

Meridian Park PTSA
General Meeting
January 4, 2011

Action items are in bold

Call to order:

The board meetings of the Meridian Park PTSA was called to order in the Meridian Park library at 7:06 PM by PTSA co-president Kathy Henderson. Members had been informed about the meeting through letters sent home in the boomerangs, and through PTSA and school websites. Those present were : Janina Pacunski, Aileen Lu, Lorraine Flaherty, Amy Jessee, Renee Smith, Kathy Henderson, Mary Crandell, Dixie Yamane, Kathy Tinoco, Jenny Hillger, Ann Yee, and Brian Heagler.

Secretary's Report:

Kathy H. asked whether the line items were approved for the creative writing class and for Parent's Night Out. Kathy T. said that the line items had to be approved at tonight's meeting. December 2010 minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report:

Brian stated that we needed to pass a resolution to use online banking at Key Bank. He passed out a copy of the resolution and it will be included in the minutes notebook.

At the next PTSA meeting, Brian will make recommendations for procedures and controls to be used for online banking.

Brian reviewed the budget which will be included in the minutes notebook.

Aileen, Kathy H., Dixie and Janina will go to Key Bank to sign signature cards.

Brian also prepared a pie chart detailing revenue and expenses. He feels that our next challenge is to do fundraisers with higher margins and to try to do more with the corporate side of fundraising. He reported that our biggest fundraising activity is the fall fundraiser, from which we make a 40% profit. For the car show, the profit was closer to 70%. He questions whether we should consider trying to make money at the fall carnival instead of just breaking even.

Janina made a motion to adopt the online banking resolution as proposed. This was seconded by Dixie. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion was carried.

Aileen mentioned that 5 grant item reimbursements have not been requested.

Aileen will keep Kathy H. updated re: grant reimbursements.

Jenny will email the teachers a reminder about grant reimbursements.

President's Report:

The calendar was reviewed. Dixie announced that Mariner's night will be June 3rd, which is also Field Day. Kathy H. mentioned that we still need to find a Mariner's night chair.

Jenny will mention to the teachers that we are trying to find a chair to see if they have any suggestions of parents who might be interested.

The talent show assembly has been moved to 3/14.

Amy J. will email Jenny the time of the assembly.

Focus day is February 21st. The MP Arts Festival is 5/3, beginning around 5:30. The May PTSA meeting will be held on 5/5, which is a Thursday, at 7pm, at Jersey's.

Dixie, Kathy H., Brian and Amy met to further discuss allocation of funds. The PTSA will be contributing \$5000, which will be matched by ASB, for playground equipment. Amy will be meeting with 2 equipment companies.

The Creative Writing class will be held 2 days a week and broken up by grade. The initial line item amount will be \$1000. The initial line item for Parent's Night Out will be \$1000. Brian made a motion to create these line items for the creative writing classes and for Parent's Night Out. This was seconded by Kathy T. All were in favor, none opposed and motion was carried. Brian reminded the group that this would involve no cost for the PTSA.

Jenny reported regarding library fundraisers. Her goal with the fall book fair is to earn \$4000, but this year only \$2800 was earned. She only got 20% of this for the library instead of the 25% earned if at least \$4000 is earned. The net of the book fair for the library was \$480. She pointed out that this was not very much money for 3 days of work. She has a colleague at Ridgecrest who made \$3600 in a one night Scholastic book fair that was done on a movie night, with the library earning 50% of this. Jenny wonders whether the PTSA has ever considered doing some type of movie night. She does think this year's fall book fair was different in that she had difficulty getting the classes in for previews and she moved the book fair to a less visible corner of the library.

Jenny and Amy will talk more with the staff at Ridgecrest about movie night and report back to the PTSA.

Vice President Updates:

Kathy T. reported on fundraising. She is looking into a school supply contract and we will consider whether to make it a fundraiser or a service.

Amy will get next year's school supply lists to Kathy T. at the next PTSA meeting.

Renee reported on events. The Reflections celebration at the district level is on 1/12 at Shoreline Center. She has sent an email to the people who signed up to be baking volunteers. Regarding the MP Arts Festival in May, Renee wants to know if the PTSA would want to do a mini-silent auction that night of student art to raise money for the Art Docent Program. The group agreed that this was a good idea.

Renee will speak with Jenny to plan spacing for the Arts Festival.

Renee also suggests the Arts Festival as a good venue for T shirt sales.

Dixie and Kathy H. reported on the Talent Show. Auditions will be on Wednesday 2/16 and Thursday 2/17. The 2012 Talent Show will be in January.

Amy asked Janina to remind the club leaders about food allergies. We also discussed absences from clubs and the need for a protocol for safety. Amy recommended a school wide protocol.

Kathy H. will coordinate a meeting with Amy, Janina and other interested parties regarding setting up a protocol for when a child is absent from an after school activity.

Standing Committee Reports:

An email was received from Marianne re: legislative issues. This will be added to the minutes

notebook. Renee suggested that we put something in the newsletter.

Renee will ask Marianne Stephens to write something about these issues to include in the newsletter.

Ann reported that we have 205 members. She will send home another flyer, in English and Spanish.

Kathy H. reported that the cookie exchange went well and the next teacher appreciation event is in February. We still need someone to run the liaison program next year.

Tracey sent a report to Kathy H. about family services. She reported that the food drive was a huge success, with over 1800 items and almost 200 bags of sugar brought in. Collecting for the Works will begin in January, when toothpaste will be collected.

Teacher Representative Report:

Jenny reported that the teachers really love the art docent program. Brian pointed out that it will be necessary to do the silent auction to raise money and keep this program going. Jenny also said that the staff are very appreciative of the grants they received. She showed us her new set of Encyclopedias.

Principal's Report:

Amy reported that upcoming assemblies will include a MLK day assembly, Book it Theatre, and a Science assembly. Kindergarten tours will take place on 1/13, and Kinderfest will be at the end of January. She reported that Meridian Park will get a new field and some of the field may be used for Shorewood HS teams.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Lorraine M. Flaherty, secretary