

Longfellow Middle School PTA General Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 8, 2016

Call to Order and Welcome

Elizabeth Hale called the meeting to order at 7:22 p.m. Approximately 20 people were in attendance – attendance sheets are attached. Upon Motion and Second, the minutes from the November 2015 meeting were approved without change.

Treasurer's Report

Lisa Hilliard provided copies of the budget including activities through January 31, 2016 and a comparison of the difference between January 31 and the budgeted expenditures/revenues.

Fundraising Report

On behalf of Delia Swigart, Lisa Hilliard provided the Fundraising report. Lisa first thanked the anonymous angel donor for the matching contribution which together with the contributions of others totaled \$11,000. Due to this donor and the 435 families who contributed during the year, the Invest in Longfellow Campaign has exceeded the \$50,000 fundraising target. Longfellow has 155 families participating in the grocery store rebate programs and the programs have generated approximately \$3,000 in revenue. Lisa also reported on revenue from other fundraising programs, including grocery store rebates (\$3,000), Amazon (\$3,000) and Shutterfly (\$300). 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:

- Curriculum Night (Laura Murray) –scheduled for February 11th. The PTA will sell food, drinks, and Spirit Wear and will run an information table;
- Eighth Grade Party (Christie Garziona) – scheduled for June 22nd, the committee is seeking volunteers interested in 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;
- Hospitality – volunteers are needed to provide food for the February (chili) and March (baked potato bar) teacher appreciation lunches, there is a sign-up genius;
- Heritage Night - scheduled on April 8th, plans are underway including a posting a world map where all students can use push pins to show their heritage, and a fashion and talent show put on by the students. Volunteers are needed, please watch the newsletters;
- Skate Night – rescheduled for April 15th at Skate Quest in Reston;
- Longfellow Love – Eighty-five families have donated approximately \$8,000 to the program for distribution by the counselors to Longfellow families in need;

- Tickets/Gift Cars for Teacher Appreciate – families are invited to donate tickets and gift cards to the school to be distributed to the teachers. Distribution may be through random drawings or if last minute, contact Noelle who will find interested and available teachers;
- Eco Schools (Elizabeth Hale) – the committee is working on receiving Green Flag certification from the National Wildlife Federation.
- Food Recovery Program (Frances Wilson) -- as part of this program Longfellow donates 10-15 pounds of eaten food a week to the food pantry;
- Safe Community Coalition (Melissa Sporn) – a book talk by the author of How to Raise an Adult is scheduled for May 2nd and tickets are on sale.

New Business

- Election of Nominating Committee (Elizabeth Hale) – Trisha Downey from Chesterbrook and Madhu Kanigicheria from Haycock have agreed to head the Nominating Committee for next year’s PTA Officers. Upon Motion (Melissa Sporn) and Second (Laurie Plishker) their selection was approved.
- Spanish Exchange Student Program – representatives provided information regarding hosting an exchange student this summer and/or going to Spain as part of the program. They left detailed information with Elizabeth Hale.
- Resolution regarding the Gun Store Free Zone – In September 2015 NOVA Firearms opened a gun store within 1,000 feet of Franklin Sherman Elementary School which is within the Federal Gun-Free School Zones Act but allowable under a private property exemption to the law. Concern about the safety of students has prompted Franklin Sherman Elementary School and Churchill Road Elementary School PTAs have adopted resolutions supporting the establishment of a Gun Store-Free School Zone and the relocation of NOVA Firearms outside of that zone. Upon Motion (Laurie Plishker) and Second by (Beth McDondald), the attached resolution was unanimously approved by PTA members.

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, April 3, 2016