

Akins Band Boosters General Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Henry Castillo at 6:45 p.m.

In Attendance

Gary Faust, Nancy Hernandez, Terrie Reyes-Kitch, Laurie Hohertz, Josie Walker, Connie Gaddy, Nancy Oswald, Sophia Alvarado, Carol Higgins, Susan Starks, Manuelia Juarez, Armando Ortiz, Tom Adams, Deanna Adams, Kevin Roy, Suzanne Calderon, Yolanda Calderon, Randy Kirtley, Christina DeWinne, Becky Tenney, Veronica Castillo, Tim McMorris, Henry Castillo, Greg DeWinne, Sylvia Meiron

Approval of Minutes

Henry told membership that the approval of minutes will be tabled to next meeting in March. The meeting minutes for December and February will be reviewed and voted on at that meeting.

Director Notes

Gary Faust addressed the membership on the following items:

1. Texas Independence Day Parade
 2. New uniforms
 3. The spring trip
 4. Fair share and expenses
 5. London Trip
 6. U.I.L. results
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1. On Saturday, March 3, 2007, Mr. Faust wants a good representation of the Akins band at the Texas Independence Day parade. He has ordered 2 buses. No percussion members will be needed because LBJ and McCallum will provide those students. And at the parade, will be a model of the new Akins band uniform.
 2. Mr. Faust presented a model of the new band uniform to the membership. The company that designed the uniform had to approve the band program before agreeing to make the uniform. The next step is for AISD to approve the bid for the uniforms. AISD is a district that usually goes with the low bid, Mr. Faust informed everyone. The company that is making the uniforms is giving the Directors supportive information to help in the approval process. The district allows about \$300 per uniform and these are under that, which give us, Akins, a good cushion. The uniform is Navy with white. The plume is taller. The look of the uniform give smoother, slimmer, taller lines. They are machine washable. The Drum Majors will be all Navy. The uniforms will be part of the new 2007-2008 budget, so we have to wait for approval in the fall from AISD administration.

3. The Spring trip information was changed: A student who did not pay his Fair share, will not be allowed to go on the trip. The Fair share must be paid in full. There will not be a color guard competition. The school will be represented by one band of over 100 students from all 3 bands combined. On Thursday, March 1, he will have a better picture of the number of students going on the trip. Along with the staff, there will be official chaperones, parents selected to accompany the students.
4. Mr. Faust, at the request of Henry and Tim, talked to the membership about the use of the Fair share funds and the band activity fund. He wanted to clear up some of the uses of the funds that made this band a more competitive band at a higher level, the state competition level. He did report that this year Fair share payments were higher than last year. He explained that if all students paid fair share there would be about \$39,000.00 available for the following expenses: \$7000.00 for the formations, the show designs, \$3000.00 for music, \$10,000 for additional Director assistance, like Mr. Potter, Color guard director salary, \$20,000.00; consultant fees, trumpets assistant, entry fees, buses to shows, the costumes of the color guard, equipment and sound system. The school does receive funds for the band program, but it is limited to supplies and repairs. Mr. Faust does not want to increase the fair share amount. The Band Boosters as an organization primary mission is to provide physical and financial support of the band program. On Mr. Faust's wish list at the beginning of the 2006 year was the support of the boosters for one half of the salary, \$10,000.00 for the assistant directors. Mr. Faust wants to plan for next year, and wants to be sure that parents understand that to stay competitive at BOA and state level, we have to have good fund raising ideas, good fair share response, and the support of the band boosters.
5. The London Trip is still the goal for the 2008-2009 school year. There will be a payment plan. The officials that offered the program are supportive of the Akins band. There will be a meeting to formalize the invitation in the coming weeks. There will be information available to incoming students.
6. This past Saturday, February 24th, the students competed in U.I.L. Solo and ensemble. There were 85 medals awarded, more than last year. 26 students will be going to state competition.

Closing comments by Mr. Faust: The show for next year is being designed. There will be props and visual effects to appeal to BOA competition. The entry fee for BOA needs to be paid earlier as well. By paying this fee earlier, the preliminary performance would be moved to Saturday.

