

TCGIS PTO Meeting Minutes – October 4, 2011

In Attendance:

Kari Swedberg (president), Lisa Antony-Thomas (vice president), Heidi Zimmermann (archivist), Michelle Sheire (secretary), Karin Spencer, Kate Olson, Nancy Nordeen, Kate Olson, Sara Scholtens, Tom Scholtens, Marilee Tuite, Sue Westacott, Nicole Halvorson, Scot Stephenson, Kelly Huxmann, Kami Blackwell Kinney, Renee Moelders, Gina Vader, Tamara Jackman, Maiken Givot

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM.

New Business

- No new business added.

Approval of Agenda

- Board report will be given by Renee Moelders
- Meeting will be adjourned prior to speaker

Moved by Sue Westacott, seconded Heidi Zimmermann to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Approval of September Minutes

Moved by Kate Olson, seconded Sue Westacott to approve the September minutes. Motion carried.

President's Report

Please send the number of hours you volunteer for the PTO to Kari. Be sure to include meetings and prep time. For August and September she has estimated sixty hours for just a few committees. Tracking volunteer hours is important as it demonstrates the time the PTO devotes to the school and provides a history for other volunteers.

Please contact PTO treasurer Danielle Sanders with any questions about reimbursements. Anything budgeted for will be paid, however, if one goes over budget, a funding request will need to be completed. Anything over budget will need to be approved by the PTO membership. The funding request will be revised, in the meantime, use the one available on the website. If teachers make a request for a significant dollar amount Annika will need to review.

Treasurer's Report

Danielle was not able to attend the meeting, so report given by Kari.

The approved 2011- 2012 school year budget is online. Summary of current expenses/income:

- Teacher reimbursements currently at \$617.74 of the \$7,000 budgeted
- Directors fund currently at \$500.24 of the \$2,000 budgeted
- Amity Appreciation currently \$162.32 of the \$800 budgeted
- Coffee supply costs have been \$99 with an income of \$139.75 – net of \$40.75
- Calendars cost us \$403 of which we've recouped \$264
- Admin fees have totaled: \$324 out of \$1,347 budgeted

- Donations total: \$50

So far things are on track for the beginning of our school year budget. Danielle will be contacting each teacher and making them aware of their budget and how much they have spent out of it in the near future.

Committee Reports

- *Fundraising* – Twenty-five Chinook Books sold so far. Sue Westacott has organized the strudel sales in the past and is looking to step down. The sales take place twice a year with the majority of the work done in November, December, April and May. Contact Kate Olson if you have any questions or are interested.

Crafters – get crafting! The craft and bake sale is 11/18 & 11/19. Sue brought up the possibility of kids creating crafts. There was discussion of whether or not this goes against the policy of kids selling items to fundraise. The majority had no problem with this and Sue will consider it further.

Maskenball has both small and large jobs available in both the planning and auction sides. The committee announced this year's theme – Fairy Tales – with an emphasis on Grimm fairy tales, but as always, is open to interpretation. This month the planning side is focusing on sponsor procurement, marketing, and catering. The auction side could also use a couple more volunteers, in particular someone to organize group events by collecting and entering submissions. Contact Kate Olson if interested in planning and Kami Blackwell Kinney if interested in the auction.

- *Education Support* – No report.
- *Parent Outreach Committee* – Auflauf is coming up! Kari will contact 6th and 7th graders to volunteer. If you are coming and haven't signed up to bring something, please consider bringing an auflauf.
- *Classroom Support* – All twenty-three classroom EK openings have been filled. Karin Spencer reported that she is still looking for a couple to help with specialists. Karin thanked all the EKs present for signing up.

School Board Report

Renee Moelders reported that at the last board meeting the following was discussed and/or occurred:

- The annual report was approved. It was sent out in the *Elternbrief* and is on the website.
- The diversity committee requested a \$10K grant from the St. Paul Foundation to focus on diversity.
- The school's health insurance costs have gone up resulting in higher deductibles for the teachers and higher cost to school. However, it is still good plan.
- New cleaning vendors have been hired. They now report to TCGIS, not to landlord. So this will allow for more flexibility.
- Special Ed compliance check required every 6 years
- MCA scores – good, but concern about math. Corrective plans to get scores up for next year.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:07 PM for speaker Jenny Friedman, Raising Caring Kids & Family Volunteering

Moved by Kate, seconded Heidi to adjourn meeting. Motion carried.

Next Meeting Info: November 1, 2011, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, Location: TCGIS