



S.S. Palmer~Parkside P.T.O.

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March 11, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Call meeting to order: Michelle Gordon at 7:00 pm

No meeting held in February due to weather, school closings

Pledge of Allegiance

In Attendance: Michelle Gordon, President; Jennifer Sommers, Vice President; Andrea Hahn, Secretary; Melisa Beahn, Treasurer; 23 Members

Minutes from January 14, 2019 Meeting: Presented by Andrea Hahn. Motion to accept made by Mary Herrmann, 2nd Lisa Kistler. All in favor, no one opposed; minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Melisa Beahn. The month of January was slow; there are a few outstanding checks from February, due to no meeting being held in February. Motion to accept made by Wendi Bartholomew, 2nd by Lisa Kistler. Motion passed. All in favor, no one opposed; reports approved.

Old Business/Committee Reports:

- a. February Dance – 5th & 6th Grade: Laura Konze/Amy Carrelli – update from L. Konze tat the dance was a semi-success. Kids were destroying decorations and chaperones were not addressing the issues. Laura addressed the kids. It has been explained to the kids that the dance is a privilege and we must ensure the safety of kids attending the dance. Ms. Brumbach had to intervene and yell at kids. If you are chaperoning, your priority needs to be to take care of the kids and not be on your phone. There was concern expressed that if certain chaperones cannot watch over kids in a closed environment, how will they be able to watch over kids on field trips. Please all chaperones enforce the rules with the kids. There was discussion around whether or not expectations at the dance is addressed outside of the dance – it was shared with members that kids are told in classrooms before going to dance and the DJ reviews at beginning of dance what the expectations of the kids are while in attendance. There is \$1 (one dollar) charged as admission to help offset some costs.
- b. Kid's Bingo: Jennifer Sommers – February 24; our event was held 2/24 at PAHS. We had a fun afternoon. A big thank you to Aquashicola Fire Company who donated their bingo machine saving PTO \$100. This is event is just for fun, but we managed to make \$230 profit. Thank you to our Bingo helpers, anyone who donated and of course anyone who came out to the event. Thanks again. Bingo hot foods: Stephanie Meixsell: update provided by Jennifer Somers – Thank you everyone for your food donations and for volunteering your time. We made 348.75 plus \$8.00 in donations for a total of \$356.75. Thanks!
- c. Kids Heart Challenge (formerly Jump Rope for Heart): Amber Gorman/Melisa Beahn - Amber shared that we will have a total amount of money raised at the next meeting; great turn out of volunteers; kids seemed to have a good time. Melisa shared a reminder to all volunteers to be sure to sign in at the school office and have a visitors badge while in the school building.
- d. Spring Fundraisers: Krispy Kreme (Kristen Tubbs) – Thank you for help and for sorting. Sold 917 boxes, 1 refund given, total of \$3443 profit. Joe's Place (Michele Bennyhoff) – update provided by Jennifer Sommers – sold 650 coupons. Earned \$2 per coupon for a profit of \$1300. Had a great turn out for coupon pick up which was held in conjunction with the Krispie Kreme pick up. Only 8 sellers didn't pick up and those coupons were sent home with students. Thank you for everyone's help and support. Gertrude Hawk (Tina Reph) – update from Michelle Gordon – do not have final numbers, but will have at next meeting. Delivery is slated for 3/29 with pick up on 3/30 to be coordinated with Clothing Swap in S. S. Palmer cafeteria. Help will be needed to unload and sort candy.
- e. Spring Spirit Wear Sale: Michelle Burkett/Becki Christman – Michelle Burkett shared that orders are still coming in and today (3/11) is the official last day. Staff and PTO members have until Wednesday for additional sale items. It was helpful to have the sample rack at the PTO fundraiser pick up. Look

forward to final tally. Orders will be tallied and finalized on Wed night at Michelle Burkett's house if anyone is interested in helping.

- f. End-of-year points: Jennifer Sommers – 6th grade has until the end of March to earn points. Grades K – 5 points are earned until the end of February, beginning March 1, the points carry over for the following year. 6th has until end of March due to it being “last hurrah”. If you have not turned in your points sheets, please do so. Thanks.

