

Minutes
EAST PRAIRIE PTA GENERAL MEETING
September 2, 2014

Attendance: Kathy Byron, Claudia Lopez, Chris Oh, Lara Barros, Carmen Tan, Ludelle Castro, Angel Weiss, Ambi Krishnan, Patricia Hayes, Jill Kempner, Simone Warburton, Shannon Sensibar, Niki Antonakos, Cindy Payne

I. Call to order/Welcome: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

II. Secretary's Report: Reading/Approval of minutes from May 15, 2014

- a. Thank you to Beth Negronida for hosting the Installation dinner in June and everyone who attended.
- b. Thank you to Alma Likic and Chris Oh for completing the audit.
- c. Thank you to Shannon Sensibar, Ambi Krishna, Dorothea Dimoukinos, Jill Kempner and Marina Tamo for riding the buses during the first week of school.
- d. Thank you to Abby Tumang, Christine Trowbridge, Cindie Anderson and Beverly Mendoza for helping with the Boo Hoo Breakfast, held on the first day of kindergarten.
- e. Thank you to Shannon Sensibar and Melissa Artajo for all of their work on Pre-Packs this year.

III. Treasurer's Report

- a. Balance on 8/31/14 was \$8,431.63
- b. The audit resulted in a discrepancy that is possibly due to checks deducted twice. Chris is seeking out the assistance of our CPA, Sandy Ritter, to assist in this manner.
- c. Review of proposed budget for 2014-15. "Hospitality" will be added to the budget with a line item amount of \$300.
- d. Motion to approve the budget was made by Lara Barros, Shannon Sensibar seconded the motion.

IV. President's Report

- a. Committee guidelines and membership
 1. Kathy Byron expressed concern with individual members taking on entire events/committees without the help of other members. A minimum of 4 people should be on committees for larger events such as the Fun Fair and the Family Picnic. Committee leaders/Chairs are encouraged to draft help from other members. Also, please keep Kathy informed either through a direct email or cc on email at kbyroneps.pta@gmail.com.
 2. Committee leaders are encouraged to communicate the time commitment for their event to prospective members.
 3. The PTA leadership will help encourage members to join committees and work together as a team to plan events. They will also explore ways to make it easier for members to know what committees need help.
 4. The PTA officers met with our District PTA leader, Kathy Meitzler in August and completed the workshop Road to Success.

V. Principal's Report

- a. No one from the school was able to attend.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Fun Fair: Committee meeting set for 9/3/2014 where they will vote to approve contracts and expenditures.
- b. Box Tops: Nothing to report at this time.
- c. Fundraising
 1. Contract for Spirit-wear and Gift-wrap presented for approval. Shannon Sensibar motioned to approve the contract, Claudia Lopez seconded the motion.
 2. Spirit wear: The committee recommends that we use EPI (the same company we use for the pre-packs). There are benefits that come with using the company for multiple items. The committee plans to send out the order forms by the end of this week and also have forms available for curriculum night. The company would not send samples, but they plan to have computer images available on curriculum night.
 3. Gift-wrap sale: The committee recommends that we use EPI for the above reasons. They plan to send catalogs out the Monday after Fun Fair.

4. Scrip: The committee is exploring options for making it more enticing/easier for families to use the Scrip services. They are exploring the possibility of selling popular cards at the Fun Fair and other functions.
 5. Amazon Smile: Niki Antonakos reached out to the foundation to join with them and split any donations that come from this service. Members are encouraged to choose "East Prairie School" as their Amazon Smile charity. If members buy through the program, a portion of what they spend will be given to the PTA/Foundation.
- d. Safety
1. Bus riders: Shannon Sensibar created instructions for people who volunteer to ride buses next year to help explain the process. Riders are need for both a.m. and p.m. on two separate buses for a total of 4 riders/day.
 2. Traffic: There was discussion regarding the continued issue of safety with drop-off and pick-up. There is more concern with the safety at pick-up after school. A sheet was sent around for people to volunteer for the Health and Safety Committee. The committee will reach out to Mrs. Stein to explore solutions.
- e. Gym Clothes
1. Carmen is finishing up the numbers for the year. She is working on ways to encourage parents to order prior to the end of the school year so that costs can be kept down. Carmen orders a surplus to sell later.
- f. Membership
1. Pat Hayes reports that we now have 145 members, she is waiting for administration to finish 50 more.
 2. Pat will be at curriculum night to sign up more members.
- g. Cultural Arts
1. Jill Kempner attended the Showcase at the North Shore Center for the Arts last Wednesday. She passed around a list of the acts she was most interested in.
 2. A sheet was sent around to gain more volunteers to assist with this committee.
- h. Pre-packs
1. Shannon Sensibar and Melissa Artajo would like to thank all who helped with delivery of the school supplies to classrooms, including The Negronda-Saxe family, The Tammo Family, The Kempner Family, The Byron Family, Pat Hayes, Claudia Lopez, Ambi Krishnan, Elise & Daniel Damasco, Sofia Pereyra and Maryarita Kobotis. We couldn't have done it without you! All supplies should be delivered now. If anyone has any concerns or problems with their supplies, please don't hesitate to let us know by contacting smc_sensibar@hotmail.com or mrsartajo@gmail.com.
 2. Shannon shared that there is still a balance for pre-packs that should be settled by next month.

VII. Unfinished Business

- a. Gifts to school: The PTA is waiting for information from administration to move forward with the approved gifts.

VIII. New Business

- a. No new business at this time.

The next PTA Meeting will be Tuesday, Oct. 7th at 7 p.m. in the EPS Learning Center

