

PTO MINUTES

S.S. Palmer/Parkside Elementary PTO Minutes

May 12, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Nicki Frank at 7:07 p.m.

Officer attendance

Nicki Frank – Present, Michele O'Neill - Present, Brigitte White – Present, Angie Balch –Present Mary Brumbach - Absent

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR MRS. STORM

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were read from the April's meeting and approved. Sue Novak made a motion to accept the minutes, and seconded by Stephanie Meixsell.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was read from April's Meeting and approved. Karen Thomas made a motion to accept the first portion of the treasurer's report, and seconded by Larissa Kimmel. There were two handouts given tonight. Please note that we were fully reimbursed for the Iron Pig tickets requested by Mrs. Burkhardt. Checks 3778, 3779 and 3780 were checks for tips for the bus drivers going to the Kindergarten field trip on Friday, May 9th. This field trip was rescheduled and the bus company couldn't accommodate the rescheduled date. The bus company issued a full refund and we will now be using Leon busing. **CD:** The CD will renew July 14, 2014 totaling \$6,777.34 and will mature again in January 2015. A decision needs to be made whether we want to keep it or cash it into our bank account. Angie's opinion is our bank account is secure and there is no need to cash the CD in. Anne questioned about interest rates for a longer term CD and Angie wasn't sure. Kristy Gable commented that she would forward interest rate information to Angie tomorrow. Laura Konze made a motion to let the decision up to the officers to decide what should be done with the CD and Karen Thomas seconded. **Playground Account:** Currently it has \$1,783.97. We need to decide what to do with this leftover money. If it remains in this account, we must put at least \$5 in the account every year or the bank will charge us. Lisa suggested moving it into our general account. Kristy suggested moving to a CD and do partial withdraws after 6 months if and when we would need money. Holly Sell questioned about maintenance of the playground? Redoing the Mulch? Replacing the mulch is an extra expense that the school district is responsible for. Rubber mats were suggested. Nicki will look into the pricing for rubber mats over the summer. Motion: we will research the mats, if we have enough and if it's approved by school district. If not approved then we will roll it in before the CD matures. 2nd handout: Profit Loss statement and budget. This is an overview of what it cost the PTO each year to operate with all the money that was spent, fundraising and all the other things we pay for behind the scenes. A lot of our money goes towards the field trips and busing.

Elections of Officers – Running this year are as follows:

President: Nicki Frank

Vice President – Kelly Yurnakas, Larissa Kimmel, Stephanie Meixsell, Karen Thomas, and Brigitte White

Secretary – Magin Gursky, Karen Thomas and Brigitte White

Treasurer – Angie Balch

There were introductions and speeches given from most of the people running for office. Nicki gave a nice speech thanking her fellow officers, Principal and all the committee chairs. In honor of our volunteers, there is a basket social with over 40 baskets/items available to win. This meeting was earmarked for our volunteers. Without our volunteers, this organization would be nothing. For that...a huge thanks goes out to everyone that is involved in the PTO. Final quote by Winston Churchill – "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." To all of you...THANK YOU!

Old Business – Committee Reports

- **Apple Dumpling** – Report given by Nicki Frank. Pick up was April 28th and we made a profit of \$945. Nicki spoke with John and he said that he will have peach available in August. There will be a message posted in regards to purchasing Peach dumplings, if anyone is interested. Nicki still have apple dumplings available in her freezer. If you are interested, please contact her to purchase.
- **Clothing Swap** – Report given by Angie Balch. The Clothing Swap was April 16th in the S.S. Palmer Cafeteria and things went okay. We were busy for the first hour and then died down like normal. Next year, the time may

be shortened a bit. Lots of clothing was left. All the clothes are sorted in bins by size. Please let Angie or Brigitte know if you or anyone else may need something. If anyone has any suggestions to make this event better for the fall, please let us know.

- **Teacher's Luncheon** – Report given by Angie Balch and staff. There was a lot of food and enough for a few days after. Pam Andrews said that things were excellent. Mrs. Sell wanted to thank the PTO for how sensitive they were. It was a tough day to come in and be with the teachers. They appreciated all the respectfulness there was when they had their lunch. Thank you for the compassion and understanding during this difficult time with the passing of Mrs. Storm.
- **Mother's Day Plant Sale** – Report given by Magin Gursky. Everything went well this year. There was no running around for extra plants. Thank you to everyone that came to help and she appreciated everything that everyone did. She wouldn't have been able to do it all herself. The Extra flowers were given to Beautification to plant around the schools. The new foils for around the flowers were awesome and made things very simple. Many people commented about them, plus the kids had fun picking out the colors for their mom's.
- **Rainbow Committee** – Report given by Nicki Frank. A check was written to Lehigh Valley Hospice for the passing of Mrs. Westermann's mother. Also, another check was written to the American Cancer Society for Mrs. Storm's death. The PTO purchased fruit/ snack baskets for Parkside and S.S. Palmer staff in comforting the staff during this difficult time with the passing of our dearly beloved co-worker, staff member and more important – a friend...Mrs. Pamela Storm. The baskets were \$150 total...Parkside \$50 and Palmer \$100 (more staff in Palmer building) The Rainbow Committee is looking forward to some happy celebrations such as the arrival of Mrs. Barclay's baby. There has been a lot of sadness throughout this past year.

