

Alumni Blue Band Association Board Meeting
Annual Homecoming Sunday
January 21, 2006 at 10:00 a.m.

In attendance: Ben Heller, Lee Shaw, Judy Engle, Dr. Dick Bundy, Bill Rubert, Conrad Steinmann, Joel Guldin, Ed Carpenter, Katie Brunner, Eric Menendez, Brett Butler, Lynn Koehler, Joe Rokita, Bill Croissant, Helen Meyer

Via conference call: Greg Bennett, Curt Harler and Bill Trach

Open

Judy opened the meeting with a “thank you” to Catherine for her participation as president last year.

Minutes

Lee Shaw made a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting as read, Conrad Steinmann seconded. Minutes were approved.

Treasurer’s Report

Ben Heller said that they basically broke even with the Homecoming income this year. He explained about the debits and said the major ones were the Homecoming bus, and the reception. He explained the operating account and the balance of the naming of the staff assistant’s office account. Ed Carpenter offered to also be on the finance committee with Ben. Dr Bundy expressed a “thank you” to Ben for all of his work on the treasurer’s report. Ed Carpenter asked that past reports be easy to access for any questions that may occur during a meeting. Ed Carpenter moved to accept the treasurer’s report, Lynn Koehler seconded. Treasurer’s report was approved.

Old Business

Judy brought it to the Board’s attention that there are new ways of conference calling. Conrad gave some ideas of how to change to a different system and he made a motion to further investigate the reservation-less conference calling account including cost, access codes and phone number. Curt seconded the motion. Greg told the Board that he had used a system similar to this in the past. You only pay for it when it is used. The motion was carried.

Alumni Tours

Bill Rubert reported to the Board that he was approached, during Homecoming events, from the Alumni Tours to present a brochure to the ABBA membership. It was rather costly, but Bill thought it could maybe be offered to ABBA to see what they thought. He also thought it could be an incentive to some of the alums to gather them in. Bill said he could spend some time on this and get back to the Board with more detail on it. He thought that maybe an article could be added into the Fanfare about it, to see what the interest would be. Lee suggested that Joyce Hoffman be their liaison in this. Lee said it could be of some value for adding links for members for the alumni association, and tours, etc to the website. Judy asked Bill to follow up on this with Joyce.

Blue/White Weekend

Ben informed the Board that there will be a better research on getting the alums together with the Blue Band for Blue/White game, since it was too late to do last year. Ben suggested that they send some announcement out to get an R.S.V.P. to see what interest this would generate maybe in an email. Conrad said that it could be a good idea for those alums that can no longer march, since it's a sit in the stands gig. Dr Bundy recommended that they identify the songs and maybe make up a small plastic folder for the alums. Judy suggested they could maybe have the instrument truck closer to the stadium so the alums don't have to come all the way to the Blue Band building. Greg offered that in recent years they had done something similar to this. He also suggested adding an article in the Fanfare and having an R.S.V.P. to get a count so that the folders could be made up. Dr Bundy said that athletics did say the issues were worked out for this so it looks good for this year. The issue of the truck was discussed due to university policy. Ben volunteered to chair a committee of Judy, Lynn, and Conrad so that they can check into this. Dr Bundy also said he will help in any way, but will not be present at Blue/White this year. Ben said the truck issue has to be resolved first. Is it needed, or not. Game folders were discussed to maybe add the Blue/White music right into the Homecoming folders. Helen read an email from alum who expressed his interest in the alumni blue band performing at the Blue/White game with the current band members. He had said that his dues were not currently paid up, but that he intended to update them just to be involved with this event.

