

PTO BOARD MEETING
Springdale Park Elementary School
6:30 PM EDT
Monday, March 18, 2012

In attendance: Principal Brown, Morna Gailor, Nicole Foerschler Horn, Heather Hallett, Jenny Lockwood (teacher rep), Irma Seabrook, Mary Stouffer, Doug Strohl, Bret Williams

Absent: Maria Rein

Vote: January minutes approved, 4-0-1

Approval of February minutes was tabled for next meeting, as some Board members had not yet reviewed them.

Fun Run Update (Heather Hallett)

A meeting with the representative from the company is set for tomorrow. Heather has a list of people who said they will help with the event, though she needs to find a chair. The event kickoff will be next week, with a pep rally on Monday or Tuesday. The run will be Wednesday, April 3—times TBD. “It will be over before you know it.”

Movie Night (Bret Williams)

Movie night is scheduled for Friday, April 19. We will be showing *Wreck it Ralph*. We have purchased a license to screen the movie, so it will be completely “legal.” The movie will be free to students; fundraising will be accomplished through concession and glow necklace sales. We will need volunteers to sell popcorn, hotdogs, and possibly hamburgers.

Discussion focused on the possibility of outsourcing food sales to the “hotdog guy” who sells at AYSA games and the King of Pops. While not as much profit would go to the PTO, fewer volunteers would be needed. And there would be no leftovers/waste.

TO DO: Morna to get contact and other information about the “hotdog guy” to Bret; Heather to get King of Pops business information to Bret; Mary to check with DHUMP about parking.

May Day Celebration (Maria Rein)

Maria Rein was not present at the meeting. No report.

General PTO Meeting (Nicole Foerschler Horn)

Nicole is looking at Thursday, March 28 as a date for a general meeting. [Secretary's note: Section 4.4 of the Bylaws requires that the nominations slate be opened at a general meeting.] The agenda for this meeting will include: the upcoming elections; school start and end times; a presentation by the Expansion Team; the impending loss of EIP teachers; and issues related to morning carpool and dropoff: unauthorized use of DHUMP lot, people dropping kids in the park-and-walk area; and people driving across the lawn of the carpool lane. [Secretary's note: the school's geothermal system is under the lawn in front of the Hirsch Building.]

We will conduct elections primarily electronically (via Survey Monkey); members may also vote in person at the Annual Meeting. The Nominating Period will open March 28th; the required 15-day voting period will begin April 18th; and the Annual Meeting will be Friday, May 3rd.

Nicole showed the nomination form used last year and recommended adding some questions about candidates' goals for the PTO. She asked all Board members to give suggestions to her or the Nominating Committee.

School substitutes (Heather Hallett)

APS is hiring a consulting firm to revamp the way they do substitute hiring. One big problem is that not every substitute request goes filled, leaving the school to scramble for coverage on the day when the substitute was needed. Another issue is that subs are not paid any extra if they work at a school with Extended Day, so schools like SPARK have a hard time getting good subs. One option is to look to those parents who are Level III volunteers; possibly have a supply of gift cards to thank those who volunteer for a day.

SPARK Partner Program (Nicole Foerschler Horn)

Nicole shared a brief update on the SPARK Partner Program, based on an e-mail she received from Karri Hobson-Pape. Karri, Mark Rebillot, and others have begun the work authorized by the Board the previous month, especially in the area of due diligence. A logo has been designed by Judi Weber and Dwight Smith; Todd Sharp has agreed to design a CRM system; Holly Painter and Christy Cannon have volunteered legal expertise; and others are getting involved.

Registration (Nicole Foerschler Horn)

Registration will take place April 1-4, from 5-7 PM. It is important to get families to re-register during this period, as the school's initial staffing allocations for next year depend upon registration numbers.

Nicole-Foerschler Horn recommended purchasing "SPARK 2013-14" wristbands to distribute at registration. The idea is that kids would wear them to school, encouraging others to get their parents to register.

Vote: authorize spending up to \$500 from the contingency fund on armbands – approved unanimously

Moshe Haspel noted that the need to have the "Affidavit of Residency" notarized caused issues during last year's registration [Secretary's note: this is APS, not school policy]. Parents would stand in line, only to learn that their papers were not in order. They would have to go to FedEx or somewhere else to get the form notarized and stand in line a second time. Some parents would make additional errors, forcing them to stand in line a third time. Moshe recommended finding notaries from among the SPARK parent population who could notarize the affidavits on site, possibly at no cost to PTO members and at a modest fee (either to the notary or as a donation to the PTO) for non-members. Nicole, however, felt that the notaries should be paid for their services. She recommended having the PTO pay for the service on behalf of members.

Vote: authorize paying up to \$150 for notary services failed 3-3-0.

TO DO: Heather and Mary to contact notaries whom they know.