

Sacramento Concert Band Council Minutes – May 14, 2018 Meeting

The meeting of the Sacramento Concert Band opened at 5:35 p.m., Monday, May 14, 2018, in the Chorus Room at Rio Americano High School, Sacramento, California.

People present were:

Bob Allshouse
Dawn David
Norm Hill
Karen Hung
Bill Parker
Grant Parker
Linda Powell
Jill Somers

Minutes

Norm discussed the minutes of the April 16, 2018 meeting and said no comments came in from reviewers. The minutes from the meeting were approved.

To Do List

Linda briefly reviewed the To Do list, and members reported the tasks they had completed. Most of the tasks involved preparation for the concert, and most had already been accomplished. Norm reported that he had reserved rental trucks for the next three performances.

Concert Feedback

Grant reported briefly on his impressions of the concert. Among other things he said that we were fortunate that the reverberating sound in the theater covered up mistakes that stood out to him. The audience enjoyed the performances, apparently overlooking early or late entrances by some sections.

We used our tympani rather than the school's because the school tympani are out of adjustment. Ours are kept in the storeroom under the theater seating. Lighting in the storeroom is weak, so we need to learn how to turn on a light or to bring a flashlight. Dawn said that we need wheels to go under the tympani pedals to make the drums easier to move.

Getting the tympani out of the storeroom for our remaining performances presents some problems that we will need to work out.

Jill requested that we all provide our feedback via email regarding the concert debrief.

Cooperation with Rio

Grant and Jill had received an alert that people at Rio were upset by things we had done or failed to do and as a result wanted our band to leave Rio. Grant and Jill met with Josh, the band teacher at Rio to see if they could work out the problems. Apparently the passage of several days had allowed tempers to cool, and the problems seemed less difficult than they first seemed to be.

The Rio music program needs the practice room ready to go at 7 am Tuesday morning for zero period. After the dress rehearsal, we had put some of the percussion instruments in the theater stage storeroom instead of putting them back in the practice room. And then the doors to the storeroom were not fully secured. Rio is concerned with security, and a few weeks ago we were accused of leaving some doors unlocked even though it appeared that others had left them unlocked. We did not completely fill the stand racks in the room and put too many stands in the hall storage area, so the zero period class was short of stands. Some of the things we had failed to do were things we had never been asked to do.

We want to be welcome at Rio. The school has a good practice room, a good performance theater, a cooperative administration, and a good location. More than just avoiding conflict, we want to have an understanding with Rio that they also benefit from our use of their location.

From the meeting, we have a better understanding of what we must do to have the room ready for class the next morning. Our tasks include:

1. Leave 3 racks of approximately 15 chairs each by the door to the outside.
2. Leave 3 full racks of stands against the wall by the other side of the doorway.
3. Make sure the sound system is turned down.
4. Make sure all the doors, outside, hallway, and stage, are locked when we leave.
5. Do not move the drumset.

Things we do not need to move include:

1. The podium.
2. The piano, stools and amplifiers.

3. Chairs in the percussion area and immediately in front of the percussion.

We do not need to move the piano back to its original location. We move it before every rehearsal to make room for our seating. Rio has students move it to a desired location in the morning.

Affirmatively, we plan to do the following to help matters at Rio:

1. We will pay Jim Nakiyama to fix and tune the Rio tympani. (They are currently too badly out of adjustment to allow them to be tuned.)
2. We will buy a spare toner cartridge for our use of the copier machine and get a second cartridge as backup for Rio's use. (We do not need to get copier paper for Rio because the parents provided the music department with a more than ample supply after the school supply ran out in February.)
3. We will check all doors of the music building before we leave, even doors we did not use and ensure we leave the band room as they have requested.

Load and Stage Crews

Norm and Dawn reported that the two crews are set and work well together. We will use the crews with the Memorial Day and Adult Education graduation performances. We will pay the cost for renting the truck for Memorial Day. SVSBA will pay the truck expenses for Carmichael Park, and adult education pays the cost for the graduation performance.

Norm asked if the old music stands and racks are still available. They would be easier to move than the new stands and racks. Grant will check with Josh on this.

Plan for Collecting Music Folders

Bob planned to circulate questionnaires at rehearsal to confirm which day would be each person's last concert. People will turn in their music folders at the end of their last performance. Bob will prepare a list for Linda to use in collecting the folders. Linda will need an assistant to help band members form a line for turning in the folders and then to help with the record keeping.

We will have a small music sorting party at Rio on June 21 at 6 pm. This will involve emptying the folders, sorting the music, and identifying what may be missing. We have difficulty with parts that get separated from the main collection for each piece of music. Getting these "orphans" back to their right place is a headache and an unfortunate drain on Grant's time.

New Band Shirts and a Plan for Old Ones

The new shirts have arrived, and Nancy will have them at rehearsal. Jill said she and Nancy would be distributing them during the rehearsal break. Each person would be required to initial by their name on a list to indicate that they had received the shirt. Eight people said that they would buy their shirts. (After the meeting one more person said he would buy a shirt.) Proceeds from the shirt sales will go in the band treasury.

The group discussed what to do with the 16 old dark blue shirts that Nancy still has. The council decided to make them available for band members to take at the next rehearsal. Any remaining shirts would be donated to a charity.

Financial Report

Les was absent due to work commitments, so there was no financial report.

Jill asked the members if they wanted her to continue sending out a financial summary. The members asked her to continue.

SVSBA Report

Karen reported on the recent Sacramento Valley Symphonic Band Association meeting she had attended. That group had an opening for the vice president position, and she agreed to take it. The group has openings on its board, and they want representation from more of the member bands. SVSBA is paying for music lessons for two elementary school students.

Membership

Jill said that at the next meeting we would discuss how to keep better track of our membership. Grant wants to get the attendance log improved next year. One way to do this would be to get a password for access to the San Juan district system so he could get the roster directly. Bob said that there is often a lag between people paying their registration fees and the time when they appear on the band roster. He offered to handle contacts with the adult education office because he lives close to the office.

Jill asked which of the council members planned to continue in their positions next year. All of the members present said they would continue except for Linda who said she would let us know. Also, Grant indicated that he preferred the 5:30 Council meeting start time since it minimized the pressure just before rehearsal.

Next Performances

Our upcoming performances are:

Memorial Day, May 28.

Carmichael Park, June 2

Adult Education graduation, June 14

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be in August at a time yet to be determined. Karen offered her new condominium for the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m., May 14, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Norm Hill, Secretary

Approved by Band Council August 13, 2018