

Ralph R. Smith PTA Meeting

September 15, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Kris Palmer at 7:08 pm.

Meeting was established with the following 32 people present: Jillian Foster, Eric Foster, Rebecca Tarkos, Kyle Tarkos, Heidi Colaizzo, Kris Palmer, Tom Gannon, Felipa Biamonte, George Desmond, Shannon Floyd, Donna McFarlin, Michael McFarlin, Carlene Kara, Kelley Marshall, Lauren VanSteeburgh, Debi Knauss, Thomas Molloy, Denise Sherman, Gillian Rush, Denise Wornell, Kim Brady, Marge Gibson-O'Mara, John Ansley, Marybeth Giesler, Jen Walker, Rob Babcock, Karen Sperry, Rachel Turner, Jennifer McKay, Christine Bolander, Susan Speare, Pete Colaizzo

Introductions/Mission Statement:

Tom Gannon read the mission statement out loud and the purpose of the PTA.

Officers' Reports

Secretary's report – The minutes were presented from the June 9, 2009 meeting. Kelley Marshall motioned to accept the minutes as read. Second by Rebecca Tarkos.

Treasurer's report – The checking account currently has \$14,232.05 and the money market account currently has \$2,567.71. Sue Speare explained the expense and deposit forms. She stressed submitting the forms with receipts. Rebecca Tarkos motioned to accept the treasurer's report. Second by Kyle Tarkos.

Committee Reports

PTA Council – Rob Babcock and Gillian Rush reviewed with the group how the PTA council is run and how there is networking opportunities with the other schools in the district. Insurance issues were discussed regarding what is a red light/yellow light/green light event. Flyers were passed out at the council meeting regarding what is covered by insurance. We need two PTA representatives. Tom Molloy will join Rob Babcock in representing RRS PTA this year. Thank you, Tom.

Membership – Debi Knauss proposed that the cost to join PTA be \$8 for adults and \$4 for children. The cost used to be \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Kyle Tarkos motioned to reduce the PTA membership fee. Marybeth Geisler seconded the motion.

Arts in Education – Gillian Rush reported that The Puppet People will be coming on October 23rd to do The Legend of Sleepy Hollow. Gillian is waiting to hear of the total budget in the BOCES COCER account. Kathleen Thompson will take on Arts in Education and work with Gillian.

Newsletter – Mary Ell Izzo suggested that we get the fifth grade class involved in the newsletter by having them take on a younger class to interview and report what is going on in other classrooms.

Unfinished Business

Baby Sitting: Debi Knauss' sister has kindly volunteered to take on this need for this year. The Girl Scouts used to do it, but they needed to be supervised by adults.

New Business

Pictures: Marge Gibson O'Mara reported that pictures will be this Tuesday, September 22. Weather permitting they will be outside. If it rains they will be taken in on the stage. Marge explained the volunteer duties.

Budget Revisions: (for 09-10 school year) Sue Speare explained changes in the budget expenses. She also stated that we need to be using clear plastic bags for deposits. The new budget lines proposed are:

School Relations: \$1,500.00

Bank Fees: \$100.00

Bulletin Boards: \$200.00

Popcorn Machine: \$350.00

Sue also discussed using the remaining playground funds for the needed additional line items for the budget. Gillian Rush made a motion to accept the budget as presented and to roll the playground funds into the new proposed line items. Rob Babcock seconded the motion. Kelley Marshall questioned making a line item for playground equipment (jump ropes, chalk). Kris Palmer explained that we can make that line item when needed.

Fall Fundraiser - We will need a new chairperson. Tom Gannon will take a look at the fundraising book. Kathleen Thompson will help too. John Ansley has volunteered to look into school spirit wear pricing and items.

Halloween Party – Denise Wornell is willing to volunteer to chair this event. The date is currently for October 30th in the district calendar. There was a big discussion on whether or not to charge for entrance to this event. Another option is to charge for refreshments. Kyle Tarkos made a motion to charge for refreshments only. Marge Gibson seconded the motion.

Book Fair– Gillian Rush reported that a representative be called to talk about it. We need a chair person. Kris Palmer will possibly co-chair. To be discussed at a later date.

Doll Tea – Rebecca Tarkos reported that the date for this event will be December 5th. The time will be 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. The Doll Tea will be held at a new location -- the Villa Borgese. The cost will be \$3,500.00. Ticket cost will most likely go up to \$16.00. There will be two banquet rooms, staff, linens, desserts and drawings.

NY Karate Academy - The owner of the Karate Academy gave a brief presentation at the beginning of our meeting tonight. He is offering the school a fundraising opportunity. Carlene Kara will chair this and find out more.

Banking: Rob Babcock talked about the banking program.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Recorded by Heidi Colaizzo