



PTA General Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2015

Board members present: President, Treasurer, Secretary, VP of Community Involvement, VP of Development, CO-VPs Extended Day, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary of Communications. Quorum was met.

I. CALL TO ORDER. The meeting was called to order by the president at 6:33pm.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES.

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

III. TREASURER'S REPORT.

A. Treasurer provided an overview of Revenue and Expenses.

Revenue:

- Contributions: \$688.69
- Extended Day: \$17,381
- Merchandise: \$457.97
- Movie Night: \$315.05
- Partnerships: \$142.39
- Auction: \$36,167.28

Total Revenue: \$63,410.10

Expenses:

- 5th Grade Graduation: \$444
- Libraries: \$2,324.98 (offset by anonymous \$2000 donation last month)
- Extended Day \$5,714.57
 - Credit Card fees amounted to approx. \$1,600.
 - Consider increasing fees to cover cost
- Kids orbit: \$3,220.00

Total Expenses: \$15,767.91

Month End Totals:

- PayPal: \$ 6,413.47
- Chase Ending balance: \$117,540.89
- Month End balance: \$123,954.36

To Date Contributions:

- \$67,005.83

Today's Net Revenue: \$228,099.54

Q: Do you know how this compares to last year? **A:** Treasurer will look and can report next meeting.

B. Vote: Auditorium Improvements

- Ms. Davis, Drama Teacher, has requested equipment improvements for the auditorium: new microphones, lighting adjustments, sound improvements, technical director + lighting engineer consulting / instruction.
- The PTA has been asked if it would split the cost to purchase improvements before year- end. The total cost is \$3,160. The PTA's contribution would be \$1550. The PTA could afford to pay the amount in total, but the Treasurer asked to split the cost so that the PTA would have more money

to start the school year. Ms. Davis asked about using Donor's Choose, but PTA was consulted first and has enough cashflow to help.

- Discussion was had about Ms. Davis' ambitions for auditorium; Performing Arts Committee thinks she would like to do a show, although they don't know for sure.

Q: So is it correct that microphones are the only new equipment? **A:** The treasurer read through the request.

Q: Can we add more people to the training so that more than one person knows the information, especially if the PTA is contributing money? **A:** Treasurer will ask if three other parent members can come for instruction.

- Motion was made to vote and seconded. One voter abstained. Motion passed.

C. Vote: Payback School

- The PTA promised to pay the back school not only for Studio in a School plus the Aide (which it did in February), but also for the school's portion of Playworks and Theatre for a New Audience. Treasurer proposed the PTA write the school a check for \$14,000 to cover this remaining amount.

Q: What is Theatre for a New Audience? **A:** The New Voices Project is a 13-week artist residency in which artists teach 4th-5th grade students how to write a play. Then professional actors read the plays in our auditorium. Final presentation is coming up in June. (*check the website calendar*)

- Motion was made to vote and seconded. Motion made and passed unanimously.

In total, the PTA will have given Ms. Foster-Mann \$39,000 this year. This is fantastic!

D. Proposed 2015-2016 Budget

- Treasurer passed out the Proposed Budget for next year. It will be presented more formally in June, but the treasurer wanted to give members a chance to have more thoughtful review. All members are invited to ask questions between now and June. The final Proposed Budget will be voted upon in October.
- Treasurer reviewed some new items: Book-a-Thon; Community-Building Sporting Events; Lands End fundraiser on uniform items; Volunteer Appreciation.

Contact: Request a copy from the Treasurer: ptatreasurer@ps133brooklyn.org

V. COMMITTEE UPDATES.

Fundraising Committee: Kathryn Mora, VP of Development

- Look out for email from Class Parents with a schedule of fundraising initiatives for next year. It would be great to have parents sign up now to lead an initiative, if possible. Looking for volunteers to own the operation.

Contact: Kathryn Mora: kathrynmora@me.com

Lunch Committee: Kevin Ryan-Young, PTA President, presented for Carol Getaz, Chair.

- Lunch Committee is looking for new chairs – motivated and efficient volunteers welcome.
- Recess Relief campaign met our goal of \$10,000! Thanks to all. This will get program up and running in September through November. Additional funding will be needed next year to continue the program.

Contact: Carol Getaz: carol_voeffray@hotmail.com

Extended Day: Stacey Blissett, VP Extended Day

- For 2015-16, Christina Prostano + Stacey Blissett are on the Board. Narae will head up committee. More volunteers are welcome. VPs will be identifying what the coordinator position needs to be for next year. Now that 2 sessions are under the belt, the position description needs refining.
- An adult class was offered last session at 5pm – It was cancelled due to low enrollment (short 2-3 adults). Playlab will be putting out survey to see if there's a better day / time for parents and to gauge interest overall.
- Playlab is now requesting proposals for Fall from vendors. Parents should share with their favorite class instructors with Playlab.

Q: Has Playlab looked into becoming its own corporation yet or does it plan to continue operating under the PTA next year? **A:** No, incorporation hasn't been researched.

Contact: playlab133@gmail.com

Performing Arts Committee: Esra Dayani, Co-Chair

- Talent Show Previews will be held May 12 and 16. Volunteers are welcome.

Contact: Esra Dayani: esradayani@gmail.com

Parent Outreach Committee: Timm Ryan-Young + Chiquita Payne, Co-Chairs

- The Committee's primary contribution was bake sales – very lucrative.
- Looking to improve opportunities to assist parents. Parent ideas for what they need are welcome. Leader in me is still a part of the committee, but it's about more than that.

