

## **FGMEA BOARD MINUTES**

### **November 8, 2005**

The November meeting of the **FGMEA Board** was held on Tuesday, November 8, 2005 at the FEA Office in Fairfax. The meeting was called to order by **Charlie Ring, President**. Board members in attendance were: Charles Ring, Joy Petty, Debbie Key, Loretta Schmitt, Nancy Pope, Michael Utell, Wendy Peterson, Marianne Tagge, Carla Okouchi, Jessica Stowe, Adam Martinelli, Elaine Stanford, Mary Woods, Marti Pittman, Heather Young, Carolyn Dorey, Julie Derges and Bev Ogden.

### **Loretta Schmitt Secretary**

The October minutes were approved and corrected as read.

### **Motion**

Wendy Peterson, (Choral Festival Co-Chair), moved that a draft of the minutes be sent to the **FGMEA** executive board members prior to the each FGMEA board meeting for a subsequent read to alleviate the use of valuable time. Bev Ogden, (Constitution), seconded the motion.

### **The Motion Passed**

### **Elaine Stanford, Fine Arts Office**

- Stereos
  - Elaine Stanford, (Fine Arts Office), reported that Stan Schoonover, (Fine Arts Office,) has located a package with all the necessary components from Washington Music.
  - He is still trying to locate a microphone to be used with the laptops.
  - Stan will hold an inservice once we have the microphone/laptop connection.
  
- Needs Assessment Survey for General Music Equipment
  - Elaine Stanford, with the help of Stan Schoonover, will do a “needs” assessment after Thanksgiving.
  - Teachers will need to prioritize their needs.
  - The needs of General Music Teachers will be listed on Blackboard.
  - It was suggested to include the brand of your equipment particularly stereos to determine the age of equipment.

## **Charles Ring, President's Report**

- **Announcements**

- Charlie extended the sympathy of all General Music Teachers to Roger Tomhave, Fine Arts Coordinator in the loss of his father.

### **Motion**

Mary Woods moved that we send a live plant/gift basket to Roger's home from **FGMEA** not to exceed \$75.00. Debbie Key seconded the motion.

### **The Motion Passed**

- Jessica Stowe, social, will take care of the purchase and sending of said items.
- We are glad Rebecca Diehl is home recovering from the hospital.
- Linda White is back from the Ukraine and has offered to share her experiences with us at a future board meeting.
- The website Domain has been registered and FGMEA.org is up and running.
- Charlie read letters from Kaye Kory school board member and Dr. Lillian Lowery Assistant Superintendent from Cluster VII acknowledging the letter Charlie sent to the leadership team.

- **FGMEA Survey and Report**

We still have a need to compile, analyze data, and put into percentages the **FGMEA** Survey. Assistance from the board would be appreciated.

### **Debbie Key, Treasurer**

- The ending balance in the treasury is:  
**\$11,768.27**
- Deposits of:  
**\$ 90.00**
- Withdrawals of  
**\$ 8.00**
- Board members are reminded you may get reimbursed for flowers and cards.
- Concerns were raised regarding the inconsistencies of charges from BB& T
- Debbie Key will call the bank.
- Mary Smith FEA Accountant will review our books in December.

## **Carla Okouchi, Newsletter**

- Articles for the January newsletter should be turned in to Carla no later than December 8, 2005.

## **Motion**

Carla Okouchi moved that we professionally print future newsletters. Joy Petty seconded the motion. Discussion included the pros, cons, and cost for printing.

## **The motion failed.**

## **Motion**

Carla moved that we send E copies of the newsletter to the membership and professionally print the newsletter for the leadership team on an “as need” basis. Mike Utell seconded the motion.

## **The motion passed.**

## **Cluster Chairs**

There were many KUDOS offered on behalf of the **FGMEA** membership.

- **Dale Cross** has retired after 27 1/2 years of teaching. **CONGRATULATIONS Dale!**
- **Marti Pittman’s** recorder ensemble will perform at the **VMEA** Conference. **Way to go Marti!**
- **Sue Eisenberg** will marry GMU professor Glenn Smith on November 25, 2005. **Much Happiness Sue!**
- **Jan Brewer Smith** was married in August. **CONGRATULATIONS!**
- **Rachael Goldman** will present “Composition, Creativity and the Creating of a Third Grade Musical” at the **VMEA** Conference. **Way to go Rachael!**
- **Jihanna Charlton and Alan Reed**, made their opera debut in “Porgy and Bess” at the Washington Opera. Jihanna portrayed the role of Annie while Alan portrayed the undertaker in the 50 year celebration of the Washington Opera. **Double Congratulations to these two fine performers!**
- **Julie Derges** will marry on New Year’s Eve! **Happy New Year Julie Kastner!**

## **Membership**

- **175 members!**
- Welcome to our three newest FGMEA members.
  - Karen Buck, Holmes Middle School Cluster III
  - Willsa Toney, Woodley Hills, Cluster IV
  - Nancy Willis, Great Falls, Cluster I

## **Charles Ring reporting for Jihanna Charlton**

- **Membership Directory** is complete. It will be sent to all FGMEA members.  
Great job Jihanna!

## **Wendy Peterson, Heather Young, Choral Festival**

- Great inservice on Monday, November 7, 2005.
- All but two participants were at the inservice. Way to go members!
- Elaine Stanford, Fine Arts Office will electronically send us the recertification points.
- We need a professional signer for “Can You Hear Me?”

## **Motion**

Mary Woods moved that we invite Deen Entsminger from Belmont University to be our clinician for the 2007 Sixth Grade All-County Choral Festival.

## **The motion passed**

- Heather Young, Choral Festival Co-Chair is already making plans to contact clinicians for the 2007 Sixth Grade All-County Choral Festival.
- Wendy Peterson, Choral Festival Co-Chair is willing to seek dates well in advance. Thanks to both of these ladies for their hard work!

## **Michael Utell, Resource**

- Mike would like to compile a list of private music teachers.
- The list will include subs, accompanists, and choral groups for youngsters to participate.
- This will be posted on Blackboard.
- Mike is working on an article for the newsletter regarding combo classes.

## **Bev Ogden, Constitution**

- **Bylaws Chapters IV (monies) and V(fiscal year)** were **reinstated due to an oversight** from the 1996 Bylaws revision.

## **Julie Derges, Grant**

The FGMEA Mini-Grants for 2005-2006 were awarded to two applicants this year. The recipients are:

- **Becky Blanchard, Marshall Road Elementary**

Ms. Blanchard wrote a grant to help fund guitars for a newly designed guitar class that will encourage her special population of interested students to focus on a new skill that will encourage participation and self-confidence.

- **Joy Siddons, Fairhill Elementary**

Mrs. Siddons wrote a grant to help fund adapted percussion instruments and materials that will encourage her special population of students to focus on skills that will encourage personal development related to their IEPs, and participation in a school-wide heritage music program.

**FGMEA** would like to commend both Ms. Blanchard and Mrs. Siddons for their efforts to enhance the musical experiences with their students.

### **Congratulations!**

- Other considerations for these funds will be revisited at a future board meeting.

## **New Business**

- Loretta Schmitt shared a document that was written in 1999 to the School board members of FCPS. This document provides insight to the ongoing struggles still facing General Music Teachers in 2005.

## **Adjournment**

Without further business, the meeting was adjourned. The executive board will not meet in the month of December.

Respectfully submitted,

*Loretta Schmitt*

Loretta Schmitt, secretary