

Present: Sonja Olson, Candy Burchett, Christine Molluso, Linda Laferriere, Bob Rafferty, Betty Hanson, Sue Cifferatta, Ralph Rothacker, Kelley Johnson, Amy Agan, Jenn Bradt, Jessica Rzeszotarski

The meeting in the Stevens Library was called to order at 7:02 pm by Amy Aldrich

Welcome and Introduction of Attendees

Presidents Report –Amy Aldrich

Approval of Minutes

- November Meeting Minutes were distributed and reviewed.
- Motion to approve minutes made, seconded and passed.

PTA Update

- Thank You -
 - To Christine Molluso for coordinating holiday shop and dealing with the rescheduling due to the snow day.
 - To Candy Burchett for planning the PTA holiday party.
 - To Kim North for coordinating the BOGO book fair.
 - To Colleen Grabb for her work on the monthly newsletter.
- Mrs. Hay is looking for gently worn clothing – socks, stretchy pants, etc.
- A nominating committee needs to be formed to nominate people to step in for next years available positions – President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and VP Homerooms are a few that will be needed.
- Child Safety Seat requirements have changed as of October 2009 – Booster seats are now required through age 8 unless the child is over 4’9” and over 100 lbs.

Upcoming Events

- Enrichment Clubs start next week – there are currently 180 students enrolled in 20 programs.
- Family Fun Night will be held on January 22 at 7 pm – there is a juggling group that will be entertaining the Stevens families this year.
- Dina Baker is doing a parent education class on January 25th – the topic will be Conflict Resolution.
- Founders Day dinner will be held on February 4th.

Principal’s Report – Ralph Rothacker

- Flu Shot Clinics – The district coordinates these clinics through 2 counties – Saratoga and Schenectady. The clinic was already held at Pashley for Schenectady County residents. Saratoga County residents will have a clinic held on January 21st from 4-8 pm at Charlton Heights. All residents of Saratoga County will now be eligible – look for information to come home in backpack mail. We will be looking for volunteers to help with the clinic – approximately 10 volunteers are needed per hour.

Officers Reports

Treasurer's Report – Bob Rafferty

- Account Balances: Checking \$11,614.23 and Savings \$9,305.86
- BOGO book fair – this is a not for profit endeavor for PTA.
- Transactions occurring over the last two months – we have 3 bounced checks from curiosity shops along with bank fees. We've had a total of 7 bounced checks incurred this year – some of which has been recovered and others are being worked on still to recover funds.
- Enrichment Clubs monies have been deposited and we are still waiting on a second deposit with the rest of the registration money.
- Family Dinner – we are on target for our income and are far below our budgeted expenses but all bills have not been paid yet.
- 5th grade party - \$395 raffle money brought in from the family dinner. Only \$47 was brought in from the holiday shop table. We only have brought in a total of \$442 so far and our goal is \$1200. The committee may need to look at other ways of fundraising. Expenses for the party are budgeted at \$2000.
- The Fall Fundraiser generated a \$6830 profit which puts us \$330 over our goal. We had voted to contribute half of our profit over our goal towards the agendas for the students – which will donate \$115 towards that.
- PTA memberships were right on target.
- School Spirit shop generated \$800 over budget – it is a nonprofit event for us so we invoice whatever the total cost for that is.
- Curiosity Shop – expenses have come in under budget and we believe most bills have been turned in. There were fewer classes offered this year which may have contributed to the lower expenses.
- Income tax report for 2009 have been completed and sent in.

Teacher's Report – Betty Hanson and Sue Ciffaratta

- Cut-A-Thon – We are still working out details to determine if will be considered a “fundraiser”. The plan is to bring in 5 or 6 hairdressers and a \$10 donation will be required to get your hair cut. Whenever there is any fundraising involved, the PTA has to give their approval if they are to sponsor it otherwise it needs to go through building council to find a sponsor within the school. We were hoping to do this in June; however, June is a very busy time for the student council and this is kind of a large undertaking for them. We may be looking to PTA to sponsor and help organize.
- PTA will have to vote on it if they want to be involved and perhaps it can be a combined effort of the student council and PTA.

Committee Reports

Enrichment Clubs

- Gretchen Belanger is handling registrations and will get a finalized list to the office this week. She is also getting all the logistics for the days of straightened out.

Family Fun Night –

- Will take place Friday January 22nd and we will be looking for volunteers to contribute baked goods.

YMCA – Jennifer Bradt – Child Care Coordinator at the YMCA

- The YMCA would like to increase our connections with the district schools. They thought having specific school nights at the Y for families. The Y would host a “gym and swim” night and the PTA could hold a bake sale if they wanted to join in to host a fundraiser. Cost would be free to Y members and other Stevens families would pay \$5 per family. If Stevens is interested they can send Jennifer possible dates.
 - Suggestion made to hold fundraiser to raise additional funds for 5th grade party – Sonja Olson will pass along information to 5th grade committee.
 - Motion made to continue to explore holding a Stevens Night at the YMCA.
 - Motion seconded and passed.

PARP – Parents as Reading Partners

- Lynette Albright is heading PARP again this year.
- Amy Aldrich and Lynette have had a discussion about the value of this event and are looking for feedback.
 - Question as to how other schools handle this program and their success with it. The national PTA comes up with the theme and is held in March.
 - Questions directed to the teachers as to value – parental involvement in tracking reading seems to be low overall, especially this year, and it may be the same for the PARP program. They did feel it was nice to have a weekly theme culminating in a fun activity at the end. The trivia questions were difficult because not all kids are at the same level in the various grades.
 - In the past some programs have been a hit and some themes are more involved than others so success and involvement has varied. Since it is a program that ultimately takes place at home it is hard to judge the success of it but there is the hope that it helps to promote reading.
 - Parents mention they felt the agenda is the best way to track reading and the summer program has also worked well for others. Since it does help to promote reading it would probably be a good program to continue in some manner.

**The Founders Day dinner will be held on February 4th
The next PTA meeting will be held on March 3rd at 7 pm**

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm

Submitted by Jessica Rzeszotarski
Stevens PTA Secretary