

Minutes – General Meeting

April 28, 2020

Meeting held via Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions/closures

President Renee Tisi called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. Quorum was established at 7:32 PM.

March minutes approved with none opposed.

President's Report

The Executive Board met last week to discuss moving forward in the remote environment. Renee also spoke to NJPTA regarding funds we had allocated for 2019/2020 events that we won't be able to use due to COVID restrictions. We will be able to use funds earmarked for these events at the time we are able to hold them.

Audit deadline has also been extended past end of July due to COVID restrictions. We will form the committee once we are able to get together.

Treasurer's Report

Ending balance is 19423.31.

Correspondence/Box Tops/Scholarship

Corresponding Secretary Dan Griffin reported that we cannot receive mail/correspondence because the school is closed.

Scholarship committee reported that, because we can't get mail from school, Committee Chair Elaine Griffin has opened personal email/address for scholarship applications. The Committee extended the deadline to ensure that we capture all applications. The committee will review applications and meet virtually to select winners.

5th Grade

The 5th Grade Committee is working to make contingency plans in the event that school does not reopen. Tara asked if the members in attendance are comfortable with the Committee providing the typical gifts and getting them to the children, if we aren't able to distribute in school. Members in attendance agreed that gifts should be provided and that the Committee can find a safe way to deliver the gifts. Awards can be distributed with gifts if needed as well.

The 5th grade gift to the school will be a portable sound system. The Committee will purchase the system but it can be held until we are able to deliver it to the school building. Custodians are working partial hours and could receive the system if it needed to be delivered while the building is closed.

The 5th Grade Party will be held once we are able, and could be held either at the school or offsite, depending on need and availability.

Baby photos will be put into online quiz that the class can access.

Yearbook

The deadline for purchasing yearbooks has been extended to April 30 to allow for home address collection. Custom pages are also due April 30.

Nominating Committee

No objections to any of the nominations for 2020 – 2021 officers. Dan Griffin motioned to accept the nominations; none opposed. Congratulations to the new officers!

All Other Business

Tricky Tray:

Co-Chair Hillary McWhorter reported that she is communicating with Nottingham Ballroom to secure an October date, given that COVID restrictions will prevent us from holding the event on May 1. All prizes/baskets have been moved to the storage unit in the interim.

Book Fair:

Hillary McWhorter is looking into an online Book Fair option to replace the in-person Book Fair normally held at end of school year. The Committee will also work to get a link on teachers' Remote Learning pages with recommended books for the grade level.

Cheesecake Fundraiser:

Michelle Grunbaum reported that the Cheesecake Lady is not able to hold a fundraiser this year with the current situation, but she is still interested in working with us next year.

Spring Gertrude Hawk Sale:

\$2130 profit was made from the spring sale. Altogether from the fall and spring sales we profited over \$4,000.

Teacher's Report

Teachers expressed appreciation for the support of all parents during the remote learning situation. Things are working well and routines have been established. Teachers encourage parents to reach out for any help or support needed.

Principal's Report

Mr. Bookholdt also thanked parents for remote learning support. Teachers and families have done a fabulous job and have come together in support of our students. Our Alexander community has a lot to be proud of. Let's continue to work together to keep children happy and safe. We are all understanding that this is a difficult situation.

Right now we don't know what the 5th grade moving up ceremony will look like. Virtual and other options are being researched in the event that school doesn't reconvene. Kindergarten Tea will likely be held virtually as well.

We may have some families in our Alexander community that have been impacted by employment loss. These are families who aren't normally receiving free and reduced meals at school or otherwise getting support.

Membership discussed what we can do to help families impacted this way. The PTA has restrictions in terms of what can be supported with PTA funds, but there may be ways to support families.

Mr. Bookholdt will place a robocall to the school community, asking families that need help to contact him. He can pass the needs on and volunteers can help source the needed support/items. This way the recipients can remain anonymous. During the robocall Mr. Bookholdt will also communicate that Alexander is accepting donations to support those in need in the community.

President Renee Tisi adjourned the meeting at 8:16.

Meeting attendees:

Chrissy Trank, Renee Tisi, Dan Griffin, Lisa Miller, Kristine D'Ambrosio, Colleen Callahan, Denise Wyers, Hillary McWhorter, Tara Sottong, Michelle Grunbaum, Lisa Miller, Joe Bookholdt, Ashley Reid, Danielle Wiltsey, Debbie Galant, Jenn Zodda, Miriam Chorba, Ken Szczek, Keri Carlton, Kim Jeanette, McWhorter, Lisa Miller, Marisa Pellitteri, Mike Ticehurst, Pam Davila, Salvatrice Ferraris, Dianne Wolochowicz, Megan Vizcarra

Submitted by Chrissy Trank, Recording Secretary