

Ralph R Smith PTA Meeting

April 8, 2008

Carole Pickering was guest speaker. She announced that there was \$10,000.00 in the school district budget for the RRS playground.

The meeting was called to order by President Christine Molloy at 7:34 pm.

Meeting was established with the following 15 members present: Marge Gibson-O'Mara, Kris Palmer, MaryEll Izzo, Margaret Qatani, Gillian Rush, Heidi Colaizzo, Debi Knauss, Thomas Molloy, Christine Molloy, Meg Burkhardt, Marybeth Giesler, Katy McEnroe, Rob Babcock, Carole Pickering & Kelley Marshall.

- **Secretary's report** – The minutes were presented from the March 11, 2008 meeting. Katy McEnroe moves to accept the minutes as read. Second by Kris Palmer. All in favor
- **President's report** – Christine Molloy reports that there is nothing to report.
- **Treasure's report** – Marybeth Giesler reports that we need to decide if we should open a CD in the general fund and/or the playground fund and for how much. Marybeth motions to move the playground fund into a savings account in the HVFCU. All in favor. Marybeth mentions that the RRS PTA has never did a 990 form for the IRS. We need to do one this year. Marybeth requests to have money to pay an accountant to do it for us. The form is complicated and items need to be categorized appropriately. The IRS form 990 doesn't have to be done until July or August. No decision was made.
- **Principal's report** – Katy McEnroe reports that the 4th grade science test will be held on May 4th and 6th. The week of May 12th will be Kindergarten screening. Registration is still low and there may continue to be 2 Kindergarten classes. She is willing to have a table with voter registration forms at the playground tag sale. Gillian Rush motions to spend \$125.00 on juice and pizza for 4th graders after testing. Second by Meg Burkhardt. All in favor. Meg will coordinate.
- **BLT** – MaryEll Izzo reports that the BLT is finalizing the summer reading program. Kris Palmer is making the buttons for each student as part of the kick off. Tiny the storyteller is coming for the kick off which will be in the beginning of June. The BLT committee will be sending out sign up sheets again this year for parents to request the summer packet.
- **PTA Council** – Gillian Rush reports that the speaker was Holly Heady-Peters, the director of food service. In January there was an update to the meal pay program. You can register on meal pay and see what your child has bought. The district is trying to get everyone to fill out the form for the free/reduced lunches. Food services are looking into the portion size of the lunches. As of now all portion sizes are the same no matter if it is an elementary student, high school student or adult. Adults also pay more for the same portion size. The PTA council board will be holding elections for next year.
- **PTA Teacher Representative** – Margaret Qatani reports that a Spirit Committee is trying to plant a tree for Earth Day. A science fair update: 12-15 RRS students won at the district science fair. Their names will be announced with morning announcements.

Chair Reports

Arts in Education – Gillian Rush reports BOCES has closed their books. Our assembly with Terry Parrett did not go through BOCES. The Bardavon trip was paid for on May 12th.

PARP – Debi Knauss reports that pajama night had a low turnout, but it was still very nice. They haven't picked a principal challenge yet.

Membership – Marybeth Giesler reports that we have 138 members for final count.

5th Grade Activities – Marybeth Giesler reports that they have started the planning for the swim and graduation parties. The swim party will be held the week of June 16th. They are looking into Casperkill and Hyde Park Swim and Tennis for the swim party.

Staff Appreciation – Marge Gibson-O'Mara reports that Staff Appreciation week is the week of May 5th. The days are as follows: Monday – breakfast, Tuesday – Luncheon, Wednesday – Fruit Day, Thursday – Supply Day, and Friday will be changed to Candy Day instead of Thank you cards. We are looking for volunteers to help and send in food and supplies. A motion was made and seconded to buy a coffee pot for the staff lounge.

Playground – It's reported that we had a representative from Playworld come to speak to us about their equipment. If we purchase \$5,000.00 worth of equipment there is no freight charge and if we purchase \$12,000.00 worth of equipment there is also no installation charge. Cindy still has some scrip cards but wants to get more. Marybeth motions to spend \$1,000.00 on more cards. Second by Gillian Rush. All in favor. Heidi Colaizzo is looking for volunteers to help with the can drive that will be held at Stop & Shop and the Hyde Park Beverage Center. The date is April 20th and the times are 11 – 3. She still has sponsorship forms for the t-shirts for the Memorial Day parade. Thinking of having kids help with making a float but will need to see about getting one and if there will be enough time to make one.

Old Business

Book Fair – Meg Burkhardt reports that the book fair did \$3500.00, \$600.00 less than the last book fair. We will get 10% extra since it is the second book fair that we had. She did not charge tax. She had 3 boxes of books so if a child came in and didn't get a book they could go through the box and still be able to get a book.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Recorded by Marge Gibson-O'Mara