

PTSA Board Meeting August 15, 2013

Elizabeth opened up the meeting with introductions of everyone present. Those who attended were Elizabeth Levi, Cindi Carrell, Beth Azar, Heidi McNamee, Ricardo Ismach, Ryan Manner, Matthew Latterell, Ina Zucker, Kim Jarvis, MaOxford Lerotholi and Justine Light.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the June Board meeting, it was seconded, approved by voice vote and the motion carried.

Introductions of each officer were made and it was noted that Ricardo's role as Vice President also included Policy/Legislation liaison.

Ryan related the recent developments for the foundation committee. It was discussed that the Belmont St Fair was not going to pan out for SES to participate and has not shown to be such a draw by community. Better to consider being part of craft fairs and so on.....foundation has sights on revising some events that might not have panned out for fundraising in the past but could have some potential to work this year. Beth mentioned that vacation raffles were a good way to go. There is also a good buzz regarding the idea of afterschool enrichment classes as a fundraiser, and there may be a pilot project to start in the winter.

It was suggested that it might be very beneficial for The Foundation to consider taking on Scrip and actualizing it's full fundraising potential.

Dan was absent but the subject of registering assumed business names was discussed...it was suggested that we also adapt a name for our business purposes instead of the full business name that is used for the IRS..... it was moved that this discussion was tabled until Dan was present to give his full input.

Due to a scheduling conflict with Elementary Back to School night, it was suggested that we move our board meeting from Thursday the 19th to Wednesday the 18th for this month of September only. The general meeting will be a on September 26th and it was suggested that we have the sustainability team present a bit about what they do as our draw. And possibly a "meet the new vice principal" headliner too. Amy will talk about school. There is a possibility that Jules Bailey will be invited to discuss current issues he's facing as the rep for our district.

Destiny has declined the position of Beyond Diversity on the PTSA board and will continue her role in the Courageous Conversations/ Equity group.

There is also a gap in the roster as to who would be a co-coordinator for the harvest fair with Ryan. Several people were suggested as helpers but no one specifically committed at this point.

Ricardo is interested in making a documentary about the history of SES. It was mentioned that this might be a good fundraiser down the road, with a possibility of using a short 5 minute version to be shown at back to school nights, house parties, etc. It was discussed that the teachers really needed to be into this as well for the project to go forward.

Cindi passed around the profit and loss sheet for last year which tells us where the money came in from and where it went out to...she gave balance sheets out and said that we ended up with a balance of 58K and estimated ending balance of 40K for the 2014 balance, which is better than the anticipated 37K projected at last school year's end meeting. Cindi also mentioned the requirement for an audit - and suggested this could happen either at one of the OR PTA trainings or separately, though at the trainings it would be quicker and more help would be available. There is an audit workshop on September 15.

Matthew gave a fundraising report. Taste of Sunnyside is on calendar for Dec 7th and he will be looking for a different venue for the event since last year's space isn't available. The idea was discussed about arranging/spearheading student art projects to add to the auction. Chinooks books are on their way and there will be a combo pack available for mobile and book. The first restaurant fundraiser night will be at Laurelhurst Pizzacato on 9/24. with a possible Laughing Planet happening in Oct. While currently Online donations work through Paypal, Matthew looked into other pay processes and he has found a new system called Stripe, which behaves like Paypal but it appears to be on our website (rather than re-routing) which would be more user friendly. Cindi says yes only when they figure out how to match their system up with Quickbooks. Ricardo moved that we authorize a contract with Stripe to handle our online donations as long as it makes the most sense financially and is appropriate, Heidi seconded it and the motion passed with voice votes.

Ricardo is interested in moving forward with the documentary that was proposed last Spring, and plans to contact Amy and the teachers regarding their input on the project. He has several community members ready to help get this off the ground.

Ricardo gave a little recap of his experience at the PTA training. There will be more offerings of this training later this fall and many members stated that they might be interested in attending those.

It was suggested that the school communications instructions for parents be printed on a half sheet colored paper in english and in spanish and placed in the the Back to School packets.

Ricardo reported that the state school budget is 6.55 billion dollars and there will be tentatively a meeting to increase 100 million to the budget. He also noted that the Common Core Standards might pose a threat to our school as it is now (being a non-traditional curriculum school). More will be known on this later.

It was announced that there are several dates SES is slated to provide volunteers (five each day) to the Portland PTA Clothing Center: Mon. Nov. 28, 2011 and Thurs. Feb. 16, 2012.

meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.

Minutes were taken by Justine Light, Secretary.