

DRAFT – TO BE APPROVED

PTA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES January 23, 2012

In Attendance:

Susan Cook, Judy Sovel, Antoinette Butts, Brenda Martin, Alice Chan, Jason Sutter, Tricia DeCarli, Jackie Lebihan, Tena Jackson, Liz Foote, Anita Morris, Michele Corry

Susan Cook called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Jason Sutter motioned to approve the November minutes. Susan Cook seconded the motion.

Brenda Martin presented reinstating giftwrap sales as a fundraiser. 50% of all proceeds go directly to PTA. There was a discussion about keeping it non-competitive in nature and offering it more as a service available to people who like to buy giftwrap. There was a discussion about having too many fundraisers and timing this one to not compete with the jog-a-thon. The board will discuss it further at the next board meeting. There was also a discussion about asking parents to donate to the school through a direct deposit system where money is given by families on a monthly basis.

Liz Foote presented an update regarding the Spring Fundraiser which will be April 14th. She and Susie Parsons are planning the event and will be offering a sit-down dinner, DJ, dancing and no-host bar. The focus will be on bringing the community together and they will try to keep the cost of the tickets down to attract as many families as we can. Tickets will probably be sold at between \$30 and \$35. This price is much lower than other schools in town that offer the same kind of event. Requests for donations have been sent home with parents and out to the community. The event is being sponsored by PTA this year but the PTA will investigate setting up a non-profit organization to host the event next year.

The PTA is designing a new t-shirt that will be given free to each student and faculty at McNear so that every student can participate in Falcon Pride Friday. The t-shirt will be paid for by local business sponsors whose name and/or logo will be featured on the back of the shirt. Parents who are business owners will have first chance to purchase space on the t-shirt and then the community at large if we do not get enough parent sponsors. There was a discussion about giving out the t-shirts to coincide with the jog-a-thon.

There was a discussion about launching a campaign to highlight school volunteers in order to attract more parents and to spotlight what our volunteers do and to get people excited about volunteering at school and the importance of making a difference to our children. There was a discussion about taking photos and making videos of volunteers working with kids and putting them on the website. Parents would need to approve photos of their kids.

There was a discussion about asking parents to take over crossing guard duties on G Street after school. It is very difficult for teachers to get to the crosswalk in time to effectively help kids cross the street. Upper grade teachers don't release their kids until 10 minutes after lower grades. Also, this is a time when parents like to check in with teachers. It was decided to put sign up sheets outside the classroom of the teacher who is assigned the duty for that week and ask parents in that classroom to take a shift. A lower grade teacher and an upper grade teacher are assigned a concurrent week. We will start by putting sign up sheets outside the lower grade classrooms, rotate through all the lower grades and then move on to the upper grade classrooms. It was suggested that Sunnyslope in the morning can be dangerous as well. We are going to start with G Street in the afternoon and think about trying to cover Sunnyslope in the morning once we see how it goes on G Street. It was also suggested that the police could be called to provide a presence in the morning.

Susan Cook adjourned the meeting at 7:00.

Next General PTA meeting: March 12th at 7:00 p.m.