Tim McMorris, Co- President, talked about the lack of a budget at the beginning of this year. The previous board did not have a working budget, so planning for this year's expenses was difficult. There is a plan in the works for a working budget for the new 2007-2008 year.

A question about the money from the "Friday Night Lights". Tim explained that

the money raised from that event was already designated prior to the event date. The funds were placed into the band activity account for expenses. Henry Castillo, Co-President, added that Mr. Faust came to the meeting to address in detail the costs involved in making this band program a stronger, more competitive on a higher level. He hopes to keep the program at this level.

Treasurer's Report

Carol Higgins presented the financial report. Carol also made a cumulative report of all activity including expenses and revenue through February 2007.

She reported that there was little activity in December and January.

In December: The expenses were \$1500.00 toward the salaries of the Assistant Directors. The purchase of the floor for winter guard at \$500. The purchase of sabers for winter guard show \$303.00

Taxes paid in January \$238.00

In February, expenses were payments for the scaffolding, invoice for water jugs, and custodian fees for WGI and other costs incurred for the event.

Revenue: Taco Cabana Night (from November) \$74.29 came in February.

The WGI event generated excellent revenue.

The available balance is approximately \$13000.00.

The motion to accept the treasurer's financial report as presented by Carol was made by Kevin Roy. Randy Kirtley seconded the motion. The motion was called to a vote and passed unanimously.

Financial Commitment of Band Boosters

Tim presented the financial commitment to offset the cost the assistant Director salary. At the beginning of the school year Henry and Tim talked to the Directors and made a commitment to help with the salary if the boosters were financially capable. Veronica Castillo made the motion to vote on the financial commitment of \$8500.00 to fulfill the obligation of the Director salary. The motion was seconded by Laurie Hohertz. The vote was called and passed unanimously.

WGI Color guard Program

Carol Higgins, who chaired the WGI event, reported on the WGI event that was hosted by Akins on February 3rd. The event took place all day Saturday. Carol reported that committees were meeting weekly up until the night before the event to plan and prepare. The show was a success thanks to volunteers, students and staff. The WGI officials have offered great feedback as well as chance to host the show at Akins next year and it will take place the 3rd Saturday in February. Another judge who works with another color guard program, TCGC, also offered Akins as a possible host to a color guard event. The event will bring in over \$8000.00 after all expenses are paid.

Tim McMorris offered his thanks to Carol for putting in endless hours and effort to the event. She received a round of applause.

Old Business

- The memory CD is still on sale. Please place your order.
- Henry said there are show shirts available from the marching show and from the WGI show. The WGI shirts are white and can be used for band camp. The price will be between \$7.00 to \$8.00.
- The winner of the Dodge truck was a woman in Sherman, TX. The announcement was made by Susan Starks.

New Business

Susan presented the Hometown Scholarship program results for this year. She said that the program's success depends on a strong commitment by the boosters to provide manpower to promote the truck and to get donations. The program starts in August and continues through November 14th. Christina DeWinne made a motion to support the Hometown Scholarship for the 2007-2008 year. The motion was seconded by Deanna Adams. The motion was called to vote and passed unanimously.

Nominations for the 2007-2008 Executive Board

Tim opened the nominations for the positions on the Executive Board:

President: Tim McMorris and Henry Castillo as Co- Presidents

VP I Fund Raising: Deanna Adams

VP II Student Fund Raising: No nominations

VP III Hospitality: Veronica Castillo

Recording Secretary: Sylvia Meiron

Corresponding Secretary: Susan Starks

Treasurer: Carol Higgins

Closing Comments:

- Henry announced that the Pay pal program would not be operating in time to take payments for the Spring trip.
- Committee chairmanship positions will also be available. By the April meeting, the Executive board will be talking to the membership about committee chair positions.
- Becky Tenney asked that the 8th grade parents of Paredes, Bedichek, Bailey and Mendez be invited to a meeting. Tim said they did that last year and intend to do the same this year. Henry commented that freshman parents were very helpful this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.