

MINUTES OF THE BRIDGE PTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on January 10, 2012 at 1:05 pm at Tricia Weisberg's home, 69 Prospect Hill Road, Lexington MA.

PTA Executive Committee Members Present:

Rebecca Reynolds Moore (Co-President), Justine Wirtanen (Co-President), Tricia Weisberg (Treasurer), Suzanne Lau (Secretary), Laura Schroeder, Stephanie Mitzenmacher, Victoria Campos, Sue Kingsbury and Cathy Smith.

PTA Executive Committee Members Absent:

Guorong Zhu

Guests Present: Nimisha Asthagiri

PROCEEDINGS

1. Welcome

Rebecca called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

2. Minutes for December 7, 2011 Executive Committee and December 21, 2011 General Membership meetings were unanimously approved.

3. Budget Review

Tricia reviewed the budget for 2011-2012.

a) Income from School Pictures of \$2093 was higher than expected.

b) Spiritgear had a net loss of \$413 on \$3.7K in sales, due to the over-stocking of water bottles, coffee mugs and sport sacks. These items will be sold at future PTA events. Sizing was variable (polo shirts were large and kids sweat shirts small).

c) Book fair was very successful with over \$12K in gross sales of books (net income around \$3K). Congratulations to the Book fair Committee for a successful effort raising funds to purchase new books for the library.

d) Five approved mini-grants have been submitted for reimbursement so far (including snow shoes for Mr. Bosbach). Mini-grant committee will set a deadline for submitting expenses for approved grants.

e) Teacher's purse – 20 teachers have requested reimbursements to date.

4. Winter Fling

Cathy will check with Letha Prestbo on the status of the Winter Fling originally scheduled for February 10. Depending on what has already been planned, PTA EC would consider re-scheduling this event to the spring at an off-site location.

5. Nominating Committee

PTA needs a nominating committee to nominate candidates for the election of officers to the EC next year: Co-President (2), Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President (5 or 6). Victoria and Suzanne will graduate to Clarke. Sue and Stephanie will serve the 2nd year of their current 2-year terms in 2012-2013. The following EC members intend to run for a second term: Rebecca and Justine for Co-President(s), Tricia for Treasurer, Laura, Cathy and Guorong for Vice President(s). Current parents interested in joining the EC

are Nimisha Asthagiri and Angela Chang. More candidates are welcome. MOTION by Trish to elect a Nominating Committee consisting of Sue, Victoria and Suzanne. Seconded by Laura, and unanimously approved. (Post meeting note by Suzanne Lau: The Nominating Committee must be elected by the General Membership on or before April 2012. Justine will schedule the appropriate General Membership meetings to elect a Nominating Committee, nominate candidates and elect new officers).

6. Parent Involvement in the PTA at Bridge
Victoria suggested and agreed to collect data on parent involvement in the PTA and their contribution to Bridge school. This includes volunteer roles, hours, fundraising etc. This information will be provided to Principal Colella.
7. Bridge/Bowman Renovation and 2012 Debt Exclusion Campaign Update
 - i. Building organization during renovation (starting in April, if the renovations are approved by voters on 1/24).
 - ii. The Gym will be divided into 2 areas. One area will be occupied by Music, Art and a classroom. The other area will be used for PE.
 - iii. The Main Office will be re-located to the stage in the gym.
 - iv. All other classrooms and the Cafeteria will function as is.
 - v. The Parent Resource room will need to be cleaned up and most materials stored off-site.
 - b) PTA sponsored and special events will be scheduled at other locations in the District: Hastings and LHS primarily. Reservations should be made as soon as possible.
 - c) Renovations are expected to be completed by Fall 2013. All lighting, and heating systems will be replaced. All classrooms will be re-painted. Windows are included as an Add/Alternate to bids.
 - d) Vote to approve the renovations will be on Tuesday January 24, 2012.
 - e) Volunteers are needed on 1/15 and 1/16 for a phone bank to call Lexington residents.
 - f) Volunteers are needed on 1/22 and 1/23 to make voter reminder calls.
 - g) Lawn party will be scheduled for Wednesday 1/18 or Friday 1/20 on Middleby Road.
 - h) YES for Our Schools Campaign will host a Volunteer Appreciation Night on 1/24 at Depot Square at 8:00 pm after the close of the polling stations.
8. Fifth Grade Committee
Fifth Grade Committee has a meeting scheduled at 1:00 on Wednesday, January 18 in Bridge School Conference Room 1 to discuss the planning and budget for the end of the year graduation events. Principal Colella will also attend.
9. Fundraising Update
 - a) Square 1 Arts raised \$4100 for ACT. ACT has several events programmed. Ami Stix has offered to organize a Zumba fundraiser.
 - b) Wilson Farms Day will be on March 21.
 - c) There will be a Wagon Wheel Fundraiser for the Wishing Well.

10. Wishing Well

PTA will promote the Wishing Well in both B2H and the PTA website.

11. School Technology Needs

Principal Colella would like the PTA to consider purchasing 2 ELMOs for two of the Kindergarten teachers this year (expense of \$2500). These funds are in the current year budget for technology expenses. MOTION to purchase 2 ELMO systems for 2 of the Kindergarten teachers by Victoria, seconded by Stephanie and unanimously approved by the EC. The EC further agrees to consider budgeting and purchasing 2 additional ELMOs in 2012-2013 school year for the Music and Art departments.

12. Calendar/Upcoming Events

- a) TBD January PTA Coffee Connection
- b) 1/24 Town Election with Vote for Debt Exclusion
- c) 1/24 - 2/7 Family Math Nights for different grade levels
- d) TBD Winter Fling
- e) 3/9 International Festival
- f) 3/30 5th Grade Shakespeare Play
- g) 4/22 Earth Day

13. Other Issues

- a) METCO Family Pals – Trish will check with Deb Sabin to confirm that all Metco students are now paired with a Lexington family.
- b) Playground Committee – more 4-square games are needed in the playground. This is a very popular game at recess. Trish will check with Chris Roy about painting additional 4-square courts.

14. Communications

EC discussed reducing the frequency of the B2H mailing from weekly to bi-weekly. Need to direct more parents to information on the Website. Nimisha briefly demonstrated new Wiki spaces on the PTA website that can be used by Committees for planning events and sharing information. The Front Foyer will be accessible at the end of school during the cold weather for parents to wait for dismissal. Parents are asked not to leave the Bridge school rug area.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Next Executive Committee Meeting Date: 1:00 – 2:45 pm on February 7, 2012 at Tricia Weisberg's home, 69 Prospect Hill Road, Lexington MA.

Minutes Submitted by PTA Secretary: Suzanne Lau