

Westowne Elementary School PTA

November 6, 2013

Meeting Minutes

Present: Denise Avara, Rebecca Prince, Jessica Brown, Miranda McClain, China Williams, Judy Robey, Tracy Horch, Cathy Ritzes, Susan Larsen, Laura Cunningham, Hope Riley, Laura Blank, Shandra Patrick, Jen Keathley, Joan Martin, Mary Peters, Noel Smith, Kerry Johnston, Laura Cunningham, Mr. G

Meeting called to order by Denise Avara at 7:06pm

October minutes approved as written

Welcome and Introduction – Denise Avara

President's Report: Denise Avara

1. Thank you for a great Fall Festival/Book Fair – congrats to the chairpersons for a job well done and the 5th grade food booth
2. Recap of proposed new school plans for the area – Westowne is the #1 project, we need continued support from the community, we need attendance at meetings
3. Southwest Area Committee – formed with Hillcrest & Westchester to support modernization as a united front
4. Upcoming visit from County Executive Kevin Kamenetz - December 4th PTA meeting to be held in the gym
5. Technology event – offer of shredding truck donated for 2 hours of shredding on site, Denise will co-chair this committee and seeks another volunteer
6. Tree Lighting – 5th Westowne has been chosen to decorate the tree on Frederick Rd, candy cane theme this year, Saturday 11/30 at 6:30pm
7. Bike rack update – planned for near the trailer
8. Running club is going well, great interest from the students
9. Skate party – Thursday 11/14, 6-8pm, volunteers needed to help at the event
10. Angel Tree – Ronnie Wheeler is in charge

Vice President's Report: Lori Kleppin (absent)

1. Book Fair/Fall Festival – Sales totaled over \$6900! Our profit in Scholastic dollars is \$4345!
 - a. Denise circulated thank you notes from the classes that received rugs purchased with Scholastic dollars from the prior book fair – classes are very appreciative!

Vice President's Report: Miranda McClain

1. Fall Festival - great turn out, Miranda has compiled a folder of all the resources needed for next year's event for her successor to chair this event – Thank you Miranda for another job well done!

Treasurer's Report: Laura Blank

1. Treasurer's report

Secretary's Report: Jessica Brown

1. Approved meeting minutes will be posted to the website without attendees names, just the number in attendance

Principal's Report: Mrs. Patrick

1. Thank you to the coordinators of the Fall Festival and the Book Fair
2. Science-themed assembly planned for 11/12
3. VIP photos on 11/22 to benefit tech fund
4. New 2nd grade teacher to alleviate large class sizes

Teacher Liaison: Judy Robey

1. American Education Week - BCPS Parentmobile to be on site 11/15

Technology – China Williams

1. Dance planned for 1/24/2014
2. Grilled cheese fundraiser coming up

Movie Night: Maura Hill (absent)

1. Monster's University – 11/8, doors open at 6pm, movie starts at 6:30, \$1 donation at the door

Green School: Carol Schexnayder (absent)

1. Denise relayed Ms. Schexnayder's big thank you for all the help with the school grounds clean up planned on 10/7

5th Grade update: Kerry Johnston & Cathy Ritzes

1. Food booth at Fall Festival raised \$639
2. Candygrams planned again this year for American Education Week and for the holidays

Safeway/Giant – Jessica Brown

1. Safeway program changes – no contributions earned after 11/4 for purchases made with a credit card, no more fitness/nutrition requirement for the funds – we can spend funds as we choose
2. Giant has reduced their total giving to all participating schools
 - a. Has a new prepaid giftcard program where nonprofits can buy at a 5% discount and sell at face value

BoxTops – Patricia Wright (absent)

1. deposit pending for latest submission

Ideas/Suggestion corner

1. concern over parents smoking at bus stops was raised, Denise will contact Councilman Quirk
2. traffic concerns on Harlem Lane were discussed, we would like to see flashing lights alerting drivers of the school zone at the least

Raffle was won by Cathy Ritzes and Tracy Horch

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm