

Westowne Elementary PTA Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2015

Present: China Williams, Jessica Brown, Stacie Lauer, Justine Stull, Shandra Patrick, Amanda McBride, Judy Robey, Hope Riley, Jen Nyland, Becky Bass, Jenny Zwarich, Maura Hill, Katie Riesner

Meeting called to order by China Williams at 7:08 pm

December minutes approved as written

President's Report: China Williams

1. Target check used to fund remaining cost of agendas and folders and dog tags
2. Craft and Vendor Fair
 - a. Scheduled for Saturday, April 18th
 - b. 35 vendors
 - c. Estimate \$1200 in profit
 - d. Not labor intensive
3. Claire's fundraiser
 - a. Jen Zwarich and Becky Bass to chair
 - b. To be tentatively run prior to Spring Break / Easter
4. Book Fair
 - a. Currently planning to take cash earnings over Scholastic points
 - b. May vote to take points for merchandise based on need for funds
5. Market Day
 - a. Brings in about 10% in profit: about \$1000 each school year
 - b. Program is no longer sending a rep to handle payments
 - c. May discontinue this fundraiser based on outcome of change
 - d. More details to come
6. Charitable Solicitation
 - a. All the outstanding documentation submitted prior to the deadline.
 - b. No updates about waiving of fines yet.
7. Membership voted to increase committee work budget to \$817
8. Membership voted to increase Teacher Appreciation budget to \$3500
 - a. Teacher Holiday Lunch was paid for by a parent donation
 - b. Teacher Appreciation Week keeps previously set budget of \$2500
9. Membership voted to increase budget for Catonsville Chamber of Commerce dues to \$175
10. Discussed vote to increase 5th Grade Committee budget to \$3000 based on previous years' spending records and current account balance
 - a. To be revisited at next meeting
11. Holiday Shoppe
 - a. \$4255.33 revenue
 - b. Katie McNight to chair again next year
12. Running Club update
 - a. Has extra funds from participants who did not register for the Jingle Bell Run
 - b. To determine how these funds should be used at a later date

Secretary's Report: Justine Stull

1. Membership
 - a. 173 members

Vice President's Report: Jessica

1. Received \$1400 check Box Tops
 - a. One more check comes in late spring

My Coke Rewards & Labels for Education: Jen Nyland

- a. My Coke Rewards now offers option of converting points to cash
 - i. Current point balance to be used by January 20th
 - ii. Jen to coordinate use of points with Mr. Prem and Mrs. Patrick
- b. Labels for Education points may be spent at end of school year

Treasurer's Report: Stacie Lauer

- a. \$3,755.02 revenue for the month
- b. \$10,750.42 total available funds

Literature Night: Maura Hill

1. Multicultural theme
2. Including family culture fair in gym
 - a. Katie McNight coordinating family involvement
 - b. Packaged food a possibility. Requires nutritional labels; nothing homemade.
 - c. \$500 budget for cultural performance; welcoming suggestions for a performer
3. Aiming for 10-12 activity rooms
4. Pizza sale in cafeteria
5. Book fair chaired by Melody Higgins
6. May need to Raptor volunteers and checking to assure parents don't need volunteer training
7. To begin advertising for parent involvement at Movie Night

Principal's Report: Mrs. Patrick

1. Thanks for Mission BBQ Teacher Appreciation Holiday Lunch, Cookies & Cards, upcoming assembly
2. Thanks for PTA support for family who recently lost a parent
 - a. Planning a second round of meals/groceries in about a month
 - b. More info to come

Vice Principal's Report: Ms. McBride

3. Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)
4. Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) as replacing Maryland School Assessment (MSA)
 - a. Performance-Based Assessment (PBA) in March and End-of-Year (EOY)
 - b. Westowne currently using paper form instead online format
 - c. Produces a single combined score
5. National PTA has Parents Guide online
6. Membership requested notice about testing dates be shared with parents
 - a. Parents asked to schedule vacations and routine doctors appointments around testing whenever possible

Meeting adjourned at 8:32