

PTA Meeting Minutes

Eagle Hall - Thoreau Middle School

Thursday, April 20, 2017

Attendees: Beth Eachus, Barbara Rousseau, Sarah Helmicki, Laura Schmorrow, Ms. Aguilar, Michelle Alonso, Kelly Sund, Wendy Pearson, Sandy Pompelli, Jane Miscavage, Sridevi Joshi, Carolyn Culhane, Kathy Keller, Stacey Leimbach

The meeting was called to order at 9:36 am. Sarah Helmicki presented the minutes from the January 19, 2017, PTA meeting. There was a motion to approve the minutes by Wendy Pearson. Carolyn Culhane seconded, and the minutes were approved as written.

Student Services Report

Ms. Aguilar noted that Mr. Azimi could not attend the PTA meeting as he was attending an all county principal's meeting.

Ms. Aguilar thanked the PTA and the Hospitality Committee for the soup and salad lunch they provided. She also reported that the school community was preparing for the Standards of Learning tests that are scheduled for May. Lastly, Ms. Aguilar noted that talking points would be provided in Thoreau Matters for parents who are watching 13 Reasons, which is a show that many students have watched and are talking about in school. She recommended that students watch the show with a parent or other trusted adult as the theme of the show (suicide) is challenging. She suggested that students not watch in isolation so that an open dialogue about the show can occur.

President's Report

Beth began her report by noting that a number of parents from Thoreau were recognized for their volunteerism in the Town of Vienna. Beth also noted that the 8th Grade Farewell Dance would be held on 6/2. She asked for additional volunteers, although there are already 2 chairs for the event. Beth asked for additional volunteer drivers for Make the Cut, a volunteer program where students can go to have their hair cut and then donate their cut hair. Additional volunteers are also needed for the school store in May as well as to help at the art show at Navy Federal.

Treasurer's Report

Laura Schmorrow presented the Treasurer's Report. While Membership dues are lower than budgeted, higher than expected revenues from Cross Town Hoops and Dining for Dollars have offset the lower than expected revenue from Membership dues.

Committee Reports

The following committees provided updates:

Crosstown Hoops: Barbara Rousseau, Chair of the Crosstown Hoops event, gave a report about the event. More than 1000 people attended the event. Thoreau sold approximately 500 tickets in advance, so all of those sales will be exclusive revenue for Thoreau. Profits are higher than expected from this event. One suggestion was to make a donation to the Fairfax Falcons who provided an exhibition game during the event.

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Dining for Dollars: Michelle Alonso, chair of the Dining for Dollars fundraisers reminded the group of the following events:

- April 26 – Social Burger
- May 30 – Mod Pizza
- June 7 – Ledo's Pizza

Rebate and Rewards Programs: It was noted that June 2 is the deadline for box tops submissions.

Landscaping and Courtyard: Beth explained that previous Thoreau PTAs had earmarked \$5000 to pay for the courtyard design. Bonnie Fitzgerald of Maverick Mosaics is a local artist and expert in public mosaic art. She will implement the design. The cost is high because the materials must be weatherproof, so they are expensive. The PTA may seek donations of concrete from parents who are contractors to help offset the cost of the project. The timeframe for implementation is in the next 6 months. For those interested in purchasing a brick, please contact Stephanie Bollini. Brick purchases will also help offset the cost of the mosaic.

Hospitality: Volunteers and donations are needed to help with Teacher Appreciation Week (May 1-5), which will have an international theme. Navy Federal will host a Mexican luncheon as a part of the overall international theme.

8th Grade Party: The 8th Grade Party will be held on 6/2 from 6:30-8:30. Kathy Keller and Jennifer Sorrell are the co-chairs for the event. The theme will be Neon Nights with black lights and neon. Chick Fil-A will be served. Look for a sign up genius in the first week of May for other food needs. There will also possibly be a DJ and photo booth. Any donations would be welcome.

Talent Show: A talent show is planned, possibly for June 16. There will be afterschool rehearsals for the event for interested students where snacks will be provided.

Play tickets are available for the upcoming Willy Wonka, Jr. play.

New Business

Beth provided a list of open positions for the PTA for the 2017-2018 school year. At this time, we are in need of chairs for Hospitality, School store, 8th Grade Party, Garden, Thoreau Auction, and School Supplies. We are also in need of a PTA VP.

The mayor will host an information session on May 4 regarding the expansion of I66 from 7-8:30 at the Town Hall.

Beth ended the meeting at 10:39 am.