

Fremont PTA Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 2, 2010

In Attendance – Kimberly Dyer, Antje McKee-Courcy, Breeda Royer, Jodi Donahue, Sue Hinckley, Suzanne Berry, Michelle Chasse, Laura LaChapelle, Nancy Bernhardt, Misty Keeler, Jennifer Brown, Jennifer Rydeen, Shawn Perreault, Tammy Bond, Brenda Silva, Elizabeth Torre, Bridget Paine, Jodi Donahue, Ulrike Hiltz, Camilla Fraize.

The minutes from August were approved.

The treasurer's report was presented and approved.

Audit – An audit was conducted on August 9th at 6:30 by Jodie, Faith and Joy. The group pulled receipts, and made sure they matched the books. They reported that everything looked good. This is required once per year per state compliance, though we're thinking about doing it every 6 months to give a cushion.

Mini Grants –

Carol Cohen put in a request that was granted in May for playground balls which haven't yet been purchased. Mrs. Cohen is not here this year, but Mrs. Jackson is requesting that we still get the balls; they will be distributed among the first grade rooms. The membership voted to uphold the approval.

Shona Emery, 4th grade teacher is requesting \$246.60 to purchase materials to create electronic portfolios for her class. The materials include 50 blank cd's (\$21.88), a digital camera (\$99.00), and white board slates (\$125.72). It was questioned whether the white boards were covered in the school budget, and whether we should approve materials that were "single use" and wouldn't stay with the class. The membership voted to approve the request minus the cd's in the amount of \$224.72 and pending determination on whether the white boards are in the budget and approval from the administration.

Welcome Back Luncheon – Tammy reported that the Dr. Suess inspired luncheon went very well and was well received. There were lots of member donations, and Starbucks donated tea and hot chocolate. Thanks to all who helped make this event successful!

Lowes Tools for Education Grant – Jen Rydeen reports that she and Shawn met with Mr. Herrmann about applying for the grant for the greenhouse project. Mr. Herrmann had lots of ideas for specific projects, Jen is going to write it up and meet with him again next week.

Parent Packets – The packets were much smaller than anticipated and Elizabeth Torre's cousin was able to get our copying (550 packets) done for \$79.87.

Fremont Day Festival – This event is September 18th from 9-6. Jen Rydeen talked to Sandy Matthew; the PTA will have a 10X10 space where we will have membership forms available, a BoxTops display (with product labels, collection programs information and sign up cards for store programs), a possible

raffle basket, lollipop tree with donation bucket and/or face painting. Jen thought it would be nice to have a cork board with pictures of past PTA events but the problem would be that we need individual parent consent for any kids in the pictures. Some present members had some pictures they would forward to Jen. She will be there around 7:30 to set up at the Historical Society; anyone who wants to help or volunteer to do face painting, contact Jen.

Fall Fundraiser – Meadow Farms packets are going to Cathy Tuesday, to be delivered to students Friday morning. The fundraiser will run September 15th – 29th. It was decided that again the 6th, 7th and 8th grade individual earnings will go to their field trip costs.

New School Stove – Elizabeth Torre met with principals and food service representative Janet. She got prices and found a 6 burner industrial oven with free delivery for \$1500.00. They can deliver September 9th or 10th. This would enable more varied and healthier lunch menus for our students. Shawn suggested that since we cut mini grants again this year from \$3000.00 to \$1500.00 that we could take that \$1500.00 for the stove and re-visit the possibility of more mini-grant money in January. Elizabeth offered to help raise funds to replace the money used for the stove but Breeda pointed out that we will be receiving an \$1100.00 check in January for BoxTops and that's not including what will come in from the summer collection. The only additional cost would be a hook up from a gas company that we're hoping we may be able to get donated. Elizabeth suggested we factor in a \$20.00 tip for the installer bringing the total to \$1515.00. Jenn reported that after all expenses were paid out on our budget, we had a balance of \$5,150.00; \$3635.00 would remain if we approve this and this doesn't include monies we would receive from BoxTops. This was approved.

Other Business –

- Sunny D program will happen again this year with bonus books for the top school.
- Rite Aid is offering a prescription transfer program where when an individual transfers a current prescription to Rite Aid they would earn a \$20.00 gift certificate and earn \$5.00 for the PTA. Each individual can use up to four coupons for a total of 80.00 to them and 20.00 to us.
- The State Convention is November 12th and 13th. The \$25.00 registration fees are already accounted for in our budget, but will the membership approve funds to pay for a hotel room for the attendees at an estimated \$99.00/night rate? The membership approved.
- October is NH Parent Involvement month.
- Breeda gave a rundown of our collection programs for new faces. She's looking for help to shadow the elementary program. Summer BoxTops collection is due September 20th.
- We will again run our PTA newsletter on the 3rd Friday of the month this year.
- Market America Fundraising – Michelle Chasse was here to present the Market America Fundraising program where they offer organizations the opportunity to own a website like a franchised owner would. The PTA would have a domain name such as "shopellis.com" where

parents can order Market America items or items from any of their 3,000 partner stores such as Target, Wal-Mart, ebay and Best Buy earning the PTA varying percentages on all purchases. Income is based on retail profit (products are purchased at retail price, supplied through us at wholesale price), and a points system that varies depending on the store. This program costs the PTA nothing to run; there are no minimum sales, and no fees. Michelle will send Shawn the detailed presentation to share with the membership and we will discuss the possibility further at our October meeting.

- Our next meeting will be Thursday October 7th at 7pm at the Fremont Public Library.