

Meridian Park PTSA
Board Meeting
May 1, 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 7:09 pm by PTSA President Kathy Henderson. Members had been informed about the meeting through newsletter, MP and PTSA web sites and notices in Boomerangs. Those present: Mary Crandell, Gretchen Atkinson, Amy Jessee, Tracey Poole, Aileen Lu, Adrienne Thompson, Shannon Brown, Rachel Ariss, Renee Smith, Jenny Hillger and Emmanuel Gnanapragasm.

Welcome and Introductions:

Kathy welcome everyone, no introductions were necessary. As this was our last “full” meeting of the year, Kathy opened with a discussion regarding the June 5 meeting. It will be a limited meeting to vote in the interim budget and cover a couple of small items. The majority of the June 5 evening will be to thank this year's PTSA volunteers. Everyone was encouraged to invite anyone that has helped us by working at any of our functions during the 2011-2012 school year. There are usually some treats and drinks along with a small plant that is given to volunteers. Kathy stated there is a \$100 budget line item for this event.

Kathy turned the discussion to Amy who brought up the staff driven Volunteer Tea. In the past, this event has happened on a Thursday immediately after school. There has been a decline in attendance the last couple of years and it was discussed to have this attached to the PTSA Volunteer Recognition Event. The attendance of staff is very important for the Volunteer Tea and it was thought that there wouldn't be a very large staff turn out at an evening event. It was decided to not join the MP Volunteer Tea with the PTSA Volunteer Recognition Event. Amy and Jenny will continue to work on finding a solution for the Volunteer Tea.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the General Meeting held April 3, 2012 were approved with one change. In the Legislative Report, the sentence “The Senate proposed skipping the pension plan payment for schools.” was changed to “The Senate proposed skipping the pension plan payment.”

President's Report:

There was a request to increase the budget item for MSP snacks from \$300 to \$500 for this year in perpetuity. Amy also requested a \$100 increase to the Principal's Discretionary Fund to help fund summer school scholarships. After some discussion, Mary made a motion that we approve both increase, Jenny seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed, the motion passed.

The status of the Golden Acorn/Outstanding Educator Awards was discussed. The pin for the Golden Acorn winner needs to be ordered. These will be awarded at the May 22 Arts Festival. In order to coincide with the Shoreline Council recognition evening, the Golden Acorn/Outstanding Educator awards will occur prior to April 1, 2013.

A review of the Board and Committee positions shows that the Executive Committee is filled for the 2012-2013 school year. There are still some vacancies in standing committee and ad hoc committee positions. A copy of the most current list is attached to these minutes.

**** Renee will call state PTSA and/or Shoreline Council to request a pin**

The calendar was reviewed:

Mariners night: Friday, May 4

MSP testing is taking place this week and next week

Embrace Shoreline Schools was moved from May 12 to May 19 to accommodate those with plans for Mother's Day.

Arts Festival is scheduled for Tuesday, May 22

Field Day: Friday, June 1 (with June 8 reserved in case of rain)

6th Grade Moving On/Picnic: Thursday, June 21

Last day of school: Friday, June 22

Standing Committee Reports:

Fund raising:

No report.

**** Brian will present ideas at June meeting**

PTSA Liaison:

Shannon reported that MSP snacks are planned and mostly purchased thanks to help from Rachel and Tracey. She also brought up the idea that the liaison description may be changing over the next year. She brought up the idea of having one liaison per grade level vs. the current one liaison per classroom. There was quite a bit of discussion on the matter. Adrienne is willing to shadow Shannon and Rachel and take the lead on the June event. She will also work with Shannon on liaisons next year. There is still some confusion about duties of the liaisons.

**** Shannon and Rachel will work up a list of the top 5 duties of the liaisons**

Even though staff appreciation events occur throughout the school year, it was decided that a flyer will go out in the Boomerangs to encourage families to thank their student's teachers individually.

**** Janina will put together a 1/2 sheet flyer, copy it and put it in teachers boxes**

Volunteer Coordinator:

Aileen will contact Donna Eddy (Shorewood High School) to work on getting volunteers for Embrace Shoreline. She did discuss with Donna the possibility of her helping supply volunteers for the August car show, but since it's during the summer, there might not be much of a response from students. She spoke with Ann Yee and got our membership list to have a bigger pool of possible volunteers to draw from for upcoming events.

