

Jane Stenson PTA Meeting

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting on Monday, May 1, 2017

Attendees: Stephanie Azen, Sev Elmayan, Wendy Gahm, Bucky Hempen, Trina Janes, Anna Kramer, Bonnie Ognisanti, Sue O'Neil, Sigal Orgad, Karalee Robb, Jennifer Ruffner, Joe Ruffner, Vanessa Schneider and Cyndi Stevens.

1. **Call to Order:** Jen Ruffner opened the meeting in the Stenson School library at 6:55 p.m.
2. **Secretary's Report:** Trina Janes asked the members to review the minutes from the April 4, 2017 meeting. Stephanie motioned for approval and Sev seconded. The April minutes were then adopted unanimously.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Vanessa shared the treasurer's report. We received \$160.30 from BoxTops for the second half of the year and received the \$500 Cultural Arts grant. Joe motioned and Sev seconded a motion to approve the April treasurer's report and it was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Bonnie and seconded by Sev to increase our long term gift by \$2500; the gift will increase from \$1500 to \$4000. The money will be donated to the new Stenson Maker Space. The Devonshire PTA donated \$3500 to their Maker Space. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **President's Report:** Jen Ruffner gave her President's report:
 - a. **Committee Chairs:** The PTA needs more people to chair the various committees for next year. Let Jen know which ones you are interested in chairing.
 - b. **Audit Committee:** The 2017 Audit Committee will meet in August to review the past financials. Members will include Karalee Robb, Trina Janes and Keval Amin.
 - c. **Thank You:** Thanks to our outgoing 5th grade parents, Bucky Hempen and Sev Elmayan.
5. **Principal's Report:** Sue O'Neil gave the Principal's report.
 - a. **Visitors:** Visitors have come to Stenson to see how the school integrates the use of iPads in the classroom. They leave very impressed with Stenson.
 - b. **Garden Club:** The spring garden club has started.
 - c. **Equity:** The school and district are having conversations about equity and want to ensure that sexual orientation and gender identity are embraced.
6. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. **PrePack (Jenny Kane, Chair):** The order forms have been sent home with the students.
 - b. **Restaurant Night (Keval Amin, Chair):** The Panera event was successful. The next restaurant night is at Potbelly on May 23.
 - c. **Cultural Arts (Wannapa Eubanks, Chair):** We have received the \$500 Cultural Arts grant funding. We need a co-chair for this committee next year. The annual showcase is in September.

- d. **Box Tops (Amy Van Aelst):** The total collected fell short of our goal.
 - e. **Board of Education (Bucky Hempen, Chair):** The board discussed a new program for student intervention and math learning concepts. OOJH will reduce from offering three to two levels of math. Joe Ruffner was sworn in as the newest school board member.
 - f. **Digital Media (Carrie Butera, Chair):** Let Jen know if you are interested in chairing this committee next year and helping with the PTs website and social media.
 - g. **Silent Auction (Joe Ruffner, Chair):** The event was very successful and increased the number and value of the items donated. The silent auction made \$6726.25. The online auction raised more money than the in-person auction for the first time.
 - h. **Teacher Appreciation (Michelle Harris, Chair):** Teacher appreciation week started today and runs through May 4. The PTA purchased a microwave and Keurig coffee machine for the teachers' lounge in lieu of giving each teacher a small gift. We will also provide lunch and baked goods during the week.
 - i. **Crossing Guard Appreciation (Bonnie Ognisanti, Chair):** We are awaiting the event date.
 - j. **5th Grade Party (Priya Amin, Co-Chair):** The party will be held on May 26 at Pinstripes.
 - k. **Ice Cream Day (Bonnie Ognisanti, Chair):** Ice cream day will be June 6. Volunteers are needed to help distribute ice cream at 11:45. We are purchasing ice cream from Oberweis.
 - l. **New Fundraiser Development (Sev Elmayan, Chari):** Sev researched costs for a fun run. Holding the event along the Skokie Sculpture Garden path will cost \$500 per intersection for security. We can hold the event on the Stenson property for no charge. We need a permit if we want to use a tent larger than 10' x 10'.
7. **Unfinished Business:**
- a. **Nominating Committee:** New officers were unanimously elected for 2 year terms Kandace Luskin as President, Stephanie Azen as Vice President and Bonnie Ognisanti as Secretary. They begin their terms on August 1, 2017.
8. **Upcoming Events:** The following are key upcoming events.
- a. Restaurant Night: May 23 at Potbelly
 - b. Board of Education Meeting: May 18
 - c. No School – May 29
 - d. Last day of school – June 6
9. **Next Meeting:** This was the last meeting of the 2016-17 school year. The next meeting will be held in September.
10. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m. after Sev moved and Bonnie seconded a motion that was approved unanimously. Following the meeting, the PTA held a pot luck.

Minutes prepared by Trina Janes.