

PTSA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 1/25/12

1. Fabulous PE Teacher Dian Christensen

Dian gave an engaging presentation on PE at Sunnyside. Thank you, Dian!

PTSA President Heidi McNamee convened the business portion of the meeting and gave a short introduction. The business portion of the meeting began at approximately 6:50.

2. State Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer

Rep. Keny-Guyer gave a presentation on issues she is working on in the Oregon Legislature. She represents House District 46, which is adjacent to the Sunnyside Neighborhood. She was appointed to replace Ben Cannon in that seat. She discussed her concerns about K-12 schools and early childhood services. She also discussed issues surrounding health care and costs. Rep. Keny-Guyer stated that the Legislature expects a budget shortfall of \$307 million. State agencies are prepared to cut either 3.5 or 7 percent of their budgets, but this will probably not affect K-12 schools. The legislature will know more after the state economist releases the budget forecast on February 8.

3. Approval of General Meeting Minutes

Thereafter, a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2011 General Meeting. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

4. Treasurer's Report

PTSA Treasurer Cindi Carrell gave the treasurer's report. She gave details of the current budget-to-actual and noted that the Back to School Combined Ask raised \$37,000. Members of the SES community gave approximately \$1500 to the school's PPS Foundation account. She noted that the PTSA expects to raise additional funds in the upcoming Read-a-Thon, Taste of Sunnyside, and Run/Walk fundraisers. Cindi also presented the current balance sheet and made note of the current scrip inventory.

5. Go Fund Implementation and Other Budget Revisions

Cindi discussed in detail the need for the SESPTSA membership to adopt budget changes in connection with implementation of Go Fund. She gave a short history of how the new administrative team requested that SES and the PTSA start funding student trips through a single fund called the Go Fund. An overarching goal of the Go Fund is to ensure that no students will be excluded from trips as a result of inability to pay. In the past, PTSA funded approximately \$20k in trip scholarships for needy students, and each student could also raise funds to pay down the cost of that student's own trip. Under the Go Fund concept, all trip-related fundraising will be to support the Go Fund. Because the Go Fund is new, it is unknown precisely how large the fund needs to be, but the projections range from \$30 to \$50K.

Cindi asked the membership to approve a motion to make changes to the 2011-12 PTSA budget to implement the Go Fund. She summarized the changes as follows:

- (1) Funds raised from scrip sales will no longer be “banked” for middle school trips but will become part of the Go Fund.
- (2) Funds generated from the annual wreath and poinsettia sale that were budgeted to go individual student accounts will now go to the Go Fund.
- (3) Middle school coffee sales will go to the Go Fund.

She proposed a motion to make these budget changes which was seconded and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Cindi also outlined a motion to propose changes to the PTSA budget relating to funding for school service grants and grants to the PPS Foundation. She proposed a motion that was seconded and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Finally, Cindi proposed a shift in arts funding in the PTSA budget from middle school to K-2. She proposed a motion to alter the K-2 arts grant and the middle school arts grants. The motion was seconded and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Cindi explained that the PTSA budgeting plan is to keep approximately one full year in reserves of about \$50K.

6. Fundraising Report

Matthew gave a fundraising report by explaining that PTSA has planned four large fundraisers and many small ones. The next fundraiser is the Read-A-Thon scheduled for February 6-17. Oregon’s Poet Laureate will be giving a presentation at SES in connection with the event.

The Taste of Sunnyside adult-only fundraiser will occur on Saturday, February 25 at Norse Hall on NE Couch St. Beth and Britt are organizing party boards to auction off. There will be live music and a dessert contest. The Jason Lee School is sharing in some of the fundraising aspects of the Taste of Sunnyside.

The SES student Run/Walk fundraiser will occur on April 17.

Matthew continues to plan and promote small fundraisers, including restaurant nights and e-scrip.

7. Administration Report

Rebecca gave a brief administration report on the state of SES. She reflected on how different SES is from other schools. She discussed the Go Fund and mentioned there is already \$16 K raised. She mentioned the Applebee’s Breakfast in which eight out of ten dollars to go to the Go Fund.

8. Announcements.

Mike Bray organized a parenting workshop – “parenting in the digital age”
RSVP to Mike Bray mbray@pdx.edu 503-330-0520

Heidi announced that cistern plans were approved by PPS
She will need help with installation & educational signage -
RSVP : heidimacnamee@gmail.com 503-317-8939

9. Safety and Resilience Committee

Dana Buhl gave a short report about the work of the Safety and Resilience Committee also known as the Rock and Roll committee. The committee is organizing a neighborhood disaster dinner Saturday, March 10 at SES, sponsored by the Sunnyside Swap Shop, Sunnyside United Methodist Church, and Sunnyside Neighborhood Association. The event will be funded through ticket sales. It will include information booths and a raffle tickets. The Committee expects to purchase \$225 in emergency equipment for use in the neighborhood.

In addition, the Committee is working with PPS to learn more about seismic issues concerning the SES building. The Committee is planning an earthquake drill. The Committee has also had significant discussions with PPS, a seismic engineer, and a construction contractor about doing a community-sponsored seismic retrofit, in which the planning, engineering and construction expertise would be donated. PPS is also offering programming in readiness and emergency planning for schools on March 13 and 14. Interested people would need to register. This includes training on preparing a bucket of emergency equipment and training involving family reunification planning.

10. Red Cross Presentation.

Thereafter, Kate and Francisco from the Red Cross gave an informative presentation on emergency preparedness issues.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.