



April 11, 2016 Board Minutes

Board members present: Kim Ambrose, Jen Meiring, Dawn Scheck, Andy Mareska, Deb Rempert, Mary Anne Callahan, Becky Paulin, Sue Minnec, Jan Wright, Nicholas Davis, Deb Nielsen.

Board members absent: Matt Jeffrey, Marsha Stierwalt

Guests: AnneMarie and Edie Snavely, Paula Lindeman, Fatiana Stobaugh, Perry Devaney, Kevin Preas

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Guest – Anne Marie Snavely and daughter Edie to introduce Spot My Tots as a possible additional Spirit Wear option for AGS.

- Bottle cap personalized jewelry company; pair with Spirit Wear – would be added to our order form; locker magnets; zipper pulls, necklaces, bookmarks – many types of products can all be personalized with a name and can add logo.
- (Idea of costs): Magnets \$2 cost; zipper pulls for girls \$4 and boys \$3 without beads; various price points available. She has been on Ebay for years; also on Etsy and has her own company website.
- Mary Anne will work out details and make a recommendation to the Board

President –K. Ambrose:

- Reminder that General PTO Meeting: will be Tuesday 4/26/16 due to academic conflicts in district. Our guest speaker will be AGS incoming Principal Dr. McDermott.
- BIC meeting will be at the end of month and Mary Anne will attend.
- A new Fundraising Goal for 2017 needs to be established. In the past, the process was that Dr. Wright had brought ideas from the staff, they prioritized to a top 10 and she then had the staff vote on that selection. She then sent the same listing of items to parents, and had them vote. She then compared the two to determine the logical goal.
- The goal will need to be established at the first of the new school year. While the above process has been the one used for the last 5 years, it doesn't have to be that way. The current Board members feel it has helped communicate to the AGS families what the fundraising money is being put toward and that this has been effective.
- Dr. McDermott will have the opportunity for input if we start the discovery process now (so that will be the plan.) Dr. Wright will come up with 6-10 items (depending on Teacher input). Kevin Preas will help work on the process with her.

- Scholastic book dollars – this is still not in yet as of last week.
- Becky will need to transition the PTO emails to the new Board members next month.

Secretary – D. Rempert:

- Made motion to approve the March PTO Board Meeting Minutes. Motion made by Debbie seconded by Andy. All approved.

Treasurer – A. Mareska:

Review of the proposed adjustments to next year’s budget –(see draft attachment)

- Cougars Night is not a fundraiser – this is just a social event that doesn’t raise funds for the PTO.
- Schwan’s amount raised this year was lower than hoped so he brought the expected revenue dollars down in the budget
- Fundinco hasn’t been catching on as a program.
- Target will be removed as they are ending this program following this year.
- Labels for Education (Campbell’s Soup program)- Andy does expect some money to come in yet this year in this area.
- Courtyard improvement as a line item will be removed from the Expenses section.
- Question posed by Andy: Should we have a line for the new fundraising initiative? Yes – all agreed that this should be added.
- Additionally, Andy indicated that big purchase items need to have a process of pre-approval per line item so there is clearer visibility in the future. It will help to identify the timing of bills and confirm that funds are available to cover the expense. The PTO can apply excess revenues toward it as we raise more money than our budget indicated would come (this is like has been done as the past). Andy will make changes to the budget and we will vote on it at the General Meeting this month.

Bike to School Event

- We were contacted by Chip In Batavia which wants each elementary school to participate in a bicycle safety initiative and contest (in cooperation with the Batavia Bicycle Commission) that they’re arranging for third graders. PTOs have to donate \$60 towards the purchase of 2 bikes – and All Spoked up is coordinating all of this along with State Farm which is funding most of the costs for the bikes. The contribution is \$30 per bike (\$60 total). Marcie Mefford (our event coordinator) will need to register our school for the bike giveaway on Wednesday May 4. Dawn made a motion for the PTO to donate \$60 to cover the cost of the bikes. Seconded by Andy; Approved by all.

First VP – J. Meiring:

- AGS Cougars game flier is ready; will hand out next week or so event date is June 12 – cost will be \$10 (reminder: this is not a fundraiser)

Second VP – D. Scheck: No report

Communications – B. Paulin:

- The AGS app is up to 196 people signed up.
- The Yearbook is in production and all is going well.

Classroom Support – S. Minnec:

- Staff appreciation – underway; sign up genius is up but need more sign ups which are expected to come.
- EC will probably do a different gift for teachers than what the AGS teachers get (to make it more appropriate for EC – Deb indicates they need more wipes. Still figuring out what the office needs as well.
- Zanies – have sold 25 tickets so far without promotion; tickets are \$15 each.
- End of year parties/picnics – try to not have the class events on the same day; Nick will send a notice out to teachers to get the dates of their events.
- The date for Field Day is May 20.

Ways and Means – M. Callahan:

- The next Movie Night will be on April 23. The movie title Minions won the contest with the students so that will be shown.
- Flower Sale – in 2014 the event made \$1,600 (which is the last time we held the sale). This year the amount raised was \$1,300. Event was coordinated by Shauna Peterson who approached the Board with the idea of bringing the sale back.
- Renee Culbertson has 2 more 5 Below fundraising events scheduled for April and May. Dates to be announced.
- The Next Dine Around will be at Potbellies on 4/21/16.

Teachers – N. Davis: No report. D. Nielsen: Allison Bielski will be the ECC Teacher Rep. Paula Lindeman will be the EC Parent Rep.

Principal – J. Wright:

- LRC project updated– She and Mrs. Ashby met with Interiors for Business to move forward with the remaining work to be done. Mrs. Ashby wants more display racks (to be able to display more books, and particularly also end caps to be placed at the end of current racks. The glass enclosures will come for the additional two rooms and new furniture for those rooms as well as the main area was selected.
 - At the April next School Board meeting, there will be a presentation of the check by the Dunham Fund to the school and Dr. Wright will be present. She will also share visuals on the transformation to them. Dr. Wright also showed the PTO Board a plaque that will be posted in the LRC, thanking the Dunham Fund and AGS PTO for the project support.

Round table –

- Mary Anne Callahan raised a question about the plan for Cando next year (the plan for restructuring the program for the gifted students and the gifted coordinator.) She asked if the classroom teachers have the material support they will need to help the children who need more challenge in the classroom. Dr. Wright indicated there will be very little change in the classroom learning environment from the way these children are currently being supported. Additional support material isn't needed in this area, she believes.
- Dr. Wright updated the Board that there will be smaller class sizes coming in the district and AGS is also impacted. With 47 kindergarteners currently in the school this year, that means there will be only 2 sections of 1st grade next year (23 in each classroom at AGS). All schools in Batavia are seeing reductions in 1st grade. No one will know until the summer when registrations come in, what the number of sections in the incoming Kindergarten class will be. It is estimated to be 2 sections but will be finalized in the summer. The 3rd grade will have 2 sections. The incoming 4th graders will have 2 sections as well. A Core Curriculum Teacher supporting first and 4th grade (math and ELA class) will be added.
- Andy updated the Board on the goal to have more social activities for the AGS families – to get more families involved. They are considering adding onto the ice cream social and supply drop off (possibly hosting a social event at the Moose Lodge outside where kids can play on that playground – there may be a barbecue available for purchase (after ice cream social and supply drop off).

Meeting adjourned 7:59 p.m.