



October 22nd, 2014 – PTO General Body Meeting Minutes

Meeting Commenced: 7:45 pm (with the presentation); general body meeting started at 8:50pm.

Board Members Present for General Body Meeting: Andrea Keenan – President, Jennifer Jones-Hodgson – Vice President, Padmini Narayan – Volunteer Coordinator, Ranjini Reddy – Secretary (AM).

Chairpersons Present / Parents Present for General Body Meeting: Michelle Brown-Droese, Jeanne Hobbie, Ezili Mayo-Joseph, Linda Vittum,

Welcome and Approval of September 2014 Minutes

Christina Pharo welcomed the group. The minutes of the September meeting were presented for review and approved.

First motion to approve minutes – Linda Vittum

Second motion to approve minutes –Jennifer Hodgson

Invited Speaker Talk

Ms. Kalyani Krishnan gave a talk on ‘Executive Function Processes: Strategies for Successful, Life-long learning’. The talk was well received and ended with a question and answer session.

Treasurer’s Report

Christina Pharo gave the treasurer’s update. The bowling night made around \$2000. The craft fair proceeds were approximately \$6080 at the time of the meeting. Net income for the year was at \$3,554.31.

Fundraising

Direct Appeal: Christina Pharo reported that the direct appeal was all set to go out the following week. This year the addition of the Paypal option to contribute will be advertised on the flyer going home as well as through other sources.

Craft Fair Update: Christina Pharo gave the update on the craft fair. There is still a need for volunteers for baked goods and for admissions especially in the second half of the craft fair. Christina also requested the group to spread the word on the event.

Coupon Books: Christina mentioned that the coupon books will be sent out to families in about three weeks, probably before the book fair.

Book Fair: Ranjini Reddy gave the update on the book fair. The fair is scheduled to start on November 6th with a teacher preview. Books will be delivered to school on the 5th. Classes will start visiting the fair on Friday, November 7th. New this year is the guest appearance of Clifford the dog. This year was also the

first year that teachers were requested not to send out flyers from the Scholastic book club in order to increase sales at the book fair. The group recommended that this request be sent out to teachers earlier next year. Profit from the fair will benefit the leveled reading library. All Scholastic dollars made during the fair will be given to Mrs. Bell for the Conant library. Emails soliciting volunteers will go out after the Craft Fair.

School Directory

Andrea Keenan gave the update on the school directory. Nina Fernandez was waiting for the list of family names to get started on the process.

Open Items

a. Grants/Playground Plans

Michelle Brown-Droese gave the update on a recent grants committee meeting. The committee was on its way to identifying grants and getting familiar with the grant writing process. One issue that was discussed was the need to be able to specify the exact amounts associated with playground improvement, which was one of the aims of the grants committee this year. It was decided that this topic will be discussed further in a meeting with Mr. Sugrue and Mrs. Dressler.

b. Movie Night

Ranjini Reddy gave a report on the movie night. She reported that Conant has an annual license to show movies. She reported that the Kindergarten-2 movie night would be on Friday, December 5th and the 3-6 movie event would be on the following Friday, the 12th. The 3-6 grade movie night would be a drop off event and volunteers will be needed. The movies to be shown have not been decided.

c. Parents Night Out

Christina mentioned that Heidi Friedman was organizing a parent's night out at a Mexican restaurant on Wednesday the 12th. There was some discussion on the best way of spreading the word for events like this one.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:27 pm

First Motion to Approve: Christina Pharo

Second Motion to Approve: Michelle Brown-Droese

Minutes Typed By: Ranjini Reddy