



**Music Sponsors South
General Membership Meeting
February 20, 2018
7:00 pm**

A sign in sheet is on file.

Old Business: Chirstine Fiorello started the meeting by welcoming everyone and the January minutes were approved.

Mr. Raguseo reported that we are officially marching in St Patrick's Day Parade; students can bring the permission slip and payment to first rehearsal on 2/24 (\$50 to cover transportation, lunch and scarf). Parents are welcome to meet us along the parade route. All dates and practices are listed on Mr. Raguseo's calendar on the website.

A motion was made to increase MSS scholarship disbursement from \$1200 to \$2500 and to award \$500/year for the next 4 years for the Mary Ellen Mannarino Memorial Scholarship. Meg Cashion approved and Kelly Iannone seconded. Magaly Milton asked how much each MSS scholarship was. Mr. Raguseo explained that the scholarship committee decides the division of funds depending on the applicant pool. An email will be going out to parents of senior MSS members notifying them of the scholarship. Applications will be sent directly to senior students whose families are MSS members.

Treasurer's Report: Michael Milton presented the budget. The only activity since the last meeting was a \$500 deposit to secure the catering hall for the 6/4 banquet. He reviewed the semi-annual report of operations which was submitted to the board office. Michael distributed a document titled "MSS Treasurer's Report 2/20/18 – Response to Financial Inquiries" to the group and was immediately asked by Mr. Raguseo and Christine Fiorello to stop his presentation. There were no financial inquiries asked of him by the general membership, no one asked him to prepare or present this document, and this was not what was discussed and agreed upon at the Executive Board Meeting. Members were told financial questions should be directed to Michael. A copy of this document is on record. Debra Montalbano approved the budget and Rosa Bellia seconded the motion.

New Business: Music in the Parks will begin on Saturday, 4/28. We have been assigned 3 Fridays and 5 Saturdays, for both band and choir. Groups are signing up and Mr. Raguseo sent the insurance certificate to the board office. Carmen will set up sign-up genius for these events. Christine asked Mr. Raguseo about the need to purchase walkie talkies; he said he's waiting to hear back from John Maguire, District Security Director, about it.

A Bylaw Revision Committee needs to be formed at this time. We are operating under bylaws from 2013. Membership was notified via emails (from both Christine Fiorello and Mrs. Kaster) that the

committee would be formed tonight. Members were asked to see Mr. Raguseo at the end of the meeting if they would like to sign up for the Bylaw Committee. Bylaw committee would need to meet before the next general membership meeting and be prepared to present revisions to the group at our 3/12 meeting. Tara McCormick and Michael Maggipinto asked why the process of obtaining members changed (from original email solicitation in January) and how can the original volunteers (who signed up via email last month) be included. It was agreed that if someone volunteered via email in January, but was unable to attend the MSS meeting tonight, they would be notified and asked if they'd still like to join the group.

NOTE: Michele Mingino later clarified with Mr. Raguseo that all original volunteers (from January email) were in attendance at this meeting and had the opportunity to join the committee.

Christine announced our next general membership meeting will be 3/12/18 at 7 pm.

Committee Updates: Kim reported the final fundraising event of the year will be a clothing drive 5/22.

Donna Barnes and Rosa Bellia spoke about the Music Banquet on 6/4. A deposit has been given to Jacques to secure the date. A save the date will be posted on Facebook and invitations will go out after spring break. There will be a photo booth, candy table and baskets. Creating theme baskets by section was discussed. The price will remain at \$38/pp.

Claudia Healey asked for two additional volunteers for the Scholarship Committee (since the 2 parents who previously volunteered were parents of 8th graders). Nikki Nicola and Christine Nolan stepped up to be on the committee.

Open discussion/questions: Rosa spoke about the yearbook and the need for someone to take over photography/yearbook for next year. Megaly Milton offered her assistance.

John Merola spoke about the poor condition of the food booth and the urgent need for repairs. He asked for a walk-through so that a list can be created and a plan can be put in place with regard to budget/cost of repairs and improvements and cutting back tree limbs. Nancy suggested using Eagle Scouts for painting and finishing work. We need licensed contractors to do construction/electric work.

Next Board meeting will be 3/12 at 6 pm with the general membership meeting at 7 pm.

Directors Comments: Mr. Raguseo talked about two large potential upcoming purchases. We need some type of golf cart (to replace tractor/tugger) and a new, larger trailer. The approximate costs are \$3500-\$4500 for a used golf cart and approximately \$6500 for a new trailer. Mr. Raguseo will give an update at the next meeting. Megaly Milton asked how much funding the district will provide and Mr. Raguseo explained that they only provide curricular needs, and things such as buses and drivers to pull the trailers.

Christine Fiorello wrapped up the meeting. Kelly Iannone spoke up and asked for the floor. She expressed her opinion about the inappropriate nature of Michael's attempted presentation, her

objection to his unsolicited distribution of the document, and accused him of making a personal attack on Claudia Healey.

The meeting concluded. Bylaw committee candidates approached Mr. Raguseo at this point and a list of interested members was created.