

PTO Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 3, 2023

In person @ 8:35 a.m. – Sprague Gazebo

ATTENDEES (15 parents): Wendy Englebardt, Rose Nolan, Sneha Patel, Carolyn Kornwitz, Diana Anderson, Alex KhairKhah, Jenny Lee, Kelly Huang, Bryanne Tartamella, Allie Baker, Tomoe Harrison, Jill Wells, Hande Alparslan, Julie Covino-Vogel, Ceren Bayulgen

Welcome	Wendy Englebardt & Rose Nolan, PTO Co-Presidents
Treasurer Report	Jill Wells & Hande Alparslan
Principal Report	Leigh Petrowsky
Teacher Liaison	Moe Henzel (5MH)
General PTO Meeting	Wendy Englebardt & Rose Nolan

- School Council Vote
- Fenway Night
- Wellesley Wonderful Weekend

Creative Arts & Sciences	Carolyn Kornwitz
Garden Committee/Green Team	Tomoe Harrison
Spikey Sprint & Stroll (Fun-Run)	Liz Cheron
Social Committee	Dena Giggie & Tanya Johnson
Fundraising	Bry Tartamella & Sneha Patel
METCO/PAC/Social Media	Nicole Katz

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- 1) Jill Wells & Hande Alparslan - Treasurer Report
 - We reached over the budgeted goal. Still try to get company matches if you can! It'll be added as a reminder.
 - Fall Fest did great! All expenses are in and netted about \$1500. Made a lot of money but also spent a lot more because it was bigger this year.
 - No PayPal fees anymore. Recognized as charity for PayPal.
 - Sprague Care: There's some money in the budget to spend in the community but also think about community support.
 - Reminder: online form for check requests and reimbursements on Sprague PTO website under treasury but can still be submitted in person at the office although online is quick and simple!
 - We're finally refunded for bank service fee charges.
 - Preliminary annual budget by laws is approved.
 - Compared to last year our spend has not changed.
 - We increased the budget for CAS and for field trips.
 - Key changes in budget was to add books (independently chosen especially for 5th grade, to complement what they're learning).
 - Line item for landscaping is not budgeted, not covered by the town. We need cleanup for general grounds, mulching, flowers etc.
 - We opted for no water delivery. Have looked into what other schools are doing such as filtration, discretionary funds is kept for water delivery for school but it is pretty expensive.
 - Metco budget stayed the same.

- We can focus more on Stem workshops – parents with various professions host a workshop before school. Only a bit of money is needed to make it happen as cost involved would be very minimal, parents would just give their time. **We need someone to lead this?**
- Currently we are running a significant deficit and won't be covering our cost. This year we are at 27k deficit assuming we use it all up. This will be our second year with a deficit, unless we do an in-person auction.
- We can share the budget approved as is and so far it's in good shape as is.

2) Wendy Englehardt & Rose Nolan, PTO Co-Presidents

- School council Vote: ballot will be distributed tomorrow. We currently have 5 candidates and the results will be announced Nov.11th
- **Fenway Night & Wellesley Wonderful Weekend: please let us know if you'd like to lead one of these events or bring a friend.**
- **Fenway night:**
 - **Red Sox reached out to Allison from now therefore we should start planning from now for the Spring!**
- **Wellesley Wonderful weekend:**
 - **We'll need to reserve a flat-bed which must be requested early.** The flat-bed is decorated for the event and candy is bought for the day to "hand out" to the families watching the parade.
 - Sneha has the contact info: **We need someone to lead this event preparation!**
 - **Let's reach out to "All Hands-on Deck" list for help.**
- 1st Annual Sprague/Hunnewell Community Fun/Run/Walk Day – Wednesday November 22nd
 - Liz Cheron – Will lead this and Wendy will wear the Spikey costume.
 - **If anyone wants to join the team please contact her and Margaret.**
 - The tasks involved are bringing kids from different stations, handling the donation component which is the Wellesley pantry perhaps. It will be similar to the field day.

3) Carolyn Kornwitz - Creative Arts & Sciences

- Reached out to Potential speakers.
- Working on Chinese Dragon dancing troop – for some time in January '24.
- Lisa Moore – will clean up the nature walk, landscaping etc.

8) Tomoe Harrison & Jenny Lee - Garden Committee/Green Team

- We had a successful garden cleanup; it was a good turnaround.
- Only the strawberry patch is left to be covered up.
- We'll send a note in Feb. for next spring.
- 4 black & red tablecloths are purchased and in the closet for PTO to use.
- **Anti-idling signs are ready for display, for people not to idle on the car line.**
- We also have the **car magnets to stick on those cars that are idling** as we request that they stop their engines.
- The school grounds have too much garbage!
- We need to emphasize that picking up trash is important.
- **How can we promote this to our kids to pick up their garbage? Can we begin a campaign to keep grounds clean? (Julie, Tomoe & Jenni can lead this especially on Earth Day? Perhaps an activity, a class cleanup, during school?)**

5) Dena Giggie & Tanya Johnson - Social Committee

- no updates for now

6) Bry Tartamella & Sneha Patel – Fundraising

- RAFFLE - Looking at in person options. Have been in touch with all local places. We'll have most info such as rental space and food prices ready to share by next week.
- Some costs are not funded by PTO such as dj & décor.
- We have several options for the raffle such as: 1) to go fully online or 2) a blend of in person and online or 3) a full-blown online auction.

7) Nicole Katz – Social Media / METCO / PAC

- Social media:
 - Instagram followers have increased to 219!
 - A sign for car-line with QR code can be made to encourage people to join our social media (Ceren to make the sign)
- METCO – no updates
- PAC – parent council – voice to the district of parents with kids who get special needs.
 - Staffing may be a challenge (one teacher is on maternity leave) a few gaps may be there.

General Notes:

- Cradles & Crayons – Donations are still being accepted until Nov.16th
- The lost and found items are growing in quantity!
 - All lost & found items on school grounds have been collected, washed, dried and hung for families to pick up!
 - An announcement can be made and if they are not picked up before Thanksgiving break, they will be donated!
- Trash – becoming a major issue on school grounds.
 - We need better garbage bins, recycling bins and Signs with clear directions to recycle and put trash in bins! (we have a discretionary budget for signs) (Ceren will work on the signs).
- The Wellesley Spelling Bee
 - Jenny Lee, Allie Baker & Jon will represent the Spraguelwell Spelling Bee Team on November 8th at WHS at 7pm
- Wellesley Book Store – We'll have a 3-day event: they'll create a digital code for us that can be used for purchases in store and 20% of proceeds will go to the PTO.
- Wendy – a fitness class is being planned for a morning in Jan.'24
 - Fitness class at Momentum with Christina Hoff who is a wonderful fitness trainer.
 - \$30 per person and portion will go to our PTO.
 - This will be as part of our fundraising and community event.

As always thank you to the entire PTO team and everyone that attended the meeting today! We look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting for all your updates!

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