

**Maynard Music Association**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 4, 2023**  
**7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Cheryl Lucas, Rachel Leeuwis, Matthew Truch, Julie Wisniewski, Pam Sweeney, Sarah Johnson, Wouter Leeuwis, Melissa Raskin, Melissa Sommer, Kevin Kozik, Clayton DeWalt

MMA Officers:

MHS Chairpersons: Cheryl Lucas & Rachel Leeuwis

Fowler Chairpersons: Julie Wisniewski & Pam Sweeney

Treasurer: Matthew Truch

Secretary: Sarah Johnson

Webmaster: Wouter Leeuwis

**Chair updates:**

- Minutes from the September meeting were voted on and can now be posted on our website.
- A request from Mr. Kozik for scholarships for private lessons was discussed, and further information is needed around how much support MMA has provided in the past, to decide how much to budget for the future. High school mentoring is another option that was raised. MMA will follow up with the band director.
- Charlie Murphy, who facilitates the Una F. Murray Family Trust, will be going to this year's Casino Game Night. His family will have a reserved table, and MMA will put thank yous from past scholarship recipients on display at the table.
- MMA's participation at MaynardFest was discussed as beneficial for awareness of the organization and for community engagement. It may not have necessarily influenced Casino Night voucher sales. Offering discounted voucher prices during MaynardFest next year was raised as an idea.

**Casino Game Night updates:**

- Roasted Peppers has offered to donate pizzas at the event.
- The planning committee is considering a new game, like bingo or a word search, to occur while chips are being tallied, with the winner receiving a bottle of wine.
- The music directors were asked to encourage students to volunteer and parents to attend.

**Chorus Director updates:**

- Madrigals will tentatively provide caroling to all three schools on December 22; details are being worked out.
- MMA suggested Interlude Music as a potential resource for an enrichment workshop.

**Band Director updates:**

- After receiving updates of parents/guardians' contact information, along with voice parts and instruments, MMA needs to confirm the Jazz Band participants in grades 6-8. Like previous years, grade 4 voice parts/instruments will not be listed in the concert program.
- MMA asked the music directors to review the board's list of concert events through the end of the year and provide any updates.

- Ideas are being explored for enrichment activities, such as going to a concert in Boston and having a professional ensemble perform for the students.
- Some students who want to take Band choose the communications track instead as the current high school schedule makes it so communications students have to wait to take Band until they are juniors, and they are unlikely to do so at that point.

**Jazz Band Director updates:**

- Both MHS and Fowler Jazz Bands will perform on December 6 in the MHS auditorium.
- MHS Jazz Band expressed interest in playing at Sanctuary during the Sip and Stroll, and Wind Ensemble and A Cappella may participate as well.
- The MHS Jazz Band's first performance of the year will occur at the Maynard Downtown Trick or Treat on October 26, 5-6 PM.
- For enrichment opportunities, the director is considering collaborations with a university music director and JazzHers.
- Often facilitating community requests for the students to play, MMA asked the music directors how they want to handle future requests. The directors said they appreciate all opportunities but sometimes need to need to turn down requests because of timing or the circumstances of the event (i.e. MaynardFest is usually too early in the school year for the MHS Jazz Band, and A Cappella have auditions before they are ready to regularly rehearse). By December, the ensembles are more prepared to perform publicly.
- The Fowler Jazz Band is considered a "solid" group so far but is missing a bass player and does not have incoming 6th graders. The Band Director said he will encourage 6th graders to participate and see if bass players in the higher graders would like to join.
- MHS Jazz Band does not have a saxophone player; the music directors will look into encouraging a sax player to join the band.

**Secretary updates:**

- MMA's new email system is working well as MMA continues to refine its list. Alumni parents who request to be added to the ongoing MMA email newsletters can be added.

**Webmaster updates:**

- Recommended updates to the website should be provided to the webmaster.

**Treasurer updates:**

- MMA has \$44,726.77 in the main account, \$225.32 in the Tri-M account, \$9,291.22 in the scholarship account, and \$1,072.18 in the trip account. The main account is high in part due to funds coming in from Casino Night, as well as receiving the final donation from the Una F. Murray Trust (\$16,000, to be spread out over three years).