

Fremont PTA Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2011, 7pm

In Attendance – Tammy Bond, Cathy Herrmann, Martha Abney, Deb Genther, Antje McKee-Courcy, Sue Hinckley, Jennifer Rydeen, Jenn Brown, Shawn Perreault, Tammy Kitt, Camilla Fraize.

March's Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report was presented. The total deposits were \$1209.45 (Just Between Friends Reward, Cake Walk, Exeter Night, Ball in the House CD's). The total expenses were \$2,857.81 (Mr. Herrmann/Lowes Greenhouse project, Cake Walk supplies/game rentals, Mini Grants, lunch for BITH performers). The ending balance as of 3/31/11 is \$21,770.33.

Mini Grants – There were two up for consideration:

1. Mrs. Eichen was approved for a Mini Grant in the amount of \$214.75 at our last meeting. At the time she had a coupon that would give her free shipping, but found out after she was approved that her coupon would not work. She is therefore wondering if the membership would be willing to cover the unanticipated cost of shipping which would be \$32.21 making the grand total of her Mini Grant \$236.96. This was approved.
2. Mr. Fernandez is requesting \$210.35 to cover the costs to introduce screen printing to his 7th and 8th grade art students. Materials he will be purchasing include ink in various shades, a screen frame, and fabric color set. This was approved.

Spring Book Fair- The book fair will run from April 14th through April 21st. The schedule for volunteering has been sent out and the spots are slowly filling in. The theme for the book fair this year is Carnival, and this is the buy one get one free fair which will not earn the PTA any money, but is great for building summer reading libraries! Tammy reported that there will be a raffle for kids to enter where they can guess how many books will be sold at the book fair. Family night is scheduled for Tuesday the 19th from 3:30 until 8pm. There will be raffles, and possibly a couple carnival themed games. Tammy says that she is doing the Teacher wish lists different this time around to try and make it less chaotic. The teachers will choose their top 5 favorites for their baskets, and the remainder will go on wish lists which will be available for review by anyone wishing to purchase a book for a classroom.

Lowes Toolbox for Education – Mr. Herrmann has started to purchase some items for the project. Jen Rydeen reported that the Union Leader will be having a “Green Page” in honor of Earth Month and that they would like to come to the school on Monday to discuss the grant and the green projects the class has planned to include them!

Spring Fundraiser – The fundraiser has been turned in, there were a couple lingering orders but Shawn didn't think it would be a problem getting them out to include with the rest of the order. Last year, there was a total sale of \$13,109.00, leaving a profit of \$5296.21. This year the preliminary numbers are a total sale of \$13,199.00, with a profit of about \$5300.00 so it's on par with last year's totals. We will have more solid numbers at the next meeting.

Cake Walk – The Cake Walk was another great success this year! There were a total of 66 cakes entered this year! We received a total of \$103.50 in registration fees, and sold \$751.00 in ticket sales! There were \$168.37 in expenses this year which is a little more than last year because Jenn rented games from Grand Rental this year, but was well worth the extra spending as they were very well received! Jenn expressed her concern that when we started out this event three years ago, the intent was to make it a community event but not really a fundraiser. Since we raised the ticket/registration costs this year, we earned a lot more money than last year and it's becoming more of a fundraiser than originally intended. She wondered if we should either go forward with it as a fundraiser but designate the funds to a particular purpose, possibly the after school programs so people know that their money spent is coming right back to their children; or should we cut back the costs again so we won't be making as much money on it?

After School Programs – Jenn B. has secured 3 after school programs each costing \$7.00 to participate:

- April 22nd – Granite State Zoo
- May 6th – Curious Critters
- May 27 – Mad Science

Target Grants – Jenn B. reports that they are in the works, and need to be in by the end of the month. The grants are awarded in September.

BoxTops – There is a new sweepstakes going called “Be Kind to the Earth, Be Kind to Your School” sponsored by Hefty which can be entered daily at www.btfe.com to win 50,000 BoxTops (\$5000.00) for the school and a gardening kit for the winner.

Field Day – Cathy states the day is set for June 17th, the committee has met and all areas are now covered. She says that t-shirt costs have risen from \$7.00 last year to \$8.00 this year; volunteer and teacher shirts may be re-used as they have no year on them, so only shirts for new staff will need to be purchased. The committee decided against face painting this year as it just seemed too hard to appease everyone and keep the flow of the games consistent. The next meeting is April 21st at 6:30pm.

Artist in Residence – Ball in the House was a huge success! The PTA still has CD's for sale, and have sold 11 or 12 already. Shawn will hold on to them for another week or so and then return them to the band.

Father/Daughter Dance – Vicki and Melissa were not present but reported to Shawn that the date is set for May 21st, with set up on May 20th. Allie Burke will be doing the photos. We still need a committee for this event.

Other Business:

- Gift Cards – We had talked back in January about doing the gift card program again around graduation time. Jen R. reports that more vendors would be added this time around. Last time we made \$86.00, even though it was not a very well known program and there was a very fast turnaround, so it would be interesting how well it does with more time and promotion.
- Elections – Nominations will occur at the May meeting, and elections happen in June. Jenn B. announced that she will be unable to stay on as treasurer.
- Teacher Appreciation Week – May 2 – 6th. Shawn had considered giving the teachers a whoopie pie on one day, as she received a flyer with different varieties including personalization. The smallest cost was \$250.00 which would be too much for the budget. Shawn contacted Doreen Caswell from 11 Water Street about catering. She gave us a quote of \$109.00 for 2-3 pans of Lemon Chicken, 2 pans of Basmati Rice and 1 pan of a vegetable. Many thought we should offer a meat and a vegetarian option so Shawn will ask her to give us a quote on one of each of these. The membership voted to allow up to \$220.00 for these items.

The week includes:

- Sunday – invite people to come to school and do chalk art on the sidewalk to welcome teachers to school.
- Monday – Dry erase marker and gift certificate to 11 Water Street in Exeter
- Tuesday – invitation to luncheon with chocolates
- Wednesday – flower pots
- Thursday – baked items wrapped, raffle tickets to use at luncheon
- Friday – luncheon with raffles

The next meeting will be Thursday May 5th, 7pm at the Fremont Public Library.