

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SIMSBURY FRIENDS FOR MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS, INC.
at Simsbury High School, Simsbury, CT
November 4, 2019

Elisabeth Hodson president of the Simsbury Friends For Music and Performing Arts, Inc. (SFFM&PA), opened the meeting at about 7:00 P.M. Present were 11 members: Amy Bobinski, Carolyn Clement, Angela Griffin, Carolyn Harris, Christine Lill, Elisabeth Hodson, Cindy Reed-Brown, Kimberly Sudnick, Sarah Warner, Marie Winiarski, and Lynn Yu.

Since the meeting had a member who had not been present recently, members introduced themselves. The minutes of the October 7, 2019 meeting were approved.

The chair Elisabeth Hodson presented a report of the liaisons at the schools and discussed what was going on at the schools, the opening at Latimer Lane, the holiday concert season, what was expected of a liaison at each concert, and the plans for the year. The chair announced she would speak at the Latimer Lane concert to recruit a liaison for Latimer Lane and would reach out to all liaisons to share concert information dates.

Christine Lill presented the report of the membership chair. The report includes trends and membership numbers. The report indicates that membership was down from the end of last year and that approximately 30% of the members chose to join on line. A member was assigned to promote membership with a post on Facebook using the "Hair Spray" logo to advertise 4 sets of 2 tickets to be drawn at the December concerts. It was encouraged that all members "share" on Facebook all SFFM&PA membership posts. Liaisons were encouraged to promote membership at concerts. It was the consensus that moving forward that membership registration: (1) would include year (s) of graduation for student(s); and, (2) would identify the school affiliation so that membership information would be more useful.

Marie Winiarski presented the report of the fundraising chair. It was noted that the Meadow Farms fundraiser was producing less revenue from the previous year and that the net profit derived from it so far was under \$1,500. It had been previously discussed that this was likely the last year to engage in this particular fundraising effort. Reusable bags were again discussed as fundraising product to sell and more direction was given as to color and design. An open discussion took place as to other fundraising ideas such as Post-Its, t-shirts, performance gear made of nylon/polyester or quick dry, and winter scarves and hats. The group agreed that Marie should source Post-Its at a reasonable price for the December concerts. A goal to obtain possible samples for fundraising items for the December meeting was set.

A discussion followed regarding the possible HJMS auditorium reception and concepts for a fundraiser. The HJMS auditorium chair plaques fundraiser was discussed. Elisabeth Hodson reported on continued efforts to get school department approval for chair plaques on the HJMS auditorium as a SFFM&PA fundraising effort. The tentative date for the SFFM&PA event at the new auditorium is 3/27/20.

Amy Bobinski invited members to contact her about implementing website enhancements.

Carolyn Clement of the social media committee discussed social media efforts such as "like" and "share" on Facebook. She also reported that the efforts of the production of "Where Are they Now?" videos continues with Anna Vdonvenko. The names of 4 former students were discussed as likely prospects for

new videos for Anna Vdonvenko to pursue following the success of her previous videos. Engagement with PTOs, Parent groups and Face Book pages and websites was encouraged.

Lynn Yu presented the Treasurer's Report which includes an annual budget for all expenses broken down by elementary, junior/middle, and high school as well as general operating expenses and scholarship funds. The report shows rows of categories each school level and scholarship and operating expenses. Each category includes three columns: (1) annual budget, (2) the actual amount raised to date, and (3) a third column for the over and under amounts. The report identifies goals to achieve and the progress as an organization toward accomplishing those goals. A discussion followed on the comparison of the financial position of SFFM&PA to the previous year.

The Director's Report was presented by Angela Griffin. She discussed the recent successes of the Pizza Wars to fundraise for the Italy trips and thanked SFFM&PA for their support of the event. Angela Griffin discussed the inductions for the year 2019-2020 of "Tri-M" (a national music honor society at the high school level) members at SHS. She also discussed the Simsbury High School Gospel Choir. Angela described the recent successes of the "*One Act Festival*" and the "*Northern Region Festival*." Angela highlighted the upcoming events of "*Men's Night Out*", and the meeting in November to prepare for the opening of the SHS Musical "*Hair Spray*." She also announced a meeting in November for the HJMS Musical audition for "*Anything Goes*."

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Sudnick, Secretary