

February 28, 2019

Meeting Start: 3:18 pm

January minutes were approved. Aimee motioned and Craig seconded. All approved.

In attendance: Aimee Magovern; President, Dana Pustinger; Vice President, Dawn Lemon; Treasurer, Linda Curtiss; Secretary, Tom Nadolny, Nanette Higgins, Amy Maxton, Craig Drenga, Jennifer Hibbins Salzano, Kathy Adams.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Thank you notes: Terri DiGrigoli thanked us for acknowledging her with the gift card and plant for School Guidance Counselor Week. Dawn Lemon sent a thank you note expressing her gratitude for all the support she has received from everyone over the last few months.
- Sunshine Fund: the gift card and plant for Terri this month.
- Sunshine Gifts: for Mr. Keller for his injury and Mrs. Hamill for her baby. Aimee will reach out to Terri Digrigoli about getting a card and gift card for each of them.
- Box Tops: We received a total of \$216.80 from box tops. Mrs. Hamill's class brought in \$76.50, Mrs. Tracy's class: \$42.50, and Mrs. Maxton's class: \$28.50. Aimee will ask Karen if she can send home some more box top collecting sheets.

Vice President's Report:

- Screen Free Week: (May 13th-17th) Possible activity ideas are: a hike with Mr. Keller, free swim at Berkshire South, a group yoga class for kids and families (town hall class instructor), boot camp for kids and families (Justin Soules), Gaga tournament, Bingo. Aimee will check Google docs for details about events.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Finances: The Bank account has around \$35,000 as of now, less classroom accounts of about \$10,000, minus \$5,000 we need to pay out for calendar prize money. The memberships for skiing have been deposited, but the ridge has not been paid yet. Jamie hasn't sent an invoice yet for this year's ski program, but she will send it soon. \$176 was spent on the end of ski program pizza party. We still need to pay Butternut for tubing, and a check for \$300 was given to the school for March Madness supplies.
- Cash Calendar Progress: The total raised from calendars sold was \$14,930. A few PTA members present at the meeting purchased 7 more calendars to bring the total to \$15,000! There were 340 plus unsold calendars. At 20 cents per calendar, it's not a big loss. However, next year we will mention on fundraiser flyer to please return the calendars ASAP if you don't wish to participate, and also that checks are accepted and can be made out to FRRSD PTA. Next year we will start the calendar drawing March 1, 2020, to alleviate the rush of counting calendars between February vacation and the first drawing, and drawings will run into April as needed. All but 15 teachers and 14 students participated in the fundraiser. Mr. Keller's class had the 3 top sellers and sold the most, raising \$595 per student. Steve Sedon bought 5 calendars and donated an additional \$50. Total expenses were \$851 for calendar orders, \$100 for labels, envelopes, ink and postage for letters to sponsors, as well as for checks to calendar winners. Jennifer Hibbins Salzano is willing to take over formatting the Cash Calendars from Kathy starting next year.
- Tubing at Butternut: 100 tickets, cookies and juice will cost a total of \$545. We still need to pay for half the bus. Dawn is writing a special thank you to Dave Riley at Butternut for letting us reschedule 3 times.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Butternut Tubing: grades 4-6 will go in the morning and grades k-3 will go in the afternoon. The PTA will pay for any parents who would like to attend.
- Student Council Fundraiser: Dinner at The Knox. \$200 was raised from food sold. The BRP (Brett Robert Peck Foundation) matched it with \$200, and there was another \$200 from an anonymous donor. The Student Council raised a total of \$600.

- School vs. PTA purchases: Eric Jesner (school businesses manager) asked if the PTA can purchase things when needed rather than having the school purchase them and then being reimbursed by the PTA. When the school purchases something it gets counted against the budget even though they are not actually paying for it. If teachers need supplies that the PTA is willing to fund, they should come to Dawn directly, rather than to the school. It is possible the PTA will get a debit card for the bank account in the future to be used for these purposes.
- Read Across America/Dr. Seuss's Birthday: Meaghan Martin and Sarah Tracy have coordinated a week of activities for the children. On Monday community leaders (a fire fighter, a policeman, town hall staff, and librarians) will come in to read to the classes. Linda, Jenn Thomas and Aimee put together Dr. Seuss themed goody bags for each of the students.
- Playground Equipment Research: Aimee emailed Teresa and Tom asking if we can help in any way to research the purchase of new playground equipment. Teresa contacted OCC. They are not sure if that is something they can fund. She is looking at options and prices. They range from \$17,000 and up. Jennifer Hibbins Salzano volunteered to follow up with Teresa.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mr. Keller's field trip request (Tom): Mr. Keller is planning to take his 5th grade class on an overnight to Fort Ticonderoga in June. He wrote Cultural Council grants to Otis and Sandisfield. Otis awarded him \$1000. Sandisfield initially denied his request before offering \$200. He will be getting some more funds from the light bulb fundraiser and spring pictures fundraiser, but he is asking the PTA if we can donate \$500 to help fund the trip. Aimee pointed out that the 5th grade class raised a lot of money for the PTA by selling calendars, and they should benefit from their efforts. A vote was taken. The members voted in favor of the donation.
- Nomination Committee: A nomination committee is needed to put together next year's PTA officers. Kathy Adams and Dawn Lemon volunteered to be on the committee. Aimee will ask Tom to be on the committee. Jenn Catolane (not present today) has expressed interest in running for Treasurer. Linda has offered to serve again as Secretary if no one else is eager to step in. Aimee is considering whether or not she can take on the President position again for next year. Sarah Pease is interested in serving on the PTA, but she works every Thursday, so we would have to change the day we meet.
- Spring Dance: May would likely be the best time to hold a spring dance, but we need someone to step up and take charge of organizing it. Amanda Leavenworth had expressed interest in doing that, but she was not present at the meeting. Aimee will reach out to her. Linda and Dana are willing to help out with it if someone organizes it.
- Pizza party and Ice cream social: Ice cream social will be on Wednesday, April 10th 12:30 or 1:00. Pizza party for top selling class is yet to be determined.

Next meeting: March 21, 2019 at 3:15.

Meeting adjourned: 4:40 pm. Linda motioned, Kathy seconded.