

Meridian Park PTSA  
General Meeting  
February 1, 2011

**Action items are in bold**

Call to order:

The board meeting of the Meridian Park PTSA was called to order in the Meridian Park library at 7:07 pm by PTSA co-president Kathy Henderson. Members had been informed about the meeting through letters sent home in the boomerangs, and through PTSA and school web sites. Those present were: Kathy Henderson, Dixie Yamane, Renee Smith, Janina Pacunski, Aileen Lu, Brian Heagler, Tamra Smilanich, Jodi Forschmiedt, Rebecca Andresen, Gretchen Atkinson, Jenny Hillger, Amy Jessee, Lindsay Miller, Lindsey Amtmann and Mary Crandell.

New Business:

Lindsay Miller from the Dale Turner YMCA presented information on after school care programs. She also talked about programs that are available to families during mid-winter break and other breaks throughout the school year.

Kindergarten parent, Lindsey Amtmann, presented information on Quiet Heart Wilderness Program. She stated this is a great program that introduces kids to all kinds of nature ideas. She said the people from Quiet Heart will provide free outreach during school events (ie: Back to School BBQ) to answer questions and generate interest.

Gretchen Atkinson from the Meridian Park Neighborhood Association reported that Embrace Shoreline Schools will be on Saturday, May 14 from 9 am to 12 noon. The Aurora Church of the Nazarene will not be able to assist this year due to a scheduling conflict. Gretchen is working on getting a band and trying to line up some refreshments. She stated that we will be working in the front and possibly the kindergarten beds planting day lilies. Gretchen asked for clarification of the care of the memorial bed.

**Amy J. will contact Trinh Pham at Room Nine Community School and find out if they plan to continue maintaining the memorial bed.**

Gretchen mentioned since the Flea Market isn't on the calendar this year that the Neighborhood Association is considering a community garage sale.

Secretary's Report:

Due to a full agenda and time constraints, the January minutes were not read and approved at the meeting. They will be presented for approval at the March meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Brian stated the T-shirt sales have basically ceased. Recently, more were ordered to replenish the supply, but none have been sold. There is currently a deficit on the line item. He said we should try to find someone to spearhead T-shirt sales and make sure they are available at various functions throughout the year.

Yearbook club dues were projected to be \$1200 and are currently at \$700.

Aileen mentioned issues with the 1099 forms. She stated that we need to make sure all individuals that will be paid should fill out a W-9 in order to have all the pertinent information at the end of the year in order to produce and distribute the 1099 forms.

Brian stated that almost all the teacher grants have been distributed.

Brian suggested the possibility of having fewer line items in order to utilize funds to ASB and/or the Principal's Discretionary Fund. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

A copy of the budget will be included in the minutes notebook.

#### President's Report:

Kathy mentioned that we still need to work on a better system for consolidating the calendars for the various clubs. She and Amy J. have started looking into the possibility of a reader board in the lobby, but nothing has been decided.

Kathy, Amy J. and Janina had a meeting to discuss getting some standard club protocols in place. They are hoping these protocols will be feasible for both PTSA and MP teacher led clubs and programs. This is still a work in progress and will be ready for full implementation in the next school year.

Amy J. presented a proposed plan for the new playground layout. We were reminded the plan has not been confirmed and changes are still possible.

Golden Acorn Award flyers will be going home in the Boomerangs next week. The forms will be due on March 4.

Kathy stated that Brian Heagler is the only confirmed member of the Nominating Committee. At least two other members are needed to evaluate candidates for next year's board positions and make their recommendations to the board.

Kathy stated the Healthy Lifestyles Committee has made some recommendations and there are taste tests being conducting among some small groups using new recipes. The PTA Council voted to move the Healthy Lifestyles Committee to a standing committee in order for them to bring suggestions directly to the school board.

#### **Kathy H. will look into the possibility of the PTSA sponsoring physical activity programs in tandem with ASB**

#### Standing Committee Reports:

Mary stated the deadline for Cheetah Chatter submissions is next Wednesday, February 9 and the Chatter will be published the following Wednesday, February 16. Mary also brought up the fact that the HTML e-mail list is being underutilized. She said this list would be a good way to get information out to PTSA members provided it is wisely used. Mary recommended sending two or three items of information out every two weeks or so.

An e-mail was received from Marianne Stephens re: legislative issues. Kathy H. went over the report and mentioned Focus Day in Olympia on Monday, February 21. There will be a bus leaving from the Shoreline area and the cost is \$15/adults and \$5/child. Kathy H. also mentioned the city council meeting on Monday, February 28 which will include a hearing regarding an appeal of the King County Landmarks decision that approved the district's plans to incorporate the historic Ronald School into the new Shorewood High School.

The fourth and fifth grade PTSA Liaisons are planning a coffee break for the teachers and staff on Wednesday, February 16. Information will be going home in the Boomerangs.

Jodi Forschmiedt stated the spring grants round is gearing up. She hopes to get the applications to the teachers by the end of this week. The applications will be due Friday, March 4 and they will be reviewed and presented to the board at the April 5 meeting. There will be a total of \$1500 available.

#### Vice President Updates:

Kathy Tinoco was unable to be present at the meeting but she relayed to Kathy H. that Yearbook Club is going great and they plan to start creating pages this week. The Yearbook would welcome any

photos from field trips, classrooms, etc.

Janina P. presented a sample of the Meridian Park Directory. After review, the board okayed it for print.

**Janina P. will send the directory to Sam's Press for publication**

There was a short discussion on the possibility of new ideas for Fund Raising. Brian Heagler suggested that any changes be planned a full year in advance in order to get them implemented.

Renee Smith presented a problem with this year's plant sale. She called the supplier we've used the past two years and got a recording that the number is disconnected. She hasn't had any luck finding a supplier yet.

**Renee Smith will continue trying to secure a new supplier and will report her findings back to the board.**

Janina Pacunski reported the new Creative Writing Club is off to a very enthusiastic start. Other clubs and programs are running well. She is working on getting the protocols in place.

Teacher Representative Report:

Jenny Hillger stated the teachers are anticipating the MSP coming up in May.

Principal's Report:

Amy J. reported that the teachers had a very good in-service day last week. She also stated the ELL family nights for Korean and Spanish speaking families were very well received. She would like to find a way to get a Welcome Committee assembled to assist non-English speaking families utilize services that are available to them, ie: translators.

Amy said the YADA assembly was very well received by all the students that attended.

Amy has been talking to Marty DeGrazia regarding the Car Show and how the playground construction may impact usable space. They are working on solutions.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm.

Janina Pacunski, VP Programs