Monthly Fundraiser Reports

- **Market Day** – Report given by Pam Andrews. Thank you to everyone that came out to help at the last pick up. The next pick up will be May 29th from 7-8 p.m. with the truck coming at 6 p.m. This is the last month to order for this school year. Deadline for orders will be Thursday, May 15th. Help will be needed at pick up. Please stop by and help.
- **Gift Cards** – report given by Angie Balch. The new gift card form will be sent home. From what Angie has heard, the flyer came home but the letter wasn't copied and sent home with order form. Orders are due this Thursday, May 15th. The pick-up will be in conjunction with Market day- May 29th. The gift cards come early sometimes, so if you would like to contact Angie and schedule a pick up early, please do so. It is important to add your contact number such as Phone number, so Angie can call you.
- **Box Tops/Labels for Education** – report given by Nicki Frank due to Kathleen's absence. Kathleen received a check for \$1,100.62 for the box tops that were submitted. She sent in Labels for Education totaling 2,463. Currently, we have 64,336 labels for education. Nicki will look into what we can get for the schools over the summer. Kathleen doesn't have April calculated yet. May will be the last rewarded contest. The committee will continue over the summer. If you have box tops and would like to drop them off in Kathleen's mailbox, her address is 844 Columbia Ave.

New Business - Committee Reports

- **Play Days and Track and Field Day** – Report given by Nicki Frank. Dates for the play days and Track and field. K/1st grades are scheduled for May 12th with rain date May 13th, 2nd/3rd grades May 14th with rain date May 15th. 4th, 5th and 6th Track and Field will be at the High School on May 16th from 9:30-2 p.m. with rain date on May 23rd. Bottled water was supplied to K-3, however since only one person volunteered to help with water. The water will now be put in the teacher's rooms for the children. 4-6 graders will be at the High School and will get water and Gatorade mixed. Anne Cronk offered to take jug for the Gatorade mix and take to the field on Friday morning. Nicki will need help with this event. Anne was also at play day on Monday and was taking pictures. Anyone can take pictures and upload for yearbook. This is a Mr. Heller event, not a PTO event. Everyone is invited to come and help. Mr. Heller would appreciate the help.
- **Farewell Dance** – Report given by Angie Balch. The last dance of the school year will be held on May 16th from 6-8 p.m. Set up will be at 4 p.m. This is a no walking home dance nor can the children dismiss earlier than 8 p.m. We will need a lot of chaperones for this dance, because of the dismissal time. There will be no charge for admission. Donations of snack bags of chips and baked goods will be needed. Drinks will be ordered. Help will be needed for set up, during the dance and especially at dismissal. Angie requested \$200 to purchase new decorations for the dance. The current decorates were old or destroyed, plus the kids are probably tired of Luau

themed decorations. We have used these decoration for the last few years. We would like to make this special for the kids. Anne Howard made a motion to give Angie \$200 for decorations and Laura Thomas seconded it. The theme will be Neon/80's/Retro. There will be a photo booth as well for the children.