New /Upcoming Business:

- a. Basket Social: Michelle Gordon/Tara Spiker – March 24, Palmerton High School Cafeteria – Michelle Gordon shared that set up will take place on March 23; if you have donated/are planning to donate a family basket – thank you! Please let Michelle know and bring the basket on Saturday 3/23. Please remember to send in an item for your child's classroom basket. Baskets have been combined across classes this year. Progress is being made. Also accepting gift cards, cash, lottery tickets, etc. Planning for a special raffle that will include a recliner donated by Hager's. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Gordon or Tara Spiker.
- b. Basket Social Hot Foods: Kristy Gable – sign up genius has been set up. Donations are welcome.
- c. Spring Clothing Swap: Sarah Mantz: Sarah is new chairperson. Spring clothing swap will be held on March 30 from 10 am – 1 pm in the S. S. Palmer cafeteria. Set up will be on Friday 3/29 from 5 – 7 pm and Saturday 3/30 beginning at 8 am. Bins will be outside of the schools from 3/20 – 3/27. Flyers sent home on Wednesday.
- d. Play Day/Field Day: Michelle Gordon – We have a chair Lacey Barachie. We will need volunteers as Mr. heller needs help running these events. A sign-up genius will be set up.
- e. BOGO Book Fair: Jennifer Sommers – Will be week of May 13. We will partner Books for Bingo on 5/14 and will do another evening. This is buy one, get one free. We are planning on having a special themed night with Pete the Cat! Keep watch for info that will be sent hoe closer to date.
- f. Box Tops: Wendi Bartholomew – Box tops have a value of \$0.10 - \$0.50 and it adds up. Please keep sending them in. As of now counts are as follow: K – 289; 1st – 243; 2nd – 308; 3rd – 186; 4th – 472; 5th – 158; 6th – 210. Last year totals were in the in the thousands, this year goal is 1000, right now at %580.30. Also received notice of Shoprite sale of \$20 for my school everyday offer.
- g. Palmerton Community Festival: Michelle Gordon/Laura Konze – Michelle Gordon and Melisa Beahn attended the Festival meeting and paid the rental fee of \$317. Plan is to continue with selling crepes. As a Festival participant, we are required to sell Treasure Chest tickets. We really need help with running the booth. This is a big event, big fundraiser and requires a lot of time and effort. Andrea Hahn reiterated to spread the word to friends and members who may not be in attendance but would enjoy participating. We are seeing the same faces at meetings and events, and it is certainly very much appreciated, but people are starting to express they are feeling overwhelmed and burned out. We rely on our members to put together these events. If everyone can do a little, it will be greatly appreciated and make for a smoother and more successful event. Please help spread the word. Wendi Bartholomew added that this is a fun, social event to participate in.
- h. Scholarship - Senior Awards: Pam Andrews – Presented by Michelle Gordon: Each year, we award 2 seniors a scholarship at the PHS Senior Awards Ceremony. The scholarship is awarded to the two former S.S. Palmer/Parkside graduates who have earned the highest GPA. The staff uses the funds generated from our Friday Casual Days. For the past few years, the staff has contributed \$1,400 dollars and the PTO has generously contributed \$200 annually. Is our PTO willing to contribute to the scholarship again this school year? Motion to donate \$200 made by Becki Christman; 2nd by Anne Cronk. All in favor, nobody opposed. Motion passed.
Also, in the past, our PTO has purchased t-shirts for our sixth grade students as a gift. The students wear the t-shirts to the Moving Up Ceremony. Are you willing to purchase the shirts for this year's graduating sixth graders? Pam takes care of ordering the shirts and is willing to do this again, unless someone else would like to take over this project. Motion made by Becki Christman to cover the cost of ordering t-shirts for all sixth grade students; 2nd by Amber Gorman. All in favor; nobody opposed. Motion passed. Thank you for your continued support for our students and staff. We appreciate all that you do.

- i. Mother's Day Plant Sale: Magin Gursky – update provided by Michelle Gordon: have been having issues with plant vendor previously used. Would like to explore new options. This is typically not a fundraiser; plants are sold at cost to students. Request to cover expense to purchase up to 1900 plants this year (last year 1800 plants purchased with 33 plants leftover). Motion made by Wendi Bartholomew to approve purchase up to 1900 plants; 2nd by Michelle Burkett. All in favor, nobody opposed. Motion passed.

President Report: Michelle Gordon – Michelle reiterated the need for chaperones to take their responsibilities seriously. Field trip dates have been announced and shared. Acknowledged the trend across organizations that volunteering is down. PTO lost many parents since last year because their children are in Junior High and many more will be moving on after this year. If anyone has ideas as to how to get people involved, please share those ideas. There was discussion that followed. Becki Christman suggested PTO has a table at all events to encourage people to join and understand what PTO does; when forms are sent out, it is often hard to keep track of all the paperwork. Share with parents the benefits of joining PTO and volunteering – get to know teachers/see child's friends/be part of your kids community. Explain don't have to attend meetings, share pictures of events, tell people where the money is going, tell when send home info about field trips. Consider sharing info at upcoming Kindergarten registration. Michelle thanked all for their input and ideas. Please spread the word. Thank you to everyone for your help and all that you do! We really appreciate it.

Principal's Report - Ms. Brumbach – Ms. Brumbach was not in attendance.

Call to Adjourn - Motion to adjourn by Anne Cronk, 2nd by Mary Hawk. Nobody opposed. Meeting adjourned. Thank you! See you in April!