Committees

Judy asked for committee reviews. They are as follows:

- ❖ ***Outreach and Communications*** - Greg reported that the Outreach and Communications committee has stayed on the task of getting the newsletter out on time, and reaching out to the membership to make things more appealing for greater membership and providing more opportunities for current members. He said the more opportunities to come back and interact with the current Blue Band; the better it will be for the future. Conrad added that communication is important for the membership. He said he liked the suggestion that Lee had made about links on the website to other organizations. Conrad said he feels that it is getting better this year. Judy suggested that they recruit members for committees even if they are not Board members. Judy had asked who was in charge of updating the website. Conrad suggested that there be an editor for the website just to keep checking on updates and possibly adding links. He also proposed that the committee name an editor for the website. Joel asked if it was general information, do the other members know they can be a committee member, without being a Board member. Conrad suggested that it be an article in the Fanfare with committee members/chairs, and their emails so that the members could contact them.
- ❖ ***Homecoming*** - Bill reported that there will be a number of things that need to be changed; he added that a Table of Contents was made as per his request to add into the folders along with the music. Bill suggested that maybe the amount for Homecoming be raised. He reported that the hotel rooms have been reserved, there are 16 available. He said he added an article into the Fanfare asking for an assistant this year or he said he will just pick up the phone and start asking members.
- ❖ ***Membership*** - According to Judy, they had not met yet, but would like to do a conference call. She said it is important that they target the newer alums to get them to be members. Judy said that she and Conrad had suggested maybe having a meet and greeting with the new alums. Conrad suggested that they get to know the current seniors, maybe meet and have some drinks and snacks. He also said that it could be a more relaxed state, if it's in an atmosphere other than the university.

- ❖ **Finance** - Ben reported on the Finance committee and said the finances are pretty much running themselves. Lee suggested that maybe they go to accepting credit cards. Ed Carpenter volunteered to be a member of the Finance committee along with Ben. Ben consults with Karen to get the figures, and then he creates the treasurer's report for the Board to see.
- ❖ **Pep Bands** - A report on Pep Bands was given by Lee Shaw. He said he had been discussing with Greg Drane (assistant director of the Blue Band) on the instrumentation for the bands. Dr Bundy said that the Alumni Pep Band gig for Jan 1 fell through due to lack of interest due to the event being on a holiday, but maybe the Board could continue to schedule this for next year. There was an email concerning a parade for the Blue Band, but they cannot accept because it is at a time when there will not be students available. Dr Bundy suggested that they keep this in mind for the future though; the interest for such things is out there. Conrad volunteered to be in charge of the New York area for pep bands.
- ❖ **Nominations** - In Catherine's absence, Judy discussed keeping track of Board member terms and new Board members needed each year. A new numbering system has been instituted to keep track of this information. An example; a term listed as 2008-1 means that their first term ends in 2008.
- ❖ **Fundraising Task Force** - Staff Assistant Pledges, Conrad reported on the pledges that have been received up to this point. He suggested that they add an article in the Fanfare to solicit again for pledges. Greg reminded the Board that this is from the ABBA not, individuals. Lynn suggested they add it into their dues. Conrad said that they need to target the donors who pay \$500 or \$250; Lee said they had been in the past, and that this information is available through the alumni association. Lee had said that he discussed with Tom Range and Tom said he had about 50 of his books left of the history of the Blue Band and maybe they could do something of that level. Ben suggested that maybe they add in a self-addressed envelope. Dr Bundy reminded the Board that they had suggested the thermometer approach for this fundraiser to show where the amounts are.

New Business

Judy asked the Board about the email that Helen received from alum for information on the drum line. Ed made a motion and Lee seconded to hold this information from this alum, stating that the information is available through the alumni center in the university and we should not make a practice of giving this information out.

It was suggested that maybe they put an article into the Fanfare, but if this alum is using this as a fundraiser, they must go through the proper channels with the university. Motion carried, there will be no information released, Judy will contact this person.

Joel asked that for future bowl games, maybe the alums could supply the current band members with water for times when they didn't have a supply. Dr Bundy said that the Orange Bowl committee did have this organized, but for some reason it was not carried out. He thinks it would be a good idea, also, to have alums look into this for future events. Conrad asked if it would have been possible to maybe have a time when the alums could meet up with the current band members. He was referring to the Orange bowl this year, saying that they could have been at the Beach Bash that the band attended but had no schedule to follow to attend this event.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be set for conference call, on March 25, 2006 at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned