

PTSA Meeting Minutes March 17, 2014

Present: Deanna Louis, Kari Honer, Jill Plonka

The meeting was called to order by President Deanna Louis.

The secretary's report was approved as written.

Treasurer's report: Current balance is \$4778.02

Old Business:

Thank you: Mrs. O'Brien for the Xmas check, Mrs. Schmitz for sponsoring the books for the Family Fun Reading night.

The Family Fun Reading Night was held on Thursday, March 13. It was a huge success and very well attended. All books left over will be handed out to students by Mrs. Schmitz.

Thank you to Kelly Feryance for helping out with snacks for the Middle School Science fair!

Jill emailed another updated version of the bylaws adding Meeting Date criteria and Wisconsin Department of Revenue numbers. We have decided that it would be in our best interest to apply for a 501(c)(3) (tax exempt) status from the IRS. This will cost about \$400 but is a one-time fee. Kari will work on the 36 page application over the summer and look into acquiring the other WI Dept. of Revenue numbers we don't have (or if we need them). Jill found out from the Ithaca Foundation meeting that the reviewing process will take about 2 years. We established that the charter date of the Ithaca PTSA is September 1, 1984

Vending Machine: Deanna said the machine has still been working nearly perfectly and that it is mostly empty when she fills it every other day. She also discussed the USDA guidelines that limit the products that we can put in the machine since it is open during school hours. Some of those guidelines are no more than 230 mg of salt/serving, no high fructose corn syrup, and calorie stipulations. In 2016 these guidelines will get even more stringent and we will decide then if we still want to (or will be able to) manage the vending machine.

Semester Star program: We have several submissions for Semester Star Awards. Deadline for these will be Friday, April 11. Jill will email all HS staff to remind them of the deadline. We will select winners at the April 21 meeting.

Jill Plonka volunteered to oversee the snacks for the Elementary School Science fair on April 3.

Deanna will let Ms. Durkin know that the deadline for the Elementary Yearbook cover contest is Friday, April 4. Deanna will pick them up at this time.

Just a reminder that the last pick-up for boxtops etc. is April 30. Jill made up a reminder sheet to go home with each elementary student the first week of April. She will email it to Tezra for approval.

New Business:

Ithaca Foundation Report: Jill said the Ithaca Foundation had a meeting the previous evening (March 16). They only schedule meetings when they need to get things done so about 2-4 times a year. They are also in the process of acquiring 501(c)(3) status and it will be at least 6 more months until

their application is reviewed (they applied Nov. 2012). One of their fundraisers is the Kwik Trip scrip cards in which they earn 10%. Jill brought 3 projects to the table for them and "Joy's Bulldog Buddy Bench" will be their first project that they will purchase with Joy Richards' memorial funds. Annette Louis is going to get price quotes on it and it will hopefully be installed after construction is done next fall. The other 2 projects – a ball cage and new library shelves- will be discussed at their next meeting on Sunday, June 29 at 6 pm in the commons.

Susan Bloczynski has volunteered to take over the Elementary Yearbook from Deanna. Deanna will have her help with the process starting next fall and the following year Susan will completely take it over. Thank you Susan!

Deanna will talk to Melissa Sprecher about helping with the Staff Breakfast in May. It was decided to give night staff a \$10 gift card each to Subway as they are not available to partake in the breakfast. Kari will also get a price from the Richland Observer for a 5x7 thank you ad to all staff. Deanna will get the staff list to Kari for the ad.

One of the microwaves shorted out a couple weeks ago and Deanna picked up a new one for about \$50. She got the 2 year extended warranty on it and put a message on it that if it breaks to call her and DO NOT throw it away. Sue Meyer saved the glass plate from the broken one as it can be used in the old microwave.

The Yearbook order forms are out – cost is \$13 per book. They need to be back to Deanna (in the PTSA mailbox) by Friday, April 11.

Playground balls: Since the Ithaca Foundation may supply the ball cart the PTSA would like to fill it. We are looking at not just playground balls but footballs, soccer balls and basketballs as well. Deanna mentioned that Culvers may be able to donate some of their promotional playground balls. Since we've been collecting Labels for Education we may have enough points built up to get a dozen or so balls from that fundraiser.

We also discussed how to get teachers to attend the PTSA meetings. Deanna suggested that maybe if she gave a brief talk at the next teachers' meeting that they could possibly start a sign-up sheet or something like that and send/assign a teacher to each meeting.

Some fundraising ideas were mentioned. Since the elementary teachers are no longer doing the Rural Route 1 popcorn sale we may pick it up and then possibly distribute that money back to the teachers to pay for fieldtrips, classroom items, etc. We could also sponsor a craft show in the community gym in the fall around Thanksgiving – possibly coincide it with the Weston craft show – and allow Ithaca organizations to sell in booths at no cost. Papa Murphy's also has a pizza fundraiser and since they are coming to Richland Center (in the Hair Doctors building) that could be another source of income.

The next meeting is **Monday, April 21, 2014 at 6 pm** in the Commons.