

PTO GENERAL MEETING

Monday, March 5, 2012

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:31PM. Members present were Karine Picchietti, Dana Andrews, Brian Nallenweg, Amy Fehrenbacher, Sue Locke, Jill Stevens, Dr. Jan Wright, Nichole Woodruff, and Karen Nellis.

Secretary's Report: Sue Locke made a motion to approve the minutes from the February meeting. Amy Fehrenbacher made a second. All were in favor. Karine Picchietti announced that the Nominating Committee will introduce nominees at the next general meeting which is presently scheduled for March 15th. The Nominating Committee consists of Heidi Pryor, Jill Stevens, and Margaret Perreault---they have all been contacted and are currently working on a time to meet. With no nominees firmly in place, and the requirement that nominee names must be publically posted for ten school days, it became evident that the March 15th date would be a problem. So, Karine made a motion stating that for one time only we choose to go against the by-laws and forgo the March 15th meeting. Instead, the next PTO meeting will be April 9th and will include the nominations for the upcoming school year. All were in favor. The motion passes. The plan will be to have nominees posted on 3/20/12.

1st Vice President's Report: Dana Andrews reported that Yearbook orders have gone home. They are due March 16th as materials need to be to the printer by April 2nd. Dana states that Yearbooks are set to be delivered the week of May 23rd. She reports that we did very well with pictures. This year's yearbook theme is, "We Will Fly."

2nd Vice President's Report: In regards to the courtyard beautification project, Molly Haworth is still working to coordinate a meeting with Pat Brown and Dr. Wright. The Special Appropriations meeting is set for 3/19/12. Nikki Woodruff will make sure teachers get their requests in.

Ways and Means Report: Sue Locke reports that the school supply kit orders have gone out and are due back in the week before Spring Break. Orders will also be taken online. The Market Day survey results are in. This survey, put together by Dr. Wright, went out to the entire school, and 122 responses were received. From the survey it was determined that 54% of people had ordered before (46% had not), and the people who had ordered did so primarily as a means to support the school and for the convenience of easy to prepare meals. Price was determined to be the main factor keeping more people from ordering. So, Sue suggested we work to promote specials and coupons with the goal to

begin such promotion next fall. Surprisingly, only 20% of people cited pick-up time to be a problem. It was discussed that Market Day is a beneficial program which we should continue to support and grow. Sue related that it is a fairly easy program to manage, utilizing only 1 day/month and requiring few volunteers. The Spring Dance is officially off, as we have nobody willing to run it. Sue shared that one fundraising opportunity currently being worked on is a Jersey Mike's dine around. Marcy Mefford is handling this, and the tentative date is sometime in mid-April. The initial thought is that this will utilize coupons which students will receive (i.e. buy one/ get on free).

Classroom Support's Report: The Fun Fair was a great success, so good work Jill! This year's Fun Fair brought in approximately \$9200 after taking a few risks (roughly \$1500 more dollars spent to outsource the games). There were so many positives---the silent auction was a great success as was the "shower tank," which Jill has already booked again for next year. Many compliments were received all night. The only "negatives," were food running out at 7:15 (only popcorn was left) and a few glitches with the ECC portion of the evening. Jill reports that 40 ECC families attended, and there was some confusion/miscommunication regarding the front hallway not being blocked- off, and people subsequently entering unattended rooms. However, Jill reports that this should be a fairly easy fix, and she suggested more volunteers next year for this portion of the event. So, once again congrats to Jill (and Dana for the silent auction) and a very special thanks to Angel Balderas for all the help! Jill has offered to chair the Fun Fair for next year. Finally, there is a meeting scheduled on Monday for the planning of Teacher Appreciation Week.

Principal's Report: Dr. Wright provided an update on Kindergarten Preview. She reports that the event went very well. Kindergarten next year will be half-day only. However, the Park District will be offering an enrichment program in all the schools to coordinate with the half-day schedules. This program will be held in a classroom and will be staffed with certified teachers that the Park District will be hiring. Dr. Wright also reported that an "at risk" program will be starting up next year at the beginning of the second quarter. Specials are also returning to Kindergarten and will run every 12 weeks.

ECC Report: Karen Nellis shared that the Fun Fair was amazing and a great opportunity for the ECC students. They liked the family focus, as well as the quiet/not overwhelming nature of the special ECC hour.

Teacher Liaison's Report: Nikki Woodruff reports that teachers were very happy with Fun Fair. Everything appeared to run smoothly, and the rooms were easily put back together after. Panera Day is Monday; Tamara Ashby will be collecting for the teachers.

Communication's Report: Melinda reports that "Save the Date" posters are up for Technology Night.

Treasurer's Report: Brian Nallenweg shared that the incoming treasurer will need an updated Quick book which will cost roughly \$184.00. Brian also discussed Sam's Club, stating that he has gotten feedback from people who are interested in this program. Apparently AGS used to have a membership which was discontinued before he took over. Brian recommended getting our Sam's Club account activated again; he has the old card.

President's Report: Karine Picchietti had nothing new to report.

New Business:

* Sue Locke and Dr. Wright are continuing work on the Foundation Grant---we have one quote in with two more still to come. The sound system will cost roughly \$11,000 because the size of our gym will require more speakers.

*There was once again an open discussion regarding the technology project and, specifically, Technology Night at AGS. Dr. Wright reported that teachers are lined up both for participation in technology demonstrations and for childcare. She also shared a rough version of the invitation which will be going out to parents. The basics of this evening will include a brief introduction for parents/community to be handled by Dr. Wright and members of the PTO. Technology demonstration will be broken up into four classrooms (including information on the Teach, Vote, View, and iPads). People will be rotated through the classrooms and will be asked to fill out an information sheet at the end with the goal of obtaining interested individuals to make up committees.

Adjournment: Brian Nallenweg made a motion to adjourn. Jill Stevens made a second. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51PM.