

**FGMEA Board Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2008**

The February meeting of the FGMEA Board was held on Tuesday, February 12, 2008 at the FEA Office in Fairfax.

I. Call to Order

Joy Petty, President, called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Board members in attendance were: **Joy Petty, Wendy Peterson, Rob Stansbery, Charlie Ring, Debbie Key, Bev Ogden, Mary Woods, Jeanette Essig, Carla Okouchi, Carolyn Dorey, Angie Collins, Cynthia Carlton, Michael Dennis, Rachel Grimsby, Connie Higgins, Rachel Grimsby and Vanessa Utell.**

II. President's Report: Joy Petty

Board members who notified Joy that they would not be attending the February Board meeting are: **Christian King, Cindy Noble, Betsy Nerdahl, Diane Stevens, Lesley Lindell, Gayla Kobialka and Jacquie Yoerges.** **Diane Stevens** will not be able to attend remaining meetings due to a conflict.

Several members of our community have experienced deaths in their families (**Judy Humphrey, Nancy Anderson, Bev Ogden and Lydia Hunter**). Joy has sent sympathy cards on behalf of FGMEA.

Elaine Stanford sent a note of thanks to FGMEA for well-wishes during her recent illness.

Joy spoke with **Roger Tomhave** regarding a possible meeting with **Peter Noonan** (Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services) about our concerns regarding General Music scheduling. Roger suggests that we become familiar with "21st Century skills" websites and theories.

Roger Tomhave asked Joy to serve as the "representative chairperson" of the Fairfax Arts Coalition for Education (FACE). At present there are no issues pending for FACE. The School Board members were each sent a letter from FACE as well as a packet containing Daniel Pink's book, a fly swatter, art posters and FGMEA provided a CD of the 2007 ACCF.

III. Vice-President's Report: Wendy Peterson

A. \$500 Scholarship

FGMEA has been given \$500 by an anonymous donor to be used as scholarship money for any elementary-aged student who would benefit from private music lessons (music instruction, dance, vocal or instrumental lessons) but who would

not be able to do so without financial help. The scholarship money could also be used to help pay for music summer camp, purchase of music or dance supplies, or purchase of an instrument.

Nominations and accompanying materials must be submitted to **Wendy Peterson, Oak Hill ES** and arrive no later than **March 28, 2008**. Late applications will not be considered. The Grant Advisory Committee of FGMEA and the FGMEA Vice President will review all scholarship nominations.

Guidelines, instructions and application forms will be printed in the FGMEA Winter 2008 Newsletter, which FGMEA members will receive soon.

B. ACCF speaker

Elaine Stanford asked FCPS School Board Member **Stuart Gibson** to speak at ACCF, but Gibson is unable to attend.

Wendy asked the Board for input regarding speakers. Should the number/timing of speakers be cut back? **Bev Ogden** suggested that the speakers might be limited, but that the guest speaker benefits FGMEA by lending importance to the ACCF event and encouraging other VIP's to attend, and should not be eliminated. **Michael Dennis** noted that speeches in recent years have focused on the speaker's interests and accomplishments rather than the students. The Board further discussed speakers; several members suggested that a guest speaker should be limited to 3-5 minutes, and speakers should include a representative from FGMEA. **Jeanette Essig** will suggest to **Elaine Stanford** that either the Superintendent **Jack Dale** or a School Board member be asked to speak.

IV. Secretary's Report: Rob Stansbery

The minutes of the November 13, 2007 Executive Board meeting were distributed via email to Board members, and were approved as corrected.

V. Fine Arts Office Report: Jeanette Essig

The FAO staff visited ATEC regarding concerns about the quality of service. They discussed with ATEC ways to make the instrument repair process easier and faster. A number of suggestions resulted: 1. Teachers should not send all instruments for repair during ATEC's busy summer months; 2. Emergency repairs may be sent at any time; 3. the best time for general instrument maintenance requests is January through May.

Teachers will still need to allow some time for repairs, and should avoid sending for repair instruments not worthy of repair. Jeanette is drafting a memo with complete instructions and a new repair form, and it will be sent to General Music teachers soon.

Charlie Ring raised the question of per-student money allotted for band and strings versus money allotted for General Music instruction. Jeanette explained that such monies could be used at the Principal's discretion.

\$350-400 has been allotted by the FAO to secure Konnie Saliba for the fall in-service.

Jeanette thanked the teachers who have piloted the Sixth Grade Assessment this year. She spoke about the quality of the products they have received from their students. Revisions will continue into next year before the assessment is instituted throughout FCPS in 2009-2010.

Jeanette thanked **Jennifer Himes** for organizing the ACCF database. All but nine schools registered their students by the deadline.

VI. Treasurer's Report: Debbie Key

Debbie distributed the Treasurer's Report to the Board. The bank account reconciles as it should. The balance forwarded from the November 2007 report was **\$13,833.62**. Deposits and credits totaling **\$135.00**, and withdrawals and debits totaling **\$89.95** resulted in an ending balance on February 12, 2008 of **\$13,878.67**.

