of time for each performer, ask that they do at least 2 pieces within their time allotted.**
    - Angela will coordinate securing performers.
    - There was lengthy discussion on corporate donor solicitation
    - We will feature Virtuoso and Maestro level sponsors in our media ads for the event and on a poster board at the event. Business partners who donate at the Musician level up to \$500. will be listed in the program and on a poster board at the event. Businesses can donate an auction items if they are not able to donate monies.
    - Elisabeth will look into joining the Chamber of Commerce as a non profit member.
    - Auction items will be solicited as direct donations from individuals and families rather than ask people to solicit from businesses. Angela will donate (2) tickets for a table at the TMMF concert for 2019 season.
    - We should put a flyer in the program for the winter concerts advertising “An Evening with Friends” and sell tickets at all concerts

- Prior to approving \$500 deposit, Marianne will ask for impact of cancellation and deadline for headcount and have that added to the contract; then board will meet to confirm approval for deposit to be paid
  - Google docs are made for corporate sponsors, auction items, and committee volunteers. Links will be sent out to the group.
  - Marianne reviewed tentative committees and passed a volunteer sign up sheet
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- Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM