



S.I.M.B. GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

April 17, 2023

6:00 PM

Strongsville High School Music Room

- **CALL TO ORDER** AJ Scott, President, called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM and welcomed all SIMB Members and thanked them for attending.
- **ROLL CALL** Diana Ragan, Secretary, called the roll.

X	Andy Hire, Director	X	Scott Carmen, Vice president	X	Jennifer Bubb, Concert Uniforms		OPEN/TBD, Marching Uniforms
	Brian King, Director		Ron Uline, Treasurer		OPEN, Concert Uniforms	X	Vicki Maloney, Membership
	Christopher Chidsey, SMS Band Director	X	Diana Ragan, Secretary	X	Jennie Kelley- Crosby, Fundraising, Newsletters	X	Karen Kolk, SHS/SMS Liaison
	Kim Taylor, SMS Orchestra Director	X	Florence Zabarsky, Concessions	X	Tracy Salvo, Fundraising	X	Bob Kolk, Publicity/Flyers
	Renee Roblee, SMS Band		Bob Kolk, Co-Concessions	X	Laurel Maher, Hospitality		Cathy Sikon, Donut Sales
	Evelyn Bravo, SMS Orchestra		Darlene Wilke, Concessions- Purchasing		Kim Novoblisky, Hospitality	X	Jen Magel, Treasurer's Assistant
X	AJ Scott, President/Co- Chaperone		Kim Speck, Co-Chaperone		Laurie Uline, Marching Uniforms		Bob Kolk, Webmaster

- A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Karen Kolk stated that she was at the last meeting on March 6, and Bob Kolk was not at the last meeting. The minutes were in error on both accounts. Vicki Maloney made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Karen Kolk seconded

the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The minutes are posted here:
<https://shs.strongnet.org/student-life/music/strongsville-instrumental-music-boosters-simb/meeting-dates-agendas-minutes>

- **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

B. PRESIDENT'S REPORT AJ Scott, President, thanked all the volunteers that helped at the All-City Concerts for both Band and Orchestra. She said it was a wonderful event and the volunteers were needed and appreciated, especially in assisting the SMS students.

C. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT Scott Carmen, Vice President, shared that his daughter is in no band program now. As such, he does not qualify to be a member of the Executive Committee. He will submit his resignation at the end of the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT Ron Uline, Treasurer, shared by AJ Scott, the following report:

a. **All accounts have been reconciled** through March 31, 2023. As of March 31st:

- i. Checking balance: 73,453.61
- ii. Savings balance: 32,152.69
- iii. Scholarship balance: 3,000.50

b. Budget Committee Meeting

- i. Budget Committee will meet sometime in May. I will survey the committee members' availability and plan for a date when we can all attend.
- ii. In preparation for that meeting:
 1. Budget Submission Requests have been emailed to the Directors, and the Concessions, Fundraising, and Membership Chairs. Requests are due no later than Sunday April 30th.
 2. For all other committees, my plan is to submit the same request as this year as none of these committees have exceeded their current budgets. Let me know if that's OK, we can adjust if needed.
- iii. Once all requests are received, I will send out to the Budget Committee for review prior to our meeting.

c. Budget Committee Meeting Agenda

- i. Review the current fiscal year's income and expenses by category.
- ii. Review the Directors' and committee chairs' FY2024 budget requests and propose the FY2024 Budget.
- iii. Prepare for presentation to the Board at the August meeting.

d. Approval of the FY2024 Budget will be voted on at our September meeting.

D. SECRETARY'S REPORT Diana Ragan, Secretary, had no report.

- **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

A. Formation of Committee The members are: Andy Hire, Jennie Crosby, Tracy Salvo, and Vicki Maloney.

B. VP and Treasurer Positions open in 2023 The Nominating Committee submitted candidates for these two positions. The slate of officers was: Scott Maloney for Vice President and Jen Magel for Treasurer. Scott's youngest child will graduate in 2024. Per the bylaws, he will only fill the Vice President Roll for one year

C. Election of Vice President and Treasurer AJ Scott asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none. Tracy Grauel made a motion to accept the slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee. This motion did not need a second, because the Nominating Committee already approved this slate. The motion passed unanimously. AJ Scott thanked all the candidates for Vice President and Treasurer. She

thanked the Nominating Committee for the members' work on the slate of officers. In addition, she thanked Scott Carmen and Ron Uline for serving SIMB so well.

- D. **Timeframe** AJ Scott shared that the Executive Committee unanimously voted to have the new Vice President, Scott Maloney, begin his term at the end of this meeting, since Scott Carmen resigned his position. Scott Maloney agreed to start his position at the end of the meeting.

- **DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

- A. **SHS ORCHESTRA REPORT** Andy Hire, Director of Orchestras, shared that the March OMEA contest was a success. The final concert is on May 16 at 6 PM (early start time due to Senior Night & Award Ceremony). He noted that SHS Senior students' last day is May 12, however the final concert is later in May. The SHS Music Calendar is set prior to the Board of Education's Commencement date determinations. Mr. Hire is asking for SIMB to purchase additional music stands, typically SIMB buys 20-25 per year. He will submit a purchase order/request soon.
- B. **SHS BAND REPORT** Brian King, Director of Bands, shared by AJ Scott, that the Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band will compete at the State OMEA Contest held at North Royalton High School on Saturday, April 29. There will be a new Flag Corps Instructor soon. Audition excerpts are due this evening.
- C. **SMS ORCHESTRA REPORT** SMS will host the OMEA Middle School Large Group contest on May 5 & 6, 2023. Mr. Chidsey is the site director. This contest will include middle school Choirs, Orchestras and Bands. Mr. Hire requested assistance with concessions and with judges' meals.
- D. **SMS BAND REPORT** Please see above about the SMS OMEA contest. The Jazz Band will perform May 8 and Music in the Park is May 20.

- **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Chair Positions** We will have several open Chair positions after the 2023 school year ends. SIMB needs a Co-Marching Band Uniform Chair--Kristina Simpson was suggested; a Co-Concert Uniform Chair--Cinnamon Chiffany was suggested. We also need a Concessions/Purchasing person for next year.
- B. **Recruitment**
- C. **Dairy Queen Recognition** No report.
- D. **SHS/SMS Liaison Chairperson** No report.
- E. **Tabled Discussions—Trailer wrap and website** No report.
- F. **Final Concert Flower Sale** Vicki Maloney shared that the spring flower sale is underway. SIMB will sell hanging baskets of begonias for \$25/each. The colors offered are pink, orange, and yellow. They will be used to decorate the high school stage during the last big concerts of the season. Unfortunately, SMS volunteers could not be found for both the band and orchestra. We hope that we can offer flower sales at SMS in the future.

- **NEW BUSINESS** None listed and none was brought to the floor.

- **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. **CONCERT UNIFORMS** Jen Bubb needs lots of volunteers at the next two concerts of the year (May 16 & 17) to assist with collecting tuxedos using a "bag, tag & drag" system. Students that need anything before concerts can email Jen Bubb at simbconcertuniforms@gmail.com and she will plan for them to get what they need ahead of time. Jen Bubb also requests any outstanding checks to be forwarded to her.
- B. **CHAPERONE** AJ Scott stated that a signup genius will come out soon requesting chaperones for the OMEA State Contest for Symphonic and Wind Ensemble on April 29. AJ thanked the chaperones at the All-City Band and Orchestra concerts.

C. HOSPITALITY Laurel Maher stated that the SHS Orchestra spring dessert reception has come back this year, signups to come out soon. She also shared that Hospitality would manage the OMEA judges' dinners at SMS.

D. PUBLICITY/WEB No report.

A. MARCHING BAND UNIFORMS No report.

B. MEMBERSHIP Vicki Maloney stated she will provide a new list of members to the Directors for the spring concerts. Looking ahead, she plans to keep the same levels of membership as we did this year. She is shopping for a new vendor for the swag items and will report back once a new vendor is secured, or if she will again use this year's vendor. Due to system constraints, Vicki will close the 2022-2023 Membership as of April 30th in the Charms system, even though memberships will continue until May 31st. Any new memberships received at Spring Concerts will be for the remainder of this school year and be posted as 2023-2024 members.

C. NEWSLETTER/PUBLICITY

a. **Reception** of flyers at All-City Concerts was positive.

b. **Sharing** Plans are that the flyer will be shared with others outside the music program in the upcoming school year.

c. **Updates** are needed from Directors. Pictures from All-City are also needed. Many commented positively on the new, clean format of the newsletter. Please forward all items to Jennie Crosby.

d. **Communication** The SMS Orchestra does an excellent job of over-communicating with the parents. SMS Band parents shared that they have not received SIMB communication for a few months. SIMB wants a good, two-way working relationship with the SMS Directors.

e. **Communication with Parents** Others wanted to make sure that SHS and SMS parents understand all that SIMB does for the music program, not limited to: instrument repairs, assisting with OMEA large group, and payment for staff involvement in OMEA and other musical organizations. Efforts of SIMB to inform parents include: tables at Meet the Mustangs, All-City & spring concerts, SMS Open House on the track, etc. It was suggested that SIMB could put the benefits flyer in the back of all programs, including those at both SMS & SHS.

D. FUNDRAISING

a. **Head Count for the Wing Ding** final count is due by 4/24, if you have not purchased your tickets yet, please do so before that date. Everyone who purchases tickets in advance will be entered into door prize raffles.

b. **Ticket Sales, Bandwagon Raffle, 50/50= \$1,730.**

c. **Request for Donations to Lottery Basket** Each student in band and orchestra is requested to bring in \$1, to be used for a large lottery basket. Every student who donates a dollar will be entered into a separate raffle (1 entry for every dollar). SIMB agreed with this as did Mr. Hire.

d. **Santa Breakfast Venue** We need a venue for the Santa Breakfast, as the high school is not an option. December 17 is the date, Santa is booked all other weekends in Nov/Dec (We are considering the rec center, but we need a caterer to use the kitchen). Additional ideas included Old Town Hall which is smaller than Meadowood and also adding a second seating at Meadowood or Old Town Hall to accommodate more breakfast eaters.

e. **Additional Items**

- I. **Request for motion:** to vote on the idea of a monthly raffle for everyone who volunteers to work concessions, and other fundraisers. We would need to approve a budget for this idea, may improve engagement and encourage more people to volunteer. The general consensus was that something needs to be done to entice more volunteers. The motion stalled on the floor.
 - II. **Request for motion:** to vote on the Music Mentor program idea. High School students could get volunteer hours for partnering with students at the middle school and mentoring or “tutoring” them. This is a wonderful way to get the middle school kids to continue in the music programs at high school. No motion was made as Laurel Maher shared that her daughter, Abby Maher would like to take on this project for her Girl Scout Gold Award, with Laurel’s help serving as a staff member. Tracy Grauel agreed to serve as the parent for this program. Abby Maher will need to submit a proposal to the Girl Scout Council. SIMB will wait until more information is received from Abby/Laurel Maher about her ideas and execution of this program.
- f. **Blossom**--We may have the opportunity to work concessions at Blossom Music Center to raise funds for SIMB. Would there be any interest? The details include: you get in for free, SIMB makes 8% on alcohol, 7% on food and 100% of tips. In addition, there is no minimum number of concerts, and does include ALL Blossom Concerts, including the Cleveland Orchestra. SIMB indicated that we would like Jennie to pursue this over the summer. Jennie noted that there is a lot of training involved to work at Blossom.

E. CONCESSIONS

- a. **All City Orchestra and Band Concerts** Simple concessions and doughnuts were sold. For the 2 All-City Orchestra Concerts, we sold beverages and doughnuts with approximately \$262 in net profit. At the 2 All-City Band Concerts, we sold beverages, doughnuts, popcorn, and candy and earned approximately \$312 in net profit.
 - b. **Thank you** to Linda Wasnak and Isaac Zabarsky for assisting, as well as to some of the raffle ticket sellers for stepping in to assist us.
 - c. **Extra Doughnuts** We had extra doughnuts from the Band Concerts. Linda dropped off 5 dozen at 2 of the Strongsville fire stations. The firefighters were very appreciative.
 - d. **Additional Engagements** We will provide concessions at the Middle School OMEA large group contest in early May. We will also provide concessions at Rhythmology on May 19 at SHS.
- **PUBLIC COMMENT** It was noted that TLC is coming to Cleveland on June 21, 2023. Please notify Jennie Crosby if interested in purchasing tickets together.
 - **ADJOURNMENT** Carmen Baughman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Vicki Maloney seconded the motion. The motion passed. AJ Scott adjourned the meeting at 7:21 PM.
 - **NEXT MEETING** May 8 at 6 PM in the Music Room.

SIMB MISSION STATEMENT:

“The purpose of the Strongsville Instrumental Music Boosters (SIMB) is to give volunteer and supplementary financial support to the instrumental music groups within the Strongsville City School system by way of organizing, supporting and sustaining the fundraising efforts of SIMB and to promote and foster interest in the music programs of the Strongsville Schools.”