



P.S. 10 PTA

PS 10 PTA
General Session Minutes
Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Location: PS10 Auditorium

Executive Board Members in Person: Tyndall Arrasmith, Nancy Berson, Irene Chae-Encarnacion, MariBeth Dono, Stephanie Hochman, Ali Hodin-Baier, Jane Kotapish, Dempsey Rice, Amy Schwartzman, Lisa Vincenti and Nadine Wallace

The Meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm.

- I. Approval of minutes from the April 30th Meeting. Julia _____ made the motion; Simone ____ seconded. No amendments, no objections.
- II. Co-Presidents Report: Stephanie Hochman & Amy Schwartzman
 1. Science Fair: Amy – 2nd and 3rd graders made incredible science projects. A great testament to our school. Appreciation was expressed for the work of all teachers and the administration in making this possible.
 2. Community Education Council (CEC): Stephanie – There’s an election every 2 years and the vote for this year just occurred. 16 candidates (one of whom is a PS 10 parent) for 2 slots. Representing PS10 for the vote was one President, one Secretary and one Treasurer.
 3. Read-a-Thon: Stephanie – Sorry there’s been a delay in sharing the results; Principal Scott announced the 3 super readers today. Letters for students to come soon.
 4. Carnival: Stephanie – This is the same date as Grandparents Day. Would be great to have grandparents stick around to participate.
 5. Teacher Appreciation Lunch: Stephanie – Moveable Feast prepared a delicious meal. Everyone had a fabulous time.
 6. 5K Run with Councilman Brad Landers: Stephanie – PS10 had a good showing. Word is that the formula for distributing funds to schools will be changed.
 7. June Meeting: Amy – the last Meeting of the year will be on 6/19. It is a critical meeting during which we will:
 - i. Vote on amended By-Laws (it’s a requirement that we thoroughly review this document every 3 years)
 - ii. Report on results of the parent and teacher survey regarding Meeting time preferences
 - iii. Discuss a survey on what the PTA does
- III. Nominating Committee: Roseann Ciarlante & Lisette Castro
 1. A ballot was distributed with candidates for the 2013-2014 Executive Board who had previously submitted their names to the Nominating Committee. No candidates were nominated from the floor. No candidates accepted the offer to speak to the membership.
 - i. A total of 34 members voted in favor of the full slate; no objections.
 - ii. Secretary Ali Hodin-Baier cast 1 vote on behalf of the membership to appoint the full slate (see Attachment A for list of new Executive Board members)
 2. A ballot was distributed for the Student Leadership Team (SLT); 2 spots were open for the 3-year term from 2013-2016. 3 members had previously submitted their names to the Nominating Committee and one

candidate was nominated from the floor (Ali Hodin-Baier nominated by Amy Schwartzman; seconded by Maribeth Dono). All candidates were offered the ability to speak and the two present candidates addressed the membership. Messages from the other 2 candidates were read aloud.

- i. Members were asked to write in the name of the new candidate on the ballot and cast their vote.
- ii. Subsequent to the on-site tally, Roseann Carliante announced the 2 candidates with the greatest number of votes (see Attachment A for list of new SLT members)

IV. Treasurer's Report: MariBeth Dono (PTA) & Nadine Wallace (Afterschool)

1. PTA report – An income and expense report of actuals through 4/30/13 was distributed and reviewed.
 - i. Of note on the expense side: we spent almost \$3K for Ms. Suzie's art supplies; \$300 on owl pellets; and slightly under \$400 for OTPT supplies.
 - ii. Of note on the income side: direct appeal (includes both 10x10 and Corporate giving) did very well; lice initiative is ahead of projection and we'll have less of a deficit for this than anticipated; art auction raised \$1,300 net; PS10 Rocks now at \$1,900.
 - iii. Large expenses in the coming month total approximately \$46,000 and include: Met Opera (\$20K); Carnival (\$2K); Science Fair (\$1,100); Butterflies (\$400); Staff luncheon (2,500); Teacher Certificates (\$1,500); Recess (\$1,500) and 3rd grade tables and chairs (\$7K). A combination of additional revenue and expense is also expected in the coming month for PS10 Rocks, Square 1 Art and the Fashion Show.
 - iv. The expectation is that the PTA will start FY 2014 (starts 7/1) with a \$130,000 balance.
2. Afterschool report – A Budget verses Actuals report through 4/30/13 was distributed. It was reported that April was a very good month, bringing in \$103K! Additional income is being generated by late pick-up fees. Overall, the projection is that After-School will start FY 2014 with a \$151,000 balance.