VII. Cluster Chair Reports

A. Fall In-service: Rachel Grimsby

The FAO has agreed to pay the clinician fee for Konnie Saliba for the fall in-service. FGMEA has tentatively agreed to pay transportation and lodging; **Joy Petty** stated that exact figures are needed before FGMEA can commit to a definitive agreement in this matter.

The date for the fall in-service is Wednesday, August 27th, 2008. Rachel suggested a rotation of at least an hour to fully benefit from the clinician's expertise and instruction.

Rachel will research exact figures for Saliba's travel and lodging expenses.

Charlie Ring stated that FGMEA has not paid for the fall in-service in the past, and questioned whether this was in lieu of the October in-service, which is usually paid for by FGMEA. The Board discussed that FGMEA asked specifically for Saliba, and that this would not take the place of the October in-service.

Rachel will discuss with Elaine Stanford whether the FAO can pay for Saliba's travel and lodging expenses.

VIII. Committee Chair Reports

A. Choral Festival: Carla Okouchi, Cynthia Carlton

1. Co-chair

FGMEA received an application for ACCF 2009 Co-chair from **Deborah Rudd** (Spring Hill ES). The Board reviewed the application, and several members spoke highly of Deborah's experience and enthusiasm.

MOTION: FGMEA shall accept the application of Deborah Rudd for ACCF 2009 Co-chair.

Motion made by: Carolyn Dorey. Seconded: Cynthia Carlton.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. ACCF 2009 dates

The FAO has given FGMEA three choices for ACCF 2009:

- a. April 17th and 18th
- b. April 24th and 25th
- c. May 29th and 30th

Discussion: Option b has some major conflicts. Option c is too late in the academic calendar for many of us.

MOTION: ACCF 2009 shall be held April 17th and April 18th, 2009.

Motion made by: Charlie Ring. Seconded: Wendy Peterson.

The motion passed unanimously.

Jeanette Essig will continue the process of securing a festival site with this date in mind.

The board discussed the results of having ACCF at an earlier date this year. **Wendy Peterson** asked for an additional week between the first and second site rehearsals. Many members remarked that the earlier date has required changes, but has been largely successful.

The board discussed following ACCF 2009 with the same weekend for ACCF 2010.

MOTION: ACCF 2010 shall be held April 16th and 17th, 2010.

Motion made by: Rachel Grimsby. Seconded: Mary Woods.

The motion was amended.

During discussion, **Michael Dennis** questioned whether this date would work for schools on modified calendar. As the 2009-2010 academic calendar has not yet been posted, the Board decided to wait for further information before making this decision, and Rachel amended the motion.

MOTION: ACCF 2010 shall be held either the third or fourth weekend in April 2010, whichever does not conflict with the modified calendar.

Motion made by: Rachel Grimsby. Seconded: Mary Woods.

The motion passed unanimously.

B. Ways and Means: Joy Petty (for Gayla Kobialka)

Joy distributed a current accounting of ACCF T-shirts.

Current Inventory:

Small – 5
Medium – 4
Large – 2
XL – 2

Previous Sales:

2005 – 357 shirts sold
2006 – 403 shirts sold
2007 – 558 shirts sold (574 were ordered – 3 t-shirts are unaccounted for)
Small: 224 Medium: 224 Large: 86 XL: 40
Two orders were placed last year: January and April

CCI Screen Printing:

Artwork is already set up.
Cost of additional t-shirts is \$6.75 each.
T-shirts are sold at \$10.00 each for a profit margin of \$3.25 per shirt.
A 50% deposit is due at the time of the order.
Turn around time is 1 week.

Recommendations:

600 T-shirts: Small: 232 Medium: 233 Large: 90 XL: 45
One order: 600 t-shirts at a cost of \$4050.00 would require
a \$2025.00 deposit.
Two separate orders: 300 t-shirts at a cost of \$2025.00 would require a
\$1012.50 deposit.

The Board discussed options. Several members suggested that it would be safer to place two separate orders for t-shirts, to ensure that FGMEA will not have an overstock of shirts.

MOTION: FGMEA shall place two separate orders for ACCF t-shirts.

Motion made by: Michael Dennis. Seconded: Carla Okouchi.

The motion passed unanimously.

C. Newsletter: Rob Stansbery

Rob is preparing the winter 2008 newsletter, and it will be distributed to FGMEA members soon. Rob asked Board members to submit articles and news items for the newsletter.

IX. Old Business

Use of FGMEA monies “elsewhere”

Due to the lateness of the hour and the worsening road conditions, Joy decided to table this discussion until a later Board meeting.

IX. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

The next FGMEA Board meeting will be **Tuesday, March 11, 2008.**

Respectfully submitted,
Rob Stansbery
FGMEA Secretary