

Ralph R. Smith PTA Meeting

October 13, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Kris Palmer at 7:04 p.m.

Meeting was established with the following 23 people present: Rebecca Tarkos, Kyle Tarkos, Heidi Colaizzo, Kris Palmer, Felipa Biamonte, George Desmond, Karen Desmond, Carlene Kara, Kelley Marshall, Lauren VanSteenburgh, Debi Knauss, Christine Molloy, Denise Wornell, Marge Gibson-O'Mara, John Ansley, Jen Walker, Rob Babcock, Karen Sperry, James Welling, Jennifer McKay, Pete Colaizzo, Tracey Bodo, Lori Wall

Officers' Reports

Secretary's report – The minutes were presented from the September 15, 2009 meeting. Rob Babcock motioned to accept the minutes as read. Second by Christine Molloy.

Treasurer's report – The treasurer was not present for this meeting. No report.

Principal's Report – Mr. Welling gave some background information. He explained that the posting for the principal's position has been posted. He explained that there is a screening and interview process. He is anticipating staying through January and longer if needed. He is looking forward to helping our school move forward while he is here.

Committee Reports

PTA Council – Rob Babcock reported that Cora Stemple was there. She indicated that there will no longer be final exams at the middle school. Other districts are doing this as well. Administrators are currently trying to decide how to get a final evaluation of children at the end of the year. Jeff Danielson is writing a letter to the board that the PTAs would like to be more involved in the future with these types of issues.

Membership – Debi Knauss reported that there are 117 members. This includes 60 parents, 23 children and 34 staff.

Arts in Education – Gillian Rush was not in attendance. Kris Palmer reported that we received an \$1,800.00 grant for the Puppet People performance on October 23rd.

Newsletter – Please e-mail Mary Ell Izzo with information.

New Business

Coat Drive: There is a coat drive going on in the lobby until October 31, 2009.

Pictures: Marge Gibson-O'Mara reported that make-ups will be taken on November 10th. This date will also include pictures for chorus, band, orchestra and the 5th grade group picture.

Facebook: RRS PTA is now on Facebook. If you become a fan, you will get PTA updates.

Holiday Photos: There was a discussion to see if there is interest in a family photo night for holiday photos. There is not enough interest.

Karate Workshop: Mr. Welling talked to Carole Pickering. This is not something that the PTA can support.

School Banking: Rob Babcock reported that 10 old bankers participated this month. There are 23 new banker applicants. Reminder that the next banking day is Friday, November 6, 2009.

Spirit Wear: John Ansley presented a work up of three local businesses. He included prices for various clothing items with a range of blends and colors. John will look into getting some samples to hang in the lobby. Rob Babcock made a motion to go ahead with the Let's Get Personal for Spirit Wear. Rebecca Tarkos seconded the motion. All in favor.

Jenny Manges: She proposed an outreach activity and workshop on laser activity. It could coordinate with our science fair. We can look into funding and grant money to fund the books for the program. We may look into booking them in early January.

Halloween Party – Denise Wornell is looking into obtaining a popcorn machine. A volunteer form is going home. They are looking for more help with clean-up and crowd control. Kelley Marshall inquired about a helium tank and balloons. The haunted house set up will take place on Thursday, October 29, 2009. Set up

for the actual party will be after school on the 30th. Kelley is looking for help in the sensory portion of the un-haunted house. Rob Babcock reported that he has enough tour guides. He will need volunteers for crowd control. Christine Molloy suggested contacting the National Honor Society for volunteers. Denise will have a brief meeting about the evacuation procedure at 6:30 with all volunteers in the event that the fire alarms go off.

Kindergarten Field Trip: Kris Palmer reported that kindergarten will be going on a field trip and is anticipating a number of children who will not be able to pay for the trip. There was a question of whether the PTA or the district is able to help with the cost of the trip. After much discussion, Kelley Marshall made a motion for the PTA to spend up to \$100.00 on this trip. George Desmond seconded the motion. All in favor.

Book Fair– Kris Palmer reported that the book fair is scheduled to be held on December 9-13, 2009.

Doll Tea – Rebecca Tarkos reported this event will be on December 5th and that we are looking for doll donations and donations for the drawings.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Recorded by Heidi Colaizzo