

## In Attendance

Barbara Szparkowski, Amy Dempsey, Stephanie Gagnon, Dawn Allen, Brenda Wall, Jennifer Wethje, Stephanie Dimauro, Sherry Rice, David Black, Katy Black, Olivia Chrzanowski, Dawn Pauley, Erin Kelly, Vicki Robertson, Jen Degrandi, Stacey Denardo, Katie Niemiec

**Approval of minutes-** The minutes were reviewed from the June meeting. They were corrected for date only of last PTO meeting.

**New business-** attendees introduced themselves and what grade their child is in. Vicki expressed that this is her last year as president and explained that the blue sheets that went home are people who are interested in certain committees should fill them out and we would contact them when the time came. Vicki expressed to tell friends to come so that we can do more things and get more things done for our school and children.

Committee chairs 2016-2017

Membership- Stacey Denardo and Dawn Pauley

Hospitality- Thomas Niemiec

Fundraising- Stephanie Gagnon

Box tops- Sherry Rice

Spirit Wear- Stephanie DiMauro

Book fair- Dawn Pauley and Dana Borges

Stop and shop/Price Chopper- Cyndi Goode

Holiday Shop- vacant

Trunk or treat- Jayme Miller

Family fun night- vacant

Carnival - vacant

5th grade Committee- Jayme Miller and Dawn Allen

Pasta Supper- Sherry Rice and Stephanie DiMauro

-Holiday shop was explained to the new parents and Erin Kelly expressed interest in possibly chairing this event. Vicki explained that she will not be available.

-Treasurer's report was handed out and discussed briefly as the year was just getting started and money will start coming in.

-Budget Vote- Amy Dempsey asked a question and found an expense that caught her eye a lobby rug that was \$3700. Amy asked why this was not discussed on a previous PTO meeting. Dr. Correia and Mrs. Hammond discussed that the rug was a safety issue and that this technology budget was always used as per discretion of the principal in the past. Vicki said that this maybe something that should be in the placed in the by laws. Vicki said that a change to the by laws would have to be brought up and then voted on at the next meeting. Amy requested an amendment to by laws so that items over a certain amount should be voted on. Amy suggested \$200 and Vicki explained that sometimes things cannot wait such as a smart board going down. A parent asked the question about why PTO is paying for non academic reasons. Dr. Correia said that academics usually come first with town budget so overages sometimes come from the PTO. Dr. Correia explained that a smart board costs \$1600 so if he requests the smartboard from PTO he needs a check in 2 days. The by law was proposed and then seconded by Amy Wall for \$1500 or more needs to be brought for a discussion and vote. This amendment will be voted on at the next meeting. Dr. Correia asked about the technology line item \$6300 for next year. Brain pop was \$2300. \$4000 remains for technology. He explained that this line item was historically for his own discretion and never brought for a vote. He explained that this year he will be spending this money on 5th grade chrome books. He suggested that chrome books will most likely be upgraded so that the 5th graders next year will have the new chrome books. Vicki explained the budget and how the PTO is working in the rears. Last years fundraising is used to cover this years expenses. She explained that the treasurer is not here and he could explain his budget better. However, the PTO budget has savings for overage and

they would cut from other places if necessary. To vote on the budget last year you had to be a member and have attended a meeting 3 times last year. The budget was accepted by those who qualified.

## **Principals' report**

Dr. Correia explained that there are new teachers and that he was late d/t a meeting to welcome them. He had 2 days notice that the governor was coming. He stated that the governor was happy with the programming and loved the school. He was proud of the SBAC increases. We were able to go up 10% for 1 building on the second try. Mrs. Hammond is looking to bring in the cultural events and trying to diversify programs so that they don't repeat. Field trip requests are being placed as well. Dr. Correia expressed that he is very happy to be back and also appreciates the openness of PTO. He also thanked all the members old and new for their continued support.

## **Committee updates**

-Cub Scouts- PTO charters the cub scouts for Willard School. Carrie Fowler explained that the cub scouts did meet over the summer they did putters paradise with mini golf, go carts, bumper boats, they attended the bees game and also attended camp in New Hartford. They did a bottle drive and did a welcome back hike/picnic in August as well. Den's are meeting this month and first pack meeting is 9/26. Joining scouting night is 9/14 at school. Kindergarten is welcome as well. There will also be a booth at open house on the 15th. Girl Scouts would like to be at the open house as well. Parents asked why PTO charters a pack and Brenda Wall explained that it's in the by laws.

-Membership- Dawn Pauley and Stacey Denardo

Explained the membership is \$12 per family per year also explained the unfundraiser.

-Box tops- Sherry explained that each room will get a coordinator and we make a lot of money to buy items free. Last year \$2100 was earned in box tops. Each box top is 10 cents. Dr. Correia suggested a monthly eblast. Collection deadline October 2nd and February and then she sends them in and the contest will close. She needs to send them out before they expire. Sherry discussed possibly fundraising with 5 below in Plainville. They will give you a 10% purchase credit for a week.

-Book fair- committee chair took a full time job and stepped down. Dawn and Dana are running it this year. Looking at October/November.

-Fundraiser Bills- October 4th, November 1st and December 6th. Bill's pizza dining night you go after 4 and eat in or take out and they will put the check in the Willard basket and then Bill's donates a percentage.

-Fall fundraiser- Stephanie Gagnon, ends 9/16, pick up is 10/24 from 4-6.

-Pastries with parents- Jayme Miller does not want 5th grade dues. So she would like to do a pastries with parents day.

-Stop and shop and price chopper- It was discussed that as far as she knows you do not have to re enter you number again. Will confirm with Cyndi Goode. School receives a lot of money and items from this program.

-Spirit wear- American embroidery. 1 deadline will be set and anything after that will be sent back to the parents. Both paper and email will be sent home.

-5th grade committee- Dawn Allen- meeting on Thursday morning at 8 am to discuss committee with the teachers. They will be discussing 5th grade trip.

-Pasta supper- Sherry Rice, will pick a date on pasta supper. Tuesday February 28th.

-Trunk or treat- Will be in the front parking lot same night as monster bash. Discussed allergies and there will be some nut free items.

## **Announcements**

-Vicki announced that she put together a back to school banana treat bag for staff.

-Open House this Thursday-reminder going home tomorrow.

-Fall fundraiser closing 9/16

## **Next Meeting**

October 3rd 6:30

Adjourned 8:16p

Respectfully submitted by Katie Niemiec