

Longfellow Middle School PTA General Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 4, 2016

Call to Order and Welcome

Elizabeth Hale called the meeting to order at 9:25 am. Approximately 25 people were in attendance – attendance sheets are attached. Upon Motion (Melissa Sporn) and Second (Beth Mortman), the minutes from the February 2016 meeting were approved without change.

Treasurer's Report

Lisa Hilliard provided copies of the budget including activities through March 31, 2016 and a comparison of the difference between January 31 and the budgeted expenditures/revenues. She also noted that of the \$10,000 approved by the Grants Committee for various teacher projects, only \$4,000 in expenses have been submitted for reimbursement. She will be sending teachers reminders to submit their receipts.

Fundraising Report

Delia Swigart provided the Fundraising report. Delia thanked the angel donor and noted that this will be the last year for this fundraising source. Judy Williams reported that thanks to the 155 families participating in the grocery store programs, the PTA has received \$5,300, mainly from Giant. Delia also discussed the revenue from other fundraising programs, including Amazon (\$4,000) and sale of spirit wear (\$2,000). On May 3rd, the PTA will hold one more restaurant fundraiser, this time at Chipotle.

Programs Report

Noelle Soobert and the following committee chairs reported on various PTA programs:

- Heritage Night (Anna Fernau) - scheduled on April 8th, at least 25 countries will be represented among the food donations as well as interactive cultural displays and other activities focusing on the good things that come from global diversity;
- Eighth Grade Party (Noelle) – scheduled for June 22nd, the theme is Broadway Bash, tickets will go on sale at the end of April and the committee is seeking volunteers interested in chaperoning, fund raising, decorations, and food and beverage selection/provision;
- How to Thrive at Longfellow (Melissa Sporn) – scheduled for April 28th, the event will be for parents only, will include performances from the choir and band, and there will be five to six students available to answer questions;
- Skate Night (Jennifer Jackson) – rescheduled for April 15th at Skate Quest in Reston;
- Longfellow Love (Elizabeth) – Eighty-five families have donated approximately \$8,000 to the program for distribution by the counselors to Longfellow families in need (which works out to about \$170 per family), there will be a push in the spring for additional gift cards to help these families over summer break;

- Lancer Prancer (Trisha Downey) – the PTA is working with the National Junior Honor Society, the winner will get a mini iPad, there will be gift cards for the winners of the relay, and a raffle, the race t-shirt was designed by an 8th grader;
- Eco Schools (Elizabeth Hale) – the committee worked hard on the numerous steps necessary to receive the Green Flag certification from the National Wildlife Federation. Elizabeth also discussed Terri Harley’s gardening club work on the grounds, courtyard, and front flower beds and the large amount of materials collected during the electronics recycling day.

New Business

- Election of Nominating Committee (Trisha Downey) – the committee is making progress in identifying candidates for next year’s PTA Executive Committee.
- Book Discussions (Elizabeth) – in addition to the discussion of the book *How to Raise an Adult*, by Julie Lythcott-Haims immediately following the PTA meeting, the PTA will hold a discussion on the evening of April 12th and the Safe Community Coalition is sponsoring an evening with the author on May 2nd.
- Teacher Appreciation Week (Elizabeth) – During the week of May 1, students and parents are encouraged to write thank you notes to the teachers and the PTA will be holding a lunch. In response to a question Elizabeth noted that if parents want to give specific teachers a gift they can spend no more than \$25 (so a Groupon for an item worth more than \$25 is fine as long as the cost of the Groupon to the parent is \$25 or less).

Action: Upon Motion (Melissa Sporn) and Second (Laurie Plishker) the meeting was adjourned.

Maryelena Zaccardelli, PTA Secretary

The minutes were:

Approved as submitted

Approved as corrected

Date: Monday, May 23, 2016