**GENERAL BACKERS MEETING**

**OCTOBER 18, 2016**

Meeting Called to Order at approximately 7:00 by President, Frank Ruggieri

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Amy Shope

October’s beginning balance $10,628.59

Expenses: $325(Senior Yearbook Ad); Income: $700(Backers Dues), $275(Patrons), $1,100(Business Ads); Ending Balance: $12,378.59

Motion to Accept – Andrea Michalski; Seconded – LuAnn Scarton. All in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS**:

**COFFEE HOUSE:** Mugs counted (over 300) and determined we have a sufficient supply for this year. Carolyn Mullan offered to order next fall.

Table Clothes – Ms. Wilmus requested Backers purchase new ones for this season. No details/pricing were received. Susie Chaplin & Andrea will get bids.

**PROM FASHION SHOW:** Issues over date, drawing a larger audience, student volunteers, involving freshman & sophomore Thespians.

Suggestions: Better communication with other Booster Groups to promote their own representatives’ participation, multiple vendors for dresses to make it more of a shopping experience, make your own dress contest, guest performer/model.

Jeanie will bring to the **Student Thespian Board** the following for voting/ideas:

* Date options: Saturday, 2/4; Saturday, 4/22; Sunday, 4/23.
* Opening up a “Project Runway” type Prom Dress/Tux Contest.
* Ticket Sale Incentives – Have student volunteers pay for one ticket, get two; raffle for student tickets only; other ideas?
* Contest auditioning “commercials”/acts to go on between the model groups (to involve freshman & sophomores.
* Inviting Thespian Students from neighboring schools as Guest Models.

**BACKER DONATION:** Light Board being purchased through the Thespian District fund which has a surplus from the great ticket sales of Tarzan and is needed immediately for effects in Dracula.

Jeanie will talk with Ray to see if there will be other requests, preparing for the musical. Donation vote tabled.

**PROGRAM ADS:** Thank to Tammy Hardy, all Backers ads for the production and fashion show programs have been sold and paid in full by Mortland Physical Therapy, Extended Day Services, and Abbey Players. Yay! Tammy!

**WEBSITE REDESIGN:** Goal to make our website more user friendly and capable.

Motion from the floor: Form a committee to research website change made by Tracy Dabkowski; Seconded by Sharon Traumuller.

Committee Volunteers – Michele Traficante, Sharon Traumuller, Andrea Michalski

 Goal: Define functionality of desired Thespian website and best method to accomplish what we want it to do *(if interested in joining this committee, please sent a reply and it will be properly forwarded).*

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**KRISPY KREME DOUGHNUT SALE**: **Saturday, October 22; 8am-12pm**

Jeanie explained to the students about the sale and signing up. Edmodo will be sent through student group with pre-order and SignUpGenius links.

Need approximately 10 more drivers and all students on hand (those taking SATs are unavailable for the morning and excused) to make this a success. Home base at the HS will be in contact with drivers/students to keep updated regarding number of dozens needed/remaining. Pre-ordering is essential for us to get the quantity we are receiving out in one morning. Stress sending pre-order information to friends, family within PT.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Lagging behind previous years. Need to promote membership with families coming in from Coffee House and the Musical.

**CONCESSIONS:** Tracy Dabkowski thanked all who brought donations to the meeting (approximately $200 profit!). Needs parents to sign up on SignUpGenius to volunteer to help with Dracula’s 3 shows. Can donate candy, baked goods (looking for variety), veggie trays, and TIME! Will be sending a reminder with the link again. Andrea Michalski is getting the flowers from Giant Eagle for this show.

**DIRECTOR NOTES:** (from Jeanie)

Mr. Cygrymus announced the musical today…………LES MISERABLES!! How exciting!! 24601!

Dracula set could use extra hands. Students who have a build/art interest, please contact Mr. Cygrymus. Also have a need for Ushers for all shows; see Kelsey Mullan, student house manager. Points are given for these student contributions.

Jeanie is meeting some Dracula students right after school on Thursday to complete costumes/props.

**SPONSOR NOTES:** **Conference** - Paperwork due today for seniors and juniors (16 total). Opened to sophomores and 8 are interested. Spots are available for all 8. The sophomores need their paperwork and $100 check in by Friday (place in a labeled envelope and slide under the theater office door).

With remaining funds from Tarzan, Student Board voted to pay for the new Light Board and for the Conference Bus, bringing the cost significantly down for all attendees.

To continue to defray the cost for families, Backers have yearly budgeted $3500 for Conference. Backers will reimburse the Getto family for the payment of the One Act play they purchased for the students to perform at Conference. Maria Getto and James Curry will direct with auditions on Wed. after school for attendees. Remaining cost is the rooms (including bus driver) and registration. Families pay for individual and group events separately. Motion made to contribute up to $3400 towards Conference made by Rena Mesogitis and Seconded by Cindy Gialannella.

Attendees leave early Thursday morning, stay Thursday and Friday nights, with a 10 pm departure on Saturday. Approximate arrival time at PTHS is Sunday morning, around 2 am.

**NEW EDMODO CODE:** This is for students and parents who have not been receiving Thespian Edmodo emails. Go to Edmodo’s Group Sign In and enter:

4xinqb

If you are already receiving Thespian Edmodo emails, you do not need to rejoin.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Novebmer 15, 7 pm, LGI-2**

**Thank you to all who attended. Your input is invaluable!**