Contact: Chiquita: chiquitacamille8@yahoo.com or Timm: timmry112@gmail.com

Grant Writing Committee: Kevin Ryan-Young, PTA President, presented

- He is working on 2 grants presently with Mr. Blatt.
- School received \$5,000 pen pal program with S. Africa school last year – the school withdrew. Kevin would like to ask for this grant again. He has until Friday to identify project, and until 5/31 to submit grant. Needs a project – so share ideas!

Contact: Kevin: ptapresident@ps133brooklyn.org

Garden Committee: Kevin Ryan-Young, PTA President, presented

- Garden to Café coming to the cafeteria on Friday.

Q: What is it? **A:** NYC Grows works with foods from our garden to create tasty treats for the kids during lunch. They try to introduce and fresh vegetables with new flavors.

- A committee member volunteered that a grant to re-do garden was applied for. Brooklyn Seeds is coming – check out their website: brooklynseeds.com

Contact: Jenna: jennamusnicki@gmail.com

Website Committee: Kreg Holt, Co-Chair

- The website is moving switching servers this summer (the current host is expiring). The new server will enable the PTA to have more emails.
- The Committee would like to push Facebook and Instagram more – to encourage teachers with lesson plan ideas for how teachers could use Instagram in the classroom. Would like to prepare backpack mailer to parents with instructions on tagging, why and how to use it.

Q: Wondering if school can provide training on how children can use social media, and raise awareness of bullying aspects. **A:** Another parent member shared the interest and would like to introduce parent workshops in the Fall. This could be a good idea.

School Leadership Team (SLT): Kevin Ryan-Young, PTA President, presented

- The school's Comprehensive Education Plan (CEP) is underway. A new template was issued this year and getting it together has been a big endeavor. SLT expects it to be ready for review in mid-June.
- Dudley H Associates was hired in Feb to help improve inclusion throughout the school community. Meetings are coming up May 28 and June 8 to review findings. Parents have already been selected to attend. If you are extremely interested, check with Matthew Voisine, SLT Chair (and parent).

CEC Council + Presidents Council: Kevin Ryan-Young, PTA President

- A joint meeting was held last night and they presented every PTA in district with plaque for distinguished service.
- President's Council is holding a symposium at PS133 for any PTA members who want to learn more about PTA on Saturday, June 27. The theme is One Vision One Voice.

Q: Why did they decide to hold it after the school year ends? **A:** The President's Council has to have this meeting – they were asked to “step up.” It doesn't really matter who shows up.

Green Team: Kate Dautrich Rubin, Chair

- They are thinking of folding the Lunch and Garden committees together with the Green team for next year, since there are many synergies.

VI. ELECTION RESULTS.

PTA Board: The Nominating Committee asked if any members would cast a vote to elect each of the following uncontested candidates:

- Kevin Ryan-Young as President. More than one vote was cast.
- Eileen Gunn and Carlos Saavedra as Co-VP of Community Involvement. More than one vote was cast.
- Kathryn Mora as VP of Development. More than one vote was cast.
- Aisha Johnson for Recording Secretary. More than one vote was cast.
- Kate Dautrich Rubin and Kristen Swensen as Co-Secretaries. More than one vote was cast.
- Julie Couser as Treasurer. More than one vote was cast.
- Carl Persak as Asst. Treasurer. More than one vote was cast.
- Stacey Blisset-Saavedra and Christina Prozano as Co-VP of Extended Day. More than one vote was cast.

School Leadership Team: The Nominating Committee announced the following winners:

- Elizabeth Lahart
- Chiquita Payne
- Alison Peterkin
- Elena Romero
- Matthew Voisine

VII. NEW BUSINESS.

June Meeting Time: Kevin Ryan-Young, PTA President

- Since the May meeting was pushed to evening, he asked if membership would like to push the June meeting to the morning.
- Motion was made to vote and seconded. 2 voters opposed, 1 voter abstained, majority voted in favor.

Year-End Gifts:

Q: Can the PTA provide monetary end of year gifts to non-teachers? **A:** Membership discussed questions about fairness among all teachers. The PTA did an entire week of appreciation for all school employees at a cost of \$1500. Aisha mentioned teacher wish lists, which she has for many teachers, although not every teacher has responded. It was agreed the topic was too late to address this year.

Field Trips:

Q: Some fieldtrips aren't provided guided tours. **A:** A class parent mentioned that cost differential for guided tours is substantial. Treasurer offered that PTA can help pay for differential. **Q:** Why aren't teachers coordinating it better or making the need known to class parents? Can SLT help make this happen? **A:** President responded that Yes, parents can bring this up at the next SLT meeting.

Committee Questionnaire: Kristen Swenson Communications Secretary

- Committee members, please be on the lookout for questionnaire to describe further what each committee is about.

Strategic Planning Team: Kevin Ryan-Young, PTA President

- Strategic Planning Team has a survey to get ideas from committee chairs and will increase the survey to membership next year.

Call for Committee Chairs: Kevin Ryan-Young, PTA President

- Back to School supplies. Lorraine LeTac informed Kathryn Mora she would lead.
- Hispanic Heritage Festival. This chair works with SLT to plan the October event.
- Photo Day. This chair coordinates with school and vendor, and notifies parents.

Contact: Kevin: ptapresident@ps133brooklyn.org

VIII. ADJOURNMENT.

On motion of the President, the meeting adjourned at 7:53pm.

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