



PTA General Meeting Minutes for November 20, 2014

Board members present: President, Treasurer, Secretary. Quorum was met.

I. CALL TO ORDER. The meeting was called to order by the president at 5:31.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES.

Treasurer offered members hard copies of the minutes. President requested a motion by membership to accept the minutes. A motion was made and seconded. Minutes approved.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Treasurer provided an overview of Income and Expenses.

- Income:
 - Received \$1,299.12 (from merchandise sales)
 - Mulee check received - \$753.12 (from June school supplies fundraiser)
- Expenses:
 - \$5400 Studio in a School
 - \$527 for merchandise order
- Balance as of October: \$11,230.71

Annual Appeal has raised \$10,641 to date.

- Donations can be made by check or through PayPal. Checks are better than PayPal because PayPal takes a cut. Donations by check ensure every penny gets to the PTA.

Treasurer has learned that the 501(c)3 status requires lots of legal filings with State Attorney's office. She is beginning to work on those applications.

Treasurer interviewed a few accountants. The one the executive board would like to hire will give the PTA a kick-back after we pay in full: he will donate 50% back to PTA at end of year.

Q: What did Fall Festival earn? A: The PTA doesn't know – it was a school event.

Q: Are the additional filings that are needed a concern for our 501(c)3 status, i.e. is it official? A: Yes. Need to file now so that we don't have to collect tax on merchandise. We also need a Certificate of Authority to sell the merchandise.

Q: So are tax donations deductible still? A: Yes – 100%. Donors at every level can expect a donation letter. The DOE asks the PTA to send letters to everyone, which is higher than is otherwise financially required.

Q: What is the best way to donate? A: Check is best because PayPal takes a percentage cut off the total.

Q: Does the PTA still bank with Chase? Is the PTA aware that through Quick Pay anyone can send money through ChasePay and because PTA banks with Chase, they will forward it – no fees. A: PTA will look into it.

III. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS.

President requested a vote for each proposed amendment after reading each one aloud. Votes in favor and then against were indicated with a show of hands, which the board counted. Membership voted and approved by majority each proposed amendment. No additional comments or concerns were made.

The proposed amendment regarding general membership meeting times presented three options to membership. After some confusion about how to vote, a final vote was taken by which each member cast a vote in favor of one of the three options so that a majority could be recorded. The breakdown was as follows:

- Option No. 1: Change the meeting time of general membership meetings from "5:30pm" to "6:00pm".
Vote: 16 in favor

- **Option No. 2: Change the meeting times of general membership meetings from “5:30pm” to “8:30am. There will be at least 4 evening meetings beginning at 6pm. Sept, Dec, March, June will be the evening meetings.” Vote: 28 in favor**
- Option No. 3: Do not change existing meeting times from “5:30pm.” *No vote taken due to the clear majority for Option No 2.*

IV. NEW BUSINESS.

The executive board announced it would like to hold elections for the newly approved board positions at a special election meeting on Dec 3 at 8:30am.

Q: Two parents raised concerns about 8:30am meeting. Some additional members expressed a preference for elections to be held at the next general meeting. A: PTA board will respond at a later date.*

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- Foley Tree fundraiser: The PTA requested a vote to support the fundraiser, in which Foley Firs will donate a portion of Christmas tree sales to the PTA. More details will come. Membership voted in favor.
- Farmigo fundraiser: The PTA announced that a trial run has already been in place and the PTA has received approximately \$200 in the last 3 weeks. They give the PTA 10% of sales if the total reaches over \$500. There must be at least 10 orders for delivery to be made. There is no contract or registration fees and the program can be terminated at any time. Membership voted in favor.

Q: Can there be a morning pick-up for Farmigo? A: Delivery is made around 1pm on Wednesdays, so a morning pick-up isn't possible.

- The board requested a vote on whether to donate \$500 to the Mixer, hosted by SLT and the school in the gym after the meeting.

Q: Where would it come from? A: The discretionary fund, which is budgeted at \$2500.

Q: When did SLT come to the PTA with the request? A: 2-3 weeks ago.

Q: Who pays the \$500 if the PTA doesn't approve? A: SLT.

Q: Can we try for more pot-lucks in cases like these? A: Chiquita Payne, SLT member, explained that the event is about relieving parents from having to do one more thing, enabling them to just show up and enjoy the event.

President requested if membership would motion to have a vote. A motion was made by membership and seconded. Membership voted in favor by majority. There were 6 votes opposed.

VI. EXTENDED DAY COMMITTEE:

The Extended Day Committee announced that its Monkey Survey about developing a potential after school program has received a lot support. The committee requested membership vote on whether the committee should officially move forward with planning an enrichment-only after school program. They announced that there is a larger program in the works, but that membership is not being asked to vote on that program now.

Q: Would rather vote on this when the costs are clear. A: President clarified that the Committee is not requesting membership to vote on PTA funding tonight.

Q: Several parents expressed concerns about funding after school programming when there are greater needs elsewhere. An example was raised – lunchtime aide. There were a number of members speaking and the secretary wasn't able to decipher all the commentary.

Extended Day Committee confirmed that right now no money is required. When money is required, the committee will come back to the PTA.

A motion to vote was made and seconded. The majority vote of 33 was in favor. There was 1 vote against.*

VII. ADJOURNMENT. President adjourned the meeting at 6:24pm.

**The board has announced elections will be held at the next general meeting on December 16 at 6:00pm.*

**The number of members present changed during the meeting as some members left to go to the Mixer.*

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