

Robert Frost Middle School PTSA Meeting

Minutes: January 10, 2012

1. Bike Tour Proposal- Liz Feria, the parent of a Fallsmead ES student, presented a proposal for a community bike tour for Wootton Cluster. She indicated the goals of the bike tour are: community involvement, community awareness, increase funding for schools, decrease parent and educator fundraising efforts, and promotion of physical and mental fitness. The activity would involve on-line fundraising at each participating school, followed by a community bike tour. Liz previously approached the Fallsmead PTA, but they chose not to participate for several reasons, including the lack of volunteers. The web site designer for the project would charge approximately \$1000. The web site needs to be open for two months prior to the bike tour in order to allow friends and family to contribute to the effort. Karen Snyder indicated the proposal will need to be discussed at an executive board meeting.
2. Review of minutes from December PTSA meeting. We did not vote on the minutes because a quorum was not present.
3. Spiritwear (Dana Silverman)
 - a. We earned another \$135 from Spiritwear sales.
 - b. The \$360 used to purchase Spiritwear T-shirts for student awards should be moved to a different line item. They can be included in the Student Support line item. We do not pay sales tax for those shirts because they are not resold.
4. Treasurer's Report (Cathryn Chang)
 - a. The current cash balance is \$21,024.06.
 - b. In December, revenue was \$1621.25 (majority from PTA dues, dances, restaurant night, and directory commission) and expenses were \$304.25 (majority to staff appreciation and the last Spiritwear invoice).
 - c. We need to consult an accountant to help with various tax related activities, including sales tax for last year and this year. We will use \$150 from the Administrative Expenses line item to consult with the accountant and determine the extent of our needs.
5. President's Report
 - a. Mike Schoen of A to Z directories sent the directory agreement for next school year. Mike's message indicated there will be some enhancements to the on-line system next year. Based on our experience this year, we want to continue to use A to Z directories next year.
 - b. 5th grade orientation is February 9. Parents will be asked to provide name, address, e-mail, and student name at the orientation. We want to collect this information so the new PTSA board can send welcome information to the incoming families at the end of the school year.
 - c. The book fair is the week of March 5, which coincides with the 40-year celebration on March 8. Preparation for the book fair is going well.

- d. Geo Bee was last week (1st week of Jan). A 7th grader won this year. The students loved the T-shirts and gift cards. The remaining shirts can be used for the Spelling Bee, Reflections, and the individuals who represent Frost on the trip to China.
6. Principal's Report
 - a. Geo Bee was a success and the Spelling Bee is scheduled for January 25.
 - b. The next Principal/Parent breakfast is Friday, January 13. Representatives from the University of MD Admissions office will provide insight into planning for college and the admissions process. This particular breakfast is very popular, with approximately 150 attendees last year.
 - c. January 20 is a homework free day, marking the end of the 1st semester.
 - d. Exams begin Thursday, January 12.
 - e. The winter concert is Wednesday, January 11. There is an extra exam day this year. Students who are in the concert and have an exam scheduled for the next day can take that exam on a make-up day.
 - f. Frost is still enrolling new students. Twelve students have enrolled since the week before winter break. Dr. Jones is requesting another 0.2 FTE because of the increase in school population.
 - g. Dr. Jones spoke with the SGA today. They want to prepare a memory board. The board would be in an enclosed bulletin board in the cafeteria. The board would highlight special events from the year. There will be criteria for the selection of items to include.
 7. Executive VP Report (Karen Snyder for Lisa Denison)
 - a. Lisa is looking for ideas for the 7th grade spring social event, instead of a dance. Some of the current ideas are skiing or tubing, but PTSA insurance does not permit those activities.
 8. Wootton Cluster Report- (Karen Snyder for Nancy Deprey)
 - a. No cluster meeting since the last PTA meeting.
 - b. Rich Edelman will be presenting at the Board of Education for Wootton (Wed Jan 18). His testimony should be fairly straightforward (in support of Superintendent's proposed budget).
 - c. Wootton Cluster will be planning for advocating with County Council and state legislature in a couple of months.
 9. Old Business- None
 10. New Business-
 - a. Karen Snyder indicated we need to begin succession planning for next year's PTSA.

Submitted by- Kellie Schoolar Reynolds, PTSA Secretary