V. New Business:

1. Modifying the school schedule: Heidi Bookman – Proposal was made to modify the 2013-2014 school schedule to incorporate 3 half days to accommodate additional professional development. This will be directly related to common core and would not impact the overall school year.
 - i. Member comments were very supportive of this proposal, which means a vote on this request needs to be put on the next Meeting agenda.
 - ii. If it's approved at that time, the Chancellor needs to approve it.
2. Proposed FY2014 Budget – Maribeth Dono & Nadine Wallace
 - i. Before the proposed budget was reviewed, Amy Schwartzman noted two issues.
 - The FY14 projection combines both PTA and After-School budgets for the first time; a separate document containing detail on After-School was distributed for reference and discussion.
 - The Chancellor's Regulations require the PTA to pass a budget now and vote in the fall on any new revisions/amendments that the new PTA Executive Board deems appropriate.
 - ii. The proposed budget contains new expenses for professional development for teachers (\$5K), school professionals (\$20K), health insurance for After-School staff (\$5K) and a new registration system for After-School (\$5K). No increase in After-School rates is anticipated.
 - iii. Membership also discussed an increase in cursive writing books given the increased budget requested at this meeting for FY13, and the potential need for lunch scholarships that may be needed as a result of losing the free lunch program. For the latter, Principal Scott said she would do an analysis of which students would still qualify for free lunch and which students may be in need despite the fact that they don't qualify.
 - iv. The budget was approved by vote of the membership with no objections and 1 abstention. Motion made by Beth Manitsky; seconded by Jane Kotapish.
3. Other expenses:

- i. Cursive writing books – motion to increase the budget from \$1,200 to \$1,850 to cover full need of 3rd and 4th graders next year (more students to account for). Expense is incurred now for the 2013-3014 curriculum. Jodi Alperin made the motion and Dempsey Rice seconded (no objections, none abstained).
- ii. Reimbursing Ms. Pallitano – Jim O’Neil requested that the PTA investigate whether Ms. Pallitano covered some (? TYPE) expenses on her own last year (no objections). If so, he will propose at the next meeting that reimbursement be made.

VI. Old Business –

1. Fashion Show and Marketplace: Jane Kotapish - Very excited about the success of this event –it raised 3 times more than anticipated. Stellar coordination by Irene Chae-Encarnacion; amazing pictures by Sherri Hyman; fabulous marketing by Mike Andres; tireless stage management by Billy Casitzko; and posh swag bags by Emily Ferrel (?). Membership congratulated Jane on creating this wonderful opportunity.
2. Audited Financial Statements: Ali Hodin-Baier –The audited financial statement for FY12 is now final (copy was available for review at the meeting). It was a clean, unqualified report that showed significant growth between FY11 and FY12 directly attributed to increases in fundraising dollars and after-school registration. Management Letter issued by the auditor, Schall & Ashenfarb, identified some areas for improvement related to internal controls. We will work to address these issues moving forward.

VII. Principal’s Report: Laura Scott

1. Expressed gratitude for the PTA’s exciting initiatives –of particular note the new fashion show and the staff appreciation luncheon.
2. The school’s recent evacuation to a new confidential site went well; the police were impressed by how serious the kids took the drill.
3. New budget – It hasn’t been received yet. She is expecting 2-4 vacancies and is creating a hiring committee to help with this process.
4. Parents have requested a testing forum, which has been planned for early June.
5. Articulation (moving to the next grade) – She appealed to parents to please avoid sending in requests about teacher placement. The school has a solid system in place to allow for diversity within classrooms.
6. National Dance Institute will be at the school on 5/22.
7. Science fair last night was extraordinary.
8. Year end picnic for Kindergarten and 1st graders will not be held in the park because the school was unable to get a good spot and the space available would require too long of a walk. Instead, their picnic will take place in the schoolyard. Older grades will take place in the Long Meadow area of the park.

VIII. SLT Report: Ali Koziel

1. A reminder that the SLT is an informal meeting and that all parents are invited to participate.
2. A great deal discussion has been on a “Testing Town Hall” to address the high-stake concerns.
3. A special educational advisory support group has been formed; the referral process is being discussed this week.
4. Parents are encouraged to get on ARIS, the database that tracks student attendance and other performance measures. There is a concern that new 3rd grade parents may not know about this important resource; workshops may be held to address this. Maddie Siede is available to answers questions about this.

IX. Committee Reports

1. Lice: Nancy Berson – Our efforts are working! Started the school year with about 100 identified cases; at the last school-wide check, there were only 16 cases. Members expressed gratitude for her amazing leadership on this.
2. Dance Class: Jane Kotapish – Spring series is off to a great start. Great opportunity to exercise for a requested \$5 donation. Get involved.

3. PS10 Rocks: Velma McKenzie – scheduled for 5/31; need help with set-up and breakdown. Junior Rocks to start at 6pm, PS 10 Rocks at 7pm. Junior rock is so popular that there needs to be a lottery for selecting the acts. Also food items are needed for the Café (special menu with empanadas, dumplings, hot dogs, hummus and carrots, etc.). Please see Roseann Ciarlante or Irene Chae-Encarnacion to sign up for food.
- X. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm. Motion by Dempsey Rice, seconded by Jody Alperin.