Membership:

No Report.

Communications:

The Chatter deadline is tomorrow, May 2. Mary needs information and photos to fill the

newsletter. She is also requesting everyone put together a list of volunteers that have helped throughout the year and get them to her for the June Chatter. She also requested a list of names for anyone that made donations.

Grants:

Kathy reported, in Jodi's absence, that of the \$5,000 awarded for grants only \$2,436 has been paid out.

Legislation:

Adrienne reported that there is discussion to find out if it's possible to consolidate healthcare needs in order to have school staff receive better rates. There is a pilot program happening in Seattle to try consolidating healthcare needs. If it is successful, other districts may try it in the future. The proposed one day payment postponement to schools didn't happen. The pension plan payment was not skipped. After May 2013 the early retirement penalties for those in Pers II/Ters II will increase from \$13,000 to \$17,000 and require 30 years service prior to retirement. There were no major cuts to the K-12 system and the National Boards stipend was not eliminated.

Vice President Updates:

Events:

Volunteers are needed for the car show in August.

Treasurer's Report:

Brian was unable to attend but sent his report to Kathy. It is attached to these minutes. May 31st is the deadline to receive reimbursements for the 2011-2012 school year.

Programs:

Programs and clubs will be streamlined and/or cut down next year. Kathy is finalizing the protocol for programs/clubs that outlines the expectations ie: more than 10 students requires a parent volunteer to be present. Rachel, Brian and Kathy will meet with the current program/club leaders and present them with the changes. The voting on programs/clubs for 2012-2013 will occur at the June meeting. At the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year, there will be an orientation to lay out the expectations. The new Lego Robotics club will be making a commitment in May 2012 for next year's competition(s).

Teacher Representative Report:

Jenny reported that MSP testing begins this week and continues through next week. There is a high level of activity happening in preparation. May 17 will be an assembly featuring Matt Holm, author of Babymouse and Squish. Mr. Holm will be in the building all day with two assemblies, a luncheon and he will also spend an hour with Ms. Sezate's sixth grade class and they will work on a project. His visit is being sponsored by the PTSA, Book Fair proceeds and a Shoreline Schools Foundation grant. The Sasquatch and Young Readers programs are drawing to a close with the voting wrapping up and winning books announced. Jenny will contact those staff members that were awarded grants who haven't requested their funds.

Principal's Report:

Amy reported High Cap tours and appeals have concluded. Kindergarten tours are scheduled for May 7. She also reported that the preliminary calendar has been put together for the 2012-2013 school year including Honor Band rehearsals, Drama Club timelines, Talent Show, open house/book fair and other events. Fitness Night is planned for February, which is much earlier than in previous years. Golden Acorn/Outstanding Educator nominations and voting will need to be completed in January to allow time for the awards to be ordered and received and then presented at Fitness Night. Other items on the calendar include:

Curriculum Night: September 27

Fall Carnival: October 26

Conferences are scheduled for October 10, 11 and 12 and the last week of January

Talent Show: tryouts in mid-November; show in December

Neighborhood Association Report:

Gretchen reported on Embrace Shoreline and the date change. She will contact Einstein because of confusion on their advanced jazz band playing at our event. June 2nd will be the Meridian Park Garage Sale in Homes event. It will take place from 9am – 3pm. She needs people's address and a brief description of what they're selling. Information will be in Little Nickle, flyers around town and the Shoreline News. The Shoreline Farmer's Market will be starting on Saturday, June 16 on the top level of the City Hall parking garage. On occasion, the Neighborhood Association will have a booth and we are welcome to help man it and have information available for the public. The annual book sale/bbq is happening on July 18 at Cromwell Park. There will book collection boxes at Meridian Park and the Spartan gym. Celebrate Shoreline parade is on August 19. Gretchen is looking for anyone that wants to march with her group. Everyone is encouraged to march, ride decorated bikes and come out to support Shoreline.

New Business:

No new business

Adjournment:

9:19 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Janina Pacunski, Secretary