- **Art Show – FYI** Art show is Wednesday, May 14th from 6:00-8:30. There will be two floors dedicated to display all the wonderful art work of the children. Make sure you thank Mrs. Olock for her time, if you see her.
- **SOAR Carnival** – Report given by Nicki due to Mrs. Brumbach's absence. The soar carnival will be held on June 13th. Things will be a little different this year. Everything will be inside the school except the dunk tank. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact Mary via email or phone. There is a sign in sheet if you would like to help. Fill out the form and she will call you when your help is needed.
- **Family Fun Day** – report given by Karen Thomas. The family fun day will be held on Saturday, June 14th at the S.S. Palmer School from 10 a.m. -4 p.m. Set up will start around 8 a.m. This event will be in conjunction with the SOAR carnival on June 13th for the children. The family fun day will continue on Saturday for the whole family. Karen schedule Smithy's French Fries to be at our event. The stand will have everything, not just French fries. There will be a lot of games and prizes that day. The National Junior Honor Society was contacted to help, parent help will be needed, plus Patti Green was asked if the older girl scouts (7th grade and up) would be willing to help. Karen rented a dunk tank, cotton candy machine and a sno -cone machine for both days from Country Junction. Karen is looking for someone to do face painting and would like to set up a sand art stand. Karen has been in contact with Anne Cronk to set up the sign up genius for volunteers to help. Flyers were sent to Mrs. Brumbach for approval and will be sent home soon. Anyone is welcomed to come out and help that day or prior to event. Please contact Karen if interested. This is not a fundraiser - just to have fun!
- **FYI Last day of school** – June 17th
- **FYI Summer Rec** – This will run for June 23rd – August 1st. Prices will be the same as last year. \$50 per child. Flyer will be sent home next week. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Andrews.
- **Festival** – report given by Anne Cronk. The festival will be held September 5, 6, and 7th (the weekend after Labor Day). We will be selling crepes and apple dumplings again this year. New – will be Nutella crepes. A flyer will be sent home in August for donations and help with prep work. They will be checking on the stand to see if it made it through the winter. This year is the 25th anniversary of the committee festival. To celebrate this event, the committee is planning a lot of activities. They will be selling mugs and for a limited time – filling them with birch beer for 25 cents. They will have the old Hospital Festival logo and current committee festival logo. There will only be 750 mugs available. Email will be sent out over the summer to announce the pre-sale for mugs. This year they are having a stand decorating contest. There are 4 themes to pick from and S.S. Palmer will probably be going with Palmerton Pride. They would like to get the children involved with helping to decorate the stand. People can pay a \$1 to vote on the best stand. Saturday night the winner will be announced. The winner will receive money off the stand rental for the next year. The festival committee is running the duck race this year to help recoup cost because they keep losing money. Each stand is responsible to sell 25 ducks – at \$5 per duck. They are hoping to receive tickets for the duck race next month so we can sell the tickets before the end of the school year. There is \$1,000 in prizes to be won. CRAFTS...There are spots available in the tent. New this year - There is a local vendor row to sell different items such as Thirty-One and Pampered Chef. Please contact Susie Ahner if you are interested.
- **Bomber Fun Run** – report given by Larissa Kimmel. The event would take place September 23, 2014 with a rain date of the 24th and September 25th with a rain date of the 26th. This is called the Race for education but the committee decided to call it the Bomber Fun Run. This event is to replace the fall fundraiser catalog. The run will take place during school hours for the kids. It will be run like Jump Rope for Heart that the children get donations. It will be a two day event. Younger kids on one day and older kids on the other. Each class will run/walk for about ½ hour. If this is successful, we can get rid of more fundraising in the future. There will be a meeting May 20th at 6:30 p.m. at Larissa's house – 258 Columbia Avenue. If you have some ideas but can't make the meeting, please call her at 610-577-5060. Larissa also adding about maybe having a balloon launch tied in with the family fun day in honor of Mrs. Storm. This is something that will have to be discussed with Mrs. Brumbach first.
- **President Report** – Secretary's Day was April 23rd and both Sally and Susan received a Gift card for Bath and Body Works. They do a lot for us and deal with all our events. They are very good to us and this is our way of thanking them. Thank you to everyone for their understanding during the rescheduling of the Kindergarten field trip due to the closing of school on Friday, May 9th. The field trip was rescheduled to Wednesday, May 14th.

- **Election of Officer Results** – Report given by Anne Cronk. Brigitte White won both Vice President and Secretary Positions. She was able to pick which one she wanted and then the second place person with the highest votes won the position Brigitte declined.

PRESIDENT – NICKI FRANK

VICE PRESIDENT – BRIGITTE WHITE

SECRETARY – MAGIN GURSKY

TREASURER – ANGIE BALCH

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW 2014/2015 EXECUTIVE BOARD!!

Principal report – Mrs. Brumbach was not there to report. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Mrs. Brumbach to discuss. Please remember to fill out SOAR Carnival sign up sign.

Questions/Comments: Kindergarten field trip: the concern for the children riding on a bus for an hour without restroom facilities. This is something that we have to deal with. The bus company we originally booked couldn't accommodate the rescheduled date. However we did receive a full refund – which according to contract they didn't have to nor should have. We are very lucky for the refund and that George's busing is able to go on such short notice. **Talent Show** – May 30th from 6:30-9. Doors open at 6 p.m. **Pictures:** When submitting pictures for yearbook, please remember to label each picture with grade and or name. Holly Sell said that the Teacher's Luncheon was great. Thank you for the fruit/snack basket – it was huge. It put a smile on their faces and they enjoyed cookies and chips after school.

Next Meeting

SEE EVERYONE IN THE FALL 2014/2015 SCHOOL YEAR

Motion to adjourn was made at 9:03 p.m. and was passed unanimously. A Motion was made by Karen Thomas and seconded by Sue Novak.