

**Alumni Blue Band Association
Board Meeting
And via conference call
October 14, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.**

In attendance: Bill Rubert, Dr Dick Bundy, Conrad Steinmann, Joel Guldin, Joe Rokita, Larry Parko, Curt Harler, Brett Butler, Jessica Devoti, Melissa Melnick, Steve Gargiola and Helen Meyer

Guest speakers: Cole Cullen and Jeff Hughes

On Conference: Sue Delanko, Mark Heckel, Sean Strine, Lee Shaw, Judy Engle, Lynn Koehler, and Ben Heller

Absent: Greg Bennett, Joyce Hoffman, Catherine Kaslusky, Ed Carpenter, Jeff Berinato, and Bill Trach

Minutes from past meeting

Minutes were approved at a later date via email.

Blue Band Documentary

Conrad began the meeting introducing the Blue Band Documentary people. Jeff and Cole both are Blue Band Alumni, and they gave a presentation on a documentary they are creating on the Blue Band, this year. Jeff said that they are making this documentary to show people how a person gets to be a Blue Band participant and how a new show is created. Their point of this documentary is to show the perspective of an incoming freshman. They began the documentary with the new drum major, Matt Sabo, to get his perspective. Jeff also said that they wanted to get some of the alumni point of view. He said that the production should end September 2008, with the broadcast expected in November 2008. Cole also added that there will be a website to check progress of this project.

Blue Band Report

Brett told the Board that the Michigan trip went well, except for the outcome of the game. The band will also be traveling to the Temple game this year. Tom Range will be heading a pep band for the Alumni Association the Friday night before Temple game. Brett also said that the Blue Band is performing at the York Campus the night before the Temple game. It will be a Bandorama type performance.

Jess updated the Board concerning social activities of the band. She stated that they hiked Mount Nittany, and had some broom ball games.

Melissa reported that she is the historian and she has been in charge of putting the display case, for the foyer, in order. Melissa told the Board about the one case that was put together from a history of an alumnus who was sent to war and sent cards and letters home.

Steve reported on the Blue Band treasurer report. Brett also told the Board about the new warm up suits the band now has, for travel. Steve also reported that they received new saxophones this year. Now every line has new performance instruments. Curt asked what the percentage of Blue Banders are music majors. Dr Bundy said there are about 10 to 15%. Brett stated that the band has a new poster and also there were some Big Ten posters available, to the alumni this year.

Finance/Treasurer's Report

Ben submitted the report beforehand so the Board could have access to these figures in advance. Conrad said the treasurer's report has basically not changed at this point, but the Homecoming dues, and other membership dues have not been tallied recently. He also reported that the SAO funds have been quite well received this year. Curt suggested to just writing off the remaining fund of the SAO. He moved to move the rest of the funds over at the end of the year. It was suggested that the SAO account be wrapped up by the end of the year. Ben said that the funds recorded in the treasurer's report do include the expenses for this account, also. Joe suggested that since it is such a small amount that is needed, to include a small thermometer type scale to show the alumni how well this account has been moving, and that they are almost there. Ben seconded the motion to add a small blurb in the next Fanfare concerning this account. Lee suggested putting statistics in concerning the amount contributed so it can be seen in percentage. Curt's motion will be amended to state that 60 days after the Fanfare appears, close the SAO account out and write off the remaining balance from the ABBA operating account. Larry seconded. Motion passed.

Homecoming

Bill stated that he would like to know Sue's aspect of how things worked this year. He said that registration went well. He told Mark that the bus situation went very well, Mark stated that he thought the bus runs went much better than he had expected. Dr Bundy suggested sending a thank you note to Athletics concerning the buses and the breakfast. Mark also suggested sending to Cliff Lutz. It was suggested to continue using Holuba Hall, if it is available. Dr Bundy also advised that they keep registration at the BBB. Bill said that parking went somewhat well, considering the price of parking has risen this year. He also stated there were 120 returnees for the parade. Cadence went well this year. Music has been provided. Bill reported that there was an alum from 20 years that hadn't been back in a while, and he marched the parade.

Tom Range was the volunteer who headed the pep band for the Ice Cream Social at Hintz Alumni Center, and it was stated that this went very well. The pep band practiced beforehand, and most thought this added to the performance. Judy said that she had some positive feedback from Roger Williams, Executive Director of PSAA, too. She said that he also played at the Alumni Tent gig, on Saturday morning, headed by Les Hart, and he said he really enjoyed playing with the alumni. Franco Harris, grand marshal of the parade, guest directed the pep band. Bill said that they should find out if the Alumni Association was ok with the performance, or if they wanted something different. Dr Bundy suggested maybe seeing if they can get the gig for the Alumni Tent changed, so that these alums can be at the Tailgreet to make more of an impact with the group.

Maybe advertise it better for next year's Tailgreet, to let the alumni know what to expect at Tailgreet. Lynn said that she could suggest to the Alumni Association to make a change.

