

PTSA Board Meeting Minutes 4-11-12

The meeting commenced at approximately 6:30 p.m. The following people attended the meeting:

Cindi Carrell, Liz Hardy, Matthew Latterell, Michael Jansa, Dana Buhl, Heidi McNamee, Beth Azar, Amy Kleiner, Dan Keppler

The Board conducted a count and concluded there were sufficient people to constitute a quorum. The Board approved the minutes from the March 14, 2012 Board Meeting.

1. Fundraising

Liz reported that planning and organization are in good shape for the K-5 Run/Walk Fundraiser on May 25th.

Matthew outlined ideas for a middle school alternative to the Run/Walk. This idea of an alternate arose because of limited participation by middle schoolers last year. The proposal is for a middle school "Move-a-thon" at the Jason Lee School. The event would act as a community-building opportunity for our middle school students as part of an ongoing effort to form a partnership with Jason Lee School. The proposed event would involve dancing, running, and fundraising for middle school trips.

Matthew is considering possible dates of May 30 or June 6th. Probably May 30th is the better date. We would probably use yellow buses for transportation to the event. Parent volunteers and Popsicle donations are needed.

Matthew described his "mad" idea to earmark K-5 run/walk donations for SES' foundation accounts in order to possibly help respond to expected PPS budget cuts. The Board engaged in a discussion of the status of funding overnights through the Go Fund and uncertainty over what the need will be. There was a discussion about whether people would be more likely to give in response to PPS budget shortfalls and whether earmarking funds for the foundation account would be appropriate. The Board also engaged in a discussion regarding making sure there is integrity in our communications regarding fundraising. The Board deferred making a decision on this topic.

Matthew announced more restaurant events, including Burgerville and Pizzicato in May. It was noted that there is a lot of Powell's scrip in our inventory and that might make a good teacher gift. There was a discussion of opportunities for a relationship with the new Safeway and using E-scrip.

2. Treasurer's report

Cindi passed out a balance sheet and budget to actual spreadsheet. Cindi reported that we have \$100K in bank and we are looking at a rollover at the end of year in the \$50-60K range. A Taste of Sunnyside generated \$10K, Read-A-Thon generated \$29.4. She reported that we are at our goal for annual fundraising. Dana had a question about PTSA making grants to other organizations.

3. Communications

Beth reported a project to make a bulletin board informing the SES community about fundraising and funding at SES. A committee has met to work on this project. It will probably involve a big graph and pie chart that describes fundraising components of Go fund, PTA and school. The committee is compiling data for different parts of the project and will display it as a “big picture” with photos showing examples of the activities being funded.

4. Budget Issues.

Amy had just arrived from a meeting of PPS administrators regarding difficult budget issues and expected cuts. She said the details of the meeting have not yet been released so she is not at liberty to discuss them.

However, she suggested preliminarily that PTA may want to focus on expanding the sustainability program to help alleviate possible classroom crowding resulting from PPS budget cuts. A discussion ensued about teacher grants and obtaining teacher input on PTA’s budget. It is expected that about \$20 to \$40 K will be needed for overnights. There was a discussion of the need for \$1000 to \$1500 for summer help gardening maintenance help.

5. Safety and Resilience

Dana reported an upcoming meeting with PPS facilities people regarding insurance, details of possible seismic upgrade for SES. No one has a good estimate of what it will cost, but PPS is considering the ideas that Dana’s committee has been working on. There are both structural issues and non-structural mitigation issues to consider. She expected to have more to report after her meeting.

The Board engaged in a discussion about earthquake risk and the need for families to have a reunification plan. Dana’s committee expects to create an information packet on this issue to go home with students the fall. It will include several questions for families to answer about reunification in a disaster.

6. Miscellaneous announcements.

Heidi reported on the status of painting the cistern.

Teacher appreciation week is May 7-11. Emory Oeding is a volunteer working on that. It was suggested that PTSA seek donations from businesses in furtherance of that.

Volunteer appreciation week is next week. The plan is to give out chocolate and heart stickers and use the Jib-jab to send thank-yous to volunteers.

There will be a presentation at the May 16 PTA general meeting regarding school funding. Rob Cowie, who is in charge of PPS communications and an SES Parent, has agreed to give a presentation on this issue.

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