

FGMEA Board Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2008

The September meeting of the FGMEA Executive Board was held on Tuesday, September 23, 2008 at the FEA office in Fairfax.

I. Call to Order

Joy Petty, President, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Board members in attendance were: **Joy Petty, Rob Stansbery, Charlie Ring, Debbie Key, Elaine Stanford, Carla Okouchi, Jacquie Yoerges, Christian King, Betsy Nerdhal, Rachael Goldman, Cynthia Carlton, Rachel Grimsby, Mary Woods, Dori Eggan, Deb Rudd, Danielle Menard, Angie Collins, Carolyn Dory, Cindy Noble and Karen Judkins.**

II. President's Report: Joy Petty

Joy welcomed the Board to the first meeting of 2008-2009. Joy offered thanks to Board members who were present at and participated in the August in-service. Joy thanked **Danielle Menard** and **Karen Judkins** for organizing refreshments for the August in-service. **Mary Woods** noted how nice it was to have our own FCPS colleagues presenting at the in-service.

Joy asked that Board members read e-mail daily, and respond in a timely fashion to e-mail queries. Joy asked that Board members attend all meetings, participate accordingly and report as needed on committee happenings.

Joy asked that Board members take careful notes during meetings. Members will receive a draft of the meeting minutes shortly after each meeting; please review the draft carefully and return any corrections or additions to **Rob Stansbery** via e-mail. The minutes will then be sent to Cluster Chairs, who will distribute the minutes via e-mail to the membership. Our goal is to have the minutes out to the general membership by the Monday following each Tuesday meeting date.

Joy asked Cluster Chairs to begin creating distribution lists, and update them as necessary throughout the year as new members join FGMEA. Cluster Chairs should send out the minutes and newsletters as soon as they receive them.

Board members who notified Joy that they would not be attending the September Board meeting are: **Vanessa Utell, Bev Ogden, Michael Dennis and Gayla Kobialka.** Joy asked Board members to e-mail her if they are unable to attend Board meetings. If pertinent information needs to be passed on, Board members who miss a meeting should email their report to Joy to be presented at the meeting.

All FCPS General Music teachers will receive the minutes of the September meeting. Subsequent meeting minutes will only be sent to FGMEA members.

Joy asked Board members to review their duties as written in the FGMEA bylaws. Each member has an important function on the Board.

FGMEA sent a card of sympathy to **Jeanette Essig**'s family after the death of Jeanette's husband's grandmother.

Joy asked the Board if FGMEA should continue sending birthday e-cards to members. The Board decided to forego this practice.

III. Vice-President's Report: Carla Okouchi

Carla distributed a draft of a letter to members regarding an online survey about issues in master schedules. General Music teachers will be asked to complete this short online survey. This data will be compared to that gathered in last year's survey. The Board discussed and decided upon a closing date of October 10th.

Carla distributed a copy of a webpage regarding Fairfax County Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Community dialogue meetings. She noted the importance of teacher representation at these meetings. Several Board members agreed to attend meetings. This information can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/budget/publicmeetings.htm.

IV. Secretary's Report: Rob Stansbery

The minutes of the May 13th, 2008 General Membership meeting were distributed via e-mail to Board members, and were approved as corrected.

V. Fine Arts Office Report: Elaine Stanford

Elaine thanked the Board members for their help with the August in-service.

ACCF 2010: Elaine is working to secure the date and location. Lynelle Joy Jenkins is secured for ACCF 2010. Dates cannot be finalized until the FCPS calendar is published, possibly late winter. This information will be forthcoming.

Elaine thanked the teachers who are piloting the assessment for their continued work.

Elaine, on behalf of FCPS Choral Music teachers, thanked FCPS General Music teachers for their continued hard work.

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 May 2008 report was **\$23,197.85**. Deposits and

credits totaling **\$2,435.00**, and withdrawals and debits totaling **\$9,888.30** resulted in an ending balance on September 23rd, 2008 of **\$15,744.55**.

Debbie distributed the FGMEA Proposed Budget for 2008-2009. Projected income of \$19,437.00 and projected expenses of \$17,985.00 are based upon the End-of-Year Report for 2007–2008.

Carla Okouchi asked that the Board clarify an amount for refreshments for the ACCF read through. A motion was passed in November 2007 approving reimbursement of moneys used to purchase refreshments, but an amount was not approved.