Curt reported on the post parade reception, headed by Joe Rokita, that he was told it was very enjoyable this year. It was suggested to have more beverages, as they ran out early. Joe asked if there was an end time posted for the reception, and maybe making one for the coming years. Joyce Hoffman, Arts & Architecture/Performing Arts Alumni Society had transferred the money to ABBA as a co-sponsor of the reception. Joyce also attended the reception and visited with each table and handed out Penn State bumper stickers, which were well received.

Bill thanked Dr Bundy for being over with the alumni in the stadium, and told that it was really appreciated. Bill asked that the new benches that were down in front, if that was a problem that some of the alumni were sitting in those. Dr Bundy said he had not heard about this issue, but if he does he will let the Board know, so they can act accordingly next year.

Bill told the Board that the folios would be redone for next year. Taking some of the songs, that aren't played, out of the folios, and maybe adding others.

It was suggested to send an email out to the participants asking that they return the folios and backs if they had not done so. Ask them to please send them back to the office. The ticket transfer of \$49 per ticket will be transferred this week. Then the Board can recalculate the difference in the cost.

Bill suggested that the "you made the block" card be sent via email next year. Conrad suggested that any changes to Homecoming administration be carefully considered due to the large interest there should be for next year's game, against Michigan. It was also suggested that the timing of registration include an earlier cut-off date to accommodate the additional participants.

Bill stated that Sue did an excellent job this year. He said she followed through on many tasks. Conrad thanked Bill for his five years service for the ABBA. Judy said she had gotten to do traveling trumpets this year, and they were well received. She reported that one of the alums that marched had MS and it was a great story, and it was suggested maybe asking this man for a story on this, for a future Fanfare issue.

Upcoming Elections

Ballots will be included with the next Fanfare; Bill Arnold expressed interest in the next Board election. Lynn reported that the newest Board members would be present for the January meeting in 2008. Conrad stated that the Board members he had contacted for president-elect had declined. He suggested a nomination of himself for president elect. Larry made the motion and Curt seconded. Lynn suggested that new Board members coming, in January, be given an opportunity to reaffirm the president at the January 2008 meeting. Conrad agreed to this. A new president elect will be nominated in January 2008.

Communications

Conrad told the Board that he has a new volunteer to chair the Website along with Greg Bennett. It is Jeff Berinato who had said he has some new ideas for the website. The administration of the Fanfare will also be a priority of Jeff's. Conrad has told Jeff to

write up some suggestions to present to the Board on his ideas for this position. Bill suggested having Toni Duchi send the Fanfare over to the website, so it can be published right away.

Pep Bands

The band has just received the basketball schedule, and Dr Bundy said he could have them identify which game or games the alumni band could do this year. It was suggested that maybe a director from the blue band could maybe help direct since Sean Smith can't be available this year. Maybe a past drum major could be asked to help out, or even a local area conductor.

Judy suggested reaffirming the directors for the pep bands in each region for this year. Judy asked if there was a good response to the region areas from the membership forms that were returned. It was suggested that this be reviewed for the upcoming January meeting so there is a better understanding of these areas.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS

Conrad suggested that the Board get the descriptions of each committee, to Lynn so she can continue to compile these job descriptions. He asked the committees to have this sent to Lynn by November for compilation and presentation to the Board at the next meeting in January. Judy added that if someone needed an example to use as a guideline, she could provide the DC Chapter descriptions.

Clothing Vendors

Conrad asked the Board if they want to pursue the idea of different vendors for the Alumni. Some of the members would like to reconsider some of the options. It was suggested that if they change vendors, they would maybe have to purchase the screening for the Alumni. Curt suggested sending the "request for proposal" forms out to those vendors so that the Board could make a decision early enough for this to be done in 2008. Conrad said there are three different vendors that they could look into. Curt suggested sending the same form to all of the vendors, so they have the same options.

Judy asked to find out how much inventory Dana may still have and maybe offer to buy her leftover inventory. It was suggested having her set up a table at Homecoming, or give her one more year before changing. Conrad said that there would have to be someone from the Board to manage the new vendor, especially if ABBA would be required to invest substantial funds into inventory or to sign a legal contract. Lynn volunteered to speak with Dana concerning her vending. Conrad suggested waiting until Lynn speaks with Dana to see the feedback from T's until they send out the other request for proposal forms from other vendors. Conrad will furnish the questions, for Lynn to take to Dana.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr Bundy suggested a new project for the ABBA, maybe an engraving in a wall in the back at the student entrance. The engraving would be visible to all current and past Blue Band members entering the building. He suggested something like; "For The Glory...He

would like the Board to consider this for the future. He said there is no price on this project as yet, but he will research several options for the Board to consider. He said he might be able to have something more definite to present by the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is set for January 12, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. also via conference call.

Meeting Adjourned