

Minutes from the PTA General Meeting on 9/21/11

Call to order

PTA co-president Barry Hudson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The following persons attended:

Dr. Mary Stephanus, principal

Sah Brown

Loren Brody

Lucille Hester

Eleasah Banks

Karen Bates

Brian Cohen

Molly Evans

Shari Gilbert

Candy Miles-Crocker

Dawn Ellis

Nadia Young

Greg Mize

Marisa Mize

Report from the Principal

Dr. Mary started the meeting with a report about the enrollment for this school year – 412 students instead of a projected 516. She then talked about field trips -- both planned and already completed. She ended her report with a description of the new wetlands garden being built under the direction of our science teachers.

Report on Planning Efforts of the New PTA & LSAT Leaders

Barry Hudson summarized the content of the planning meetings conducted in July and August by these two groups. Barry then, with the aid of PowerPoint slides, guided a discussion of goals identified by these leaders as worthy for PTA action during the upcoming year. Discussion among the attendees covered both needed projects (for example, a school website, PTA newsletter, and teacher support) and fundraising strategies (for example, ticketed musical events, car washes, supermarket coupons, and a PTA dues structure).

Treasurer's Report

Barry Hudson delivered the treasurer's report indicating there was a net balance of \$1672.70 after paying several outstanding expenses including a bill for \$6,081.49 to pay for the production of T-shirts, gym uniforms and bags. Discussions followed with respect how those clothing items can be sold promptly. Various other fundraising options were discussed.

Open Discussion

Wide-ranging dialogue developed among the various parents in attendance. Ms. Eleasah Banks suggested various methodologies for creating a communications network among parents, for example, Twitter, RSS feeds, and an electronic newsletter. Brian Cohen offered to handout PTA parent directory forms, membership forms, and 180 Fund forms on the school grounds and at the upcoming events. He also suggested it would be worthwhile to ask feeder schools to have parent captains who would serve as liaisons to Hardy. To gain some ground on these suggestions, three committees were formed and sign-up sheets distributed: Development/Fundraising Committee, Communications Committee, and Hospitality Committee. Our treasurer was chosen as chairman of the Development/Fundraising Committee. Eleasah Banks volunteered to chair the Communications Committee. Molly Evans, Shari Gilbert, and Marisa Mize volunteered to head up the Hospitality Committee.

Planning Future PTA General Meetings

Recognizing the limited turnout for this general meeting, alternative times for future meetings were discussed. Marisa Mize suggested that there be a contest among students whereby the class that produced the most parents at each future meeting would win a free dress day. The meeting ended with no firm plan for future meetings.

Adjournment: 8:30 p.m.