

Jane Stenson PTA

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, April 4, 2016

Attendees: Steph Azen, Ana Bryant, Taylor Crowley, Diana Dizon, Sevan Elmayan, Wannapa Eubanks, Lisa Flood, Wendy Gahm, Michelle Harris, Trina Janes, Lisa Malina, Jason Malina, Katie McNelley, Julie Oh, Sue O'Neil, Jennifer Ruffner, Vanessa Schneider and Cyndi Stevens.

1. **Call to Order:** Jen Ruffner opened the meeting in the Stenson School library at 6:50 p.m.
2. **Secretary's Report:** Trina Janes shared the minutes from the March 2016 meeting. Sev Elmayan motioned for approval and Ana Bryant seconded. The minutes were then adopted unanimously.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Julie Oh presented the treasurer's report. This past month there were expenses for the Box Top winner pizza party and payment of the deposit for the 5th grade party. The Cultural Arts grant was received. Sev Elmayan motioned for approval and Ana Bryant seconded. The treasurer's report was approved unanimously.
4. **President's Report:** There was no President's report.
5. **Principal's Report:** Sue O'Neil provided her report.
 - a. Stenson students participated in the recent city wide SOAR Art Show for the first time in several years. Stenson students continue to also participate in the District 68 Art Show on April 12; this show allows more students to participate.
 - b. The OOJH orientation for 5th graders has been moved to May.
 - c. Ms. Saipe is retiring at the end of this school year. There is a search underway for her replacement.
 - d. She is meeting with students in grades 3, 4 and 5 to prepare them for the upcoming PARCC test. Mr. J will be offering before school movement and yoga at 8:20 on test days.
6. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. **PrePack (Vanessa Schneider, Chair):** Order forms will be sent home next week and orders are due in early May.
 - b. **Restaurant Night (Karen Lostaunau, Chair):** We earned \$181.41 from the March event at Epic Burger. We'll be at Graziano's on April 21 and Cici's Pizza in May.
 - c. **Cultural Arts (Wannapa Eubanks, Chair):** The Cultural Arts grant finally came in. Wannapa helped Ms. Saipe set up for the recent SOAR Art Show.
 - d. **Board of Education (Michelle Harris, Chair):** Most of the March meeting was held in closed session. The April meeting is on April 21.
 - e. **Digital Media (Carrie Butera, Chair):** A motion was made by Michelle and seconded by Sev to increase the website budget by \$8.99 to cover the next website payment of \$12.99. The motion passed unanimously.
 - f. **Savers (Trina Janes, Chair):** The March 19 donation drive was a big

success. We raised \$539.30 from the donations to nearly fill the Savers truck. We collected 2,518 lbs. of soft items, 260 lbs. of hard goods and 454 lbs. of books. There were 31 households participating; many had been saving their items for several months. The Stenson PTA will keep \$100 of the proceeds and \$439.30 will be donated to the Angel Fund. This event is definitely worth repeating and should be promoted well in advance. When we budget for 2017, we will determine how the proceeds from the next Savers drive will be distributed.

- g. **International Night (Priya Amin & Michelle Harris, Co-Chairs):** The event is coming up on April 7. A promotional flyer was just sent home and will be distributed in tomorrow's eblast. There will be food in the multipurpose room and a fashion show and performances in the gym. The rehearsal is afterschool on Tuesday. Volunteers are still needed.
- h. **5th Grade Party (Lisa Malina, co-chair):** The party will be on May 27 at Pinstripes. The cost is \$15 per child. There are more 5th graders this year than last, so costs are higher than budgeted. The budget is \$1500, however an additional \$150 in funding will be needed. Lisa negotiated several rebates and discounts to keep costs low. Lisa moved and Wendy seconded a motion to increase the event's budget to \$1650. The motion passed unanimously. It should be noted, that the additional cost may not all be needed due to the discounts.
- i. **Teacher Appreciation (Vanessa Schneider, Stephanie Azen & Michelle Harris, Co-Chairs):** The committee is planning a lunch with food from Grecian Kitchen, Pita Inn and Costco. They will also be giving the teachers a soap gift and bookmark. They hope to provide periodic snacks during the week.

7. Unfinished Business

- a. **Nominating Committee (Wendy Gahm, Chair):** The Nominating Committee formally presented their nomination of Vanessa Schneider to serve as Treasurer for the next two school years. The committee included Wendy Gahm, Sev Elmayan and Ana Bryant, Members will vote on this nomination at the May meeting,
- b. **Proposed Spending:** The Executive Committee presented recommendations for new spending.
 - **Indoor Recess Supplies:** Proposal included spending \$400: \$100 for storage bins and giant Ziploc bags and \$300 to purchase games and sports equipment.
 - **Touchless Water Bottle Filler:** The cost to purchase is \$835. The district staff would provide installation.
 - **Scholarships for Afterschool Enrichment Programs:** The PTA would like to support the District's proposed enrichment offerings that are being discussed for the upcoming schoolyear by providing \$1235 in scholarships.

A motion was made by Wendy and seconded by Michele to approve the Executive Committee's suggestion of earmarking \$400 for indoor recess supplies and \$835 for the touchless water bottle filler. The motion passed unanimously.

The additional funds proposed for enrichment programs will be rolled

over into next year's budget and discussed when more details about the program offerings are available.

Red Folders: A motion was made by Lisa and seconded by Wendy to increase the budget for red Stenson folders by \$70 - from \$730 to \$800 - to buy two years' worth of folders in May. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **Upcoming Events:** The following are key upcoming events.
 - a. International Night: April 7
 - b. Restaurant Night: April 21 at Graziano's
 - c. Board of Education Meeting: April 21 at 7 p.m.
9. **Next Meeting:** The next PTA meeting will be held on Monday, May 2 at 6:45 p.m. This meeting is a potluck, so members are encouraged to bring food to share.
10. **Adjourn:** Thanks to a motion from Sev which was seconded by Wendy, the meeting ended at 8:07 p.m. following a unanimous vote to adjourn.

Minutes prepared by Trina Janes.