Minutes – General Meeting

January 14, 2020

President Renee Tisi called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. Quorum was established at 7:31 PM. Trish Pasternos motioned to accept. Hillary McWhorter seconded.

November minutes approved with no changes. Hillary McWhorter motioned to accept; Trish Pasternos seconded.

**President’s Report**

Membership has been down during COVID. Teachers have responded but will try to distribute flyers if possible. An updated MemberHub link was provided to room reps this evening and can be shared more broadly to help streamline the process.

**Treasurer’s Report**

See attached report for details. Moving to electronic payment system to streamline check requests and payments moving forward. The second signature requirement has been removed from checks to facilitate payments. Obtaining second signatures has been challenging during COVID.

**Correspondence/Box Tops**

St. Gregory’s reached out to Dan Griffin today regarding winter coats. The Knights of Columbus has an excess of winter coats that are available for any children in need.

**Candy Sale**

The Gertrude Hawk Candy Sale orders are due on Saturday.

**Pie sale**

The pie sale was a success despite sales being down during COVID. $180 profit. The PTA thanked Mr. Bookholdt for making tables available outside the school for pickup.

**Cheesecake**

Orders due Saturday for pickup on Friday, December 18.

**Chalk Me Up**

Tee shirts didn’t sell well and orders were not enough to be placed. May try this fundraiser again in the future.

**Dance It Up**

Dance It Up offered 30 minute virtual activities for children. The activity is free to us and we can charge what we like for the event. Concerns about the amount of virtual activity and proximity to the holidays. Will reach out to Dance it Up to see if we could hold the event in the spring so that we show interest and appreciation but timing is currently not right given the volume of activity taking place online at this time.

**Gift Cards**

Sales were down this year but still awaiting final numbers. The online system can be kept open for orders beyond the holidays to continue to fundraise.

**All Other Business**

Northeast Restaurant Direct has a fundraising option that Michelle has offered to coordinate if there is interest. PTA would receive 5% of orders through us and there is no cost to us.

A question was raised about holding online raffles for Tricky Tray items. Other schools in the district are doing this. The committee has looked into some online services and will continue to do so to find any opportunities. Chrissy Trank will explore with the township what licensure is needed should we move the event online. We have collected significant prizes for the in-person event that could be raffled and it would be nice to have an opportunity to distribute them.

Membership questions were raised to help facilitate. Could we use a google form to collect the information and payments instead of having people go through Member Hub? The PTA will explore options and also explore options for setting up a box in the atrium to collect information from parents. Additionally, the direct link will be placed on the PTA website.

**Teacher’s Report**

Parent-Teacher Conferences were held virtually and went well. Last year the PTA purchased a subscription for Brain Pop that recently expired, and the teachers were hoping it could be reinstated if possible. The cost is approximately $2950. The teachers use this service frequently and would appreciate the reinstatement of the subscription if the PTA could provide.

Dan Griffin motioned to provide; Chrissy Trank seconded. Mike Ticehurst will facilitate payment as soon as possible to ensure continuity of service.

**Principal’s Report**

Mr. Bookholdt thanked the Alexander community and PTA for the contributions for baskets for families in need; 10 baskets were delivered. Picture distribution went fairly well given that school operations only take place in the building certain days and some pictures weren’t able to be picked up yet. Will continue to reach out to arrange pickups. There will be a photo make up date but will be scheduled when the weather breaks to facilitate outdoor photos. A survey was distributed to the school community to assess remote learning. It’s great to see that children are still learning despite the remote environment. Report cards go live on the 21st. Mr. Bookholdt suggested collecting pictures of children learning remotely for the yearbook. Teacher of the Year nominations are being collected for consideration and can be submitted to Mr. Bookholdt until Friday.

Renee Tisi adjourned the meeting at 8:30.

**Meeting attendees:**

Renee Tisi, Denise Wyers, Hillary McWhorter, Chrissy Trank, Dan Griffin, Mike Ticehurst, Michelle Grunbaum, Salvatrice Ferraris, Joe Bookholdt, Teri Burke, Colleen Callahan, Trish Pasternos, Keri Carlton, Debbie Galant, Theresa Timian, Carrie Willis, G. Costello, Pam Davila, Jen Mirando, Jessica Castranova-Brooks, Valerie Zieniuk, Jenn Zodda, Lisa Gray

Submitted by Chrissy Trank, Recording Secretary

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