MOTION: FGMEA shall add a \$100.00 line-item to the budget, under Social Committee, to reimburse the purchaser for refreshments purchased for the ACCF read-through.

Motion made by: Charlie Ring. Seconded: Rachel Grimsby.

Following discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed whether it is necessary to purchase gifts for teachers who are experienced teachers but new to FCPS. **Christian King, Elaine Stanford** and others noted that the gifts are much appreciated and are a nice gesture for all teachers new to FCPS.

MOTION: FGMEA shall purchase gifts at the beginning of the year only for first-year teachers.

Motion made by: Charlie Ring.

Following discussion, the motion was retracted.

Rachael Goldman noted that the large difference between the amount budgeted for new teacher gift cards (\$250.00) and the amount spent (\$725.00) was due to the much larger group of new teachers than expected.

MOTION: FGMEA shall amend the line-item amount for gift cards, under New Teacher Committee, from \$250.00 to \$750.00.

Motion made by: Rachael Goldman. Seconded: Karen Judkins.

Following discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Debbie noted that the amount of \$51.00 for Duplicate deposit slips would not be a necessary expense this year, as it was a one-time expense in 2007.

MOTION: FGMEA shall remove the line-item amount of \$51.00 for Duplicate deposit slips from the FGMEA Proposed Budget for 2008–2009.

Motion made by: Debbie Key. Seconded: Dori Eggan.

Following discussion, the Board decided it was unnecessary to remove the line-item amount, the motion was retracted.

MOTION: FGMEA shall accept the Proposed Budget for 2008-2009.

Motion made by: Charlie Ring. Seconded: Rachael Goldman.

The motion passed unanimously

VII. Committee Chair Reports

A. Membership: Betsy Nerdahl

Betsy distributed a list of current FGMEA members. The list details 120 members, and Betsy noted that 8 more memberships had been received since list was updated. Betsy will distribute a new list with new members added. **Debbie Key** noted that she has processed more membership payments than 128. Debbie and Betsy will collaborate to correct the listing of members.

B. Choral Festival: Cynthia Carlton and Deb Rudd

ACCF music packets will be packed on October 20th.

The ACCF read-through in-service will be held on November 10th at 2:30 p.m. at Kings Glen ES. Set up will begin at 1:30 p.m.; Cynthia requested some assistance with set-up.

There will be six sites for site-rehearsals; “sol” and “la” have been re-organized.

We will require a jazz combo for two ACCF selections. We will also require a flutist and cellist.

The search is underway for a clinician for ACCF 2011. Cynthia asked Board members to inform her of any suggested clinicians. **Joy Petty** noted that the ACCF Co-Chairs present a minimum of two clinicians to the Board for approval.

C. In-Service: Mary Woods

The FGMEA October In-service, “Tough Kids Toolbox,” will be held on October 27th, from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m., at Kings Glen ES. The clinicians will be Michael Bloom and Dana Gillespie. The topic of the in-service will be strategies for students with special needs.

D. New Teacher: Rachael Goldman

Rachael is enjoying connecting with the new General Music teachers. They appreciated their gifts from FGMEA at the August in-service. Rachael would like for FGMEA to hold a social function separate from the new teacher shower.

MOTION: FGMEA shall hold a social function for new teachers as an opportunity for the new teachers to meet the FGMEA Board.

Motion made by: Rachael Goldman. Seconded: Jacquie Yoerges.

Several Board members noted that it would be nice for FGMEA to offer this function as a social occasion rather than a work-related function. Following discussion, the Board decided to table scheduling this event until the New Teacher Shower has been scheduled. The motion was retracted.

VIII. New Business

The New Teacher Shower, in which FGMEA Board members present proven lessons to the Great Beginnings class members, will be scheduled soon. Board members will receive this information via e-mail within the next few weeks. **Carla Okouchi** suggested that Board members bring unused charts or other teaching aides to donate to the new teachers.

Jacquie Yoerges noted that FGMEA member **Dee Piecuch-Siebert** will be taking her Rose Hill ES ensemble “Soundwaves” to perform at the AOSA convention in Charlotte, NC.

Christian King noted that the OAKE national convention will be held in Washington DC next spring.

Christian King asked Board members to encourage FGMEA members to apply for the FGMEA grant. Grant applications are due November 1st.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Rob Stansbery
FGMEA Secretary