

Meridian Park PTSA  
Board Meeting  
January 10, 2012

**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-Treasurer Brian Heagler. Member had been informed about the meeting through newsletter, MP and PTSA web sites and notices in Boomerangs. Those present: Jodi Forschmiedt, Adrienne Thompson, Tracey Poole, Rachel Ariss, Aileen Lu, Lorraine Flaherty, Shannon Brown, Amy Jessee, Jenny Hillger and Renee Smith.

Welcome and Introductions:

Brian welcomed everyone and no introductions were necessary

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the General Meeting held December 6, 2011 were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report:

Brian stated that no updated financials were available for tonight's meeting

**\*\* Brian will e-mail the financials later this week**

Brian reported that there are no major changes to the budget from last month. He is forecasting a \$5,000 carry over into next year. He recommends we keep this cushion as the fall fund raiser is changed.

Brian said he talked with Kathy Henderson prior to the meeting and Kathy requested that \$1,600 of the profit from last year's Drama Club production be reinvested into the club so that it becomes "self-sustaining," similar to Chess and Math Clubs.

**\*\*Brian will ask Kathy to explain what the funds would be used for at our February meeting**

Discussion and a vote will be tabled until the February meeting

President's Report:

Brian stated that we need to recruit parents to be part of the Nominating Committee. It would be ideal to have at least one parent from grades K-4 to put forward names. PTSA Liaisons and teachers are another source for names. Next year, there will be vacancies in: co-President; VP Events; co-Treasurer. There are some critical committees that need chairs: Fall Carnival and Car Show. Renee said it would be best to have 3-5 people on the Car Show Committee.

Brian directed our attention to the agenda for the Drama Club audition dates: Jan. 30, 31 and Feb. 1 between noon and 3:30 pm and Feb. 2 beginning at 3:30. Amy mentioned that the dates for the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Band performance, that was in conflict with the opening night performance of the play, has been changed from March 22 to March 28.

The talent show performance is on Friday, January 27 at the Shoreline Auditorium. There will be a school performance assembly on Monday, January 30.

Vice President Updates:

Events: Updates were discussed during the President's Report about the Nominating Committee

Programs/Clubs:

Shannon and Rachel proposed to offer a Loom Knitting Class. It will be open to 10 (possibly more) students after school on Mondays beginning February 6 and ending on March 12. The cost will be \$40 per student and will cover all needed supplies (looms, yarn) and a small payment for the instructor. At the conclusion of the class, the students will be able to take their complete project (a hat) as well as the loom. The class was unanimously approved.

Principal's Report:

Amy reported that there have been three babies born in recent weeks. Shannon Gravett and her husband welcomed Brian Finnegan and Jill Bettger and her husband welcomed twins Liam David and Olivia Eleanor. Both mothers and all three babies are doing well.

The Symetra \$10,000 Grant will be used for hands-on science including robotics.

Construction is moving along and a photo of the progress is on the front of this month's Cheetah Chatter.

With conferences coming up at the end of this month, it is imperative to get the word out to as many families as possible that these conferences are of great importance. These are academic based conferences and are longer in length than the fall "getting to know you" conferences.

Highly Capable testing will be taking place in the building on Saturday, January 14 and Saturday, January 28.

Kinderfest is on Saturday, January 21 from 10-noon at the Shoreline Center.

Lorraine mentioned the Future Fest occurring on January 21 at Shoreline Community College. It is recommended for families with students in grades 6-12 to learn about programs in and out of the Shoreline School District and to help students prepare for college and be equipped for a career.

Amy mentioned the United Way Day of Caring is happening on Monday, January 16. We will have volunteers here from 10-2 helping clear out the locker room.

Standing Committee Reports:

Fund raising:

No report

Grants:

Jodi reported that the fourth grade team did submit a request for their Olympia field trip. The Grant Committee recommended we approve \$400 to cover transportation costs. The board unanimously approved the recommendation.

The applications for the spring grants will be going out in February so the staff will have time to work on them over break. There will be \$1,500 available for the spring grants.

**Legislation:**

Adrienne reported that the special session had started yesterday. It is a short session – 60 days. There is still a \$2.5 billion short fall that needs to be addressed. The Supreme Court ruling on whether or not Washington state is funding basic education is being monitored through 2018 based on a plan that it will be fully funded by then. There will be discussion about possibly putting on the ballot: 1/2% sales tax increase; 1% income tax; capital gains tax. The transportation budget is recommended to be \$20 billion, but the governor put forth a \$10 billion plan.

**Volunteer Coordinator:**

Aileen said there was nothing to report. She questioned if there should be some sort of sign up to find people interested in helping with the car show and other upcoming events. It was suggested that something go out with limited requests: car show and book fair volunteers were mentioned.

**Membership:**

No report

**Communications:**

In Mary's absence, Brian relayed her request for information and photos for upcoming Chatter publications. Mary needs help with submissions so she isn't writing everything herself.

**Teacher Representative Report:**

Jenny reported that the big book fair is coming March 12-16. She reported good news: she received a grant from the Shoreline Foundation to help cover the cost of the May 17 author assembly with Matt Holme – illustrator of the Baby Mouse & Squish books.

Jenny said the teachers gave a big thank you to the sixth grade parents for the cookie “exchange” in December and also for the grants.

The teachers are very busy with assessments. The following testing is coming up: Easy CBM (math); Dibbles (fluency) and SRI (comprehension).

Jenny volunteered to post bullet point lists on the MP web site for PTSA items with links to the PTSA page for those that want more information. If someone wants information to be on the MP web site, they need to get the information to Jenny and then make sure the links are available on the PTSA page.

**New Business:**

None

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Janina Pacunski, Secretary