

Oregon PTO Meeting

October 7, 2003

6:30 P.M.

Minutes

Attendance: Kris Pearson, Jamie Okonek, Peggy Bakken, Janine Bessemer, Mary Jo Romero, Britney Smith, Amy Miller, Donna Prew, Teri Mills, Jane Peschel, Amy Hermus, Gauri Bansal, Sandy O'Malley, Kitty Haas, Sheryl Clayton, Carrie Janes, Pat Wilkening, and Mike Kiffel.

Secretary Report

Janine Bessemer made a motion to approve the September Minutes; Kris Pearson seconded. Approved.

Treasurers Report

Jamie Okonek reported that the PTO received \$200 in donations. She recorded them under General Donations instead of Fund Raising. Kris Pearson made a motion to approve the Treasurers Report; Mike Kiffel seconded. Approved.

Fund Raising

Oregon Apparel Sales: The issue of whether or not to sell Oregon Panther sweats and t-shirts arose. Amy Hermus mentioned that in the past, these sales did not generate a lot of income, but the PTO could sell them as a convenience for parents because it's difficult to find them since Ben Franklin closed. Amy suggested selling the items at cost. Some were concerned that because Oregon apparel was the fund raiser incentive this year, selling the items might make people less inclined to sell fund raiser items in the future. The group thought it would be best to hold off on any sales until the beginning of the year. *(Note: Members continued this discussion by email in October. If the PTO is going to sell apparel, we need a volunteer to lead the sale.)*

Fund Raiser Pick-up, Saturday October 18: Amy Hermus announced that the pick-up time has been moved up to 7:30 a.m. to accommodate people who work; it will run until 11:00 a.m. Students who earned water bottles will receive them there; those who earned apparel prizes can order them on site and will receive them in November.

Fund Raiser Bonus Prize: The PTO earned \$400 from M&M in educational insights for selling. We can use this to receive \$400 in pizza & carnival rides for Family Fun Night, or Jane Peschel asked about more die cuts, which are popular with the teachers. We decided on die cuts.

Kohl Center Fund Raiser: Donna Wright was unable to attend, but sent an update about the PTO's application to sell concessions at the Kohl Center. The application was accepted by the UW Athletic Department. If we agree to the UW contract, we would sell at all UW Men's Hockey games (Fri. & Sat. nights). In summary:

- PTO would get 10% of sales (approximately \$2,000 in total sales per concession stand; we'd get 10% -- \$200);

- A maximum of 10 people would need to work at each game (Donna says we can have as few as six);
- Volunteers would work approximately 6 hrs. each, arriving 2.5 hrs. before the game and finishing before 3rd period;
- Volunteers can watch the game when it's not busy and can stay until the end after finishing their shift;
- Volunteers must be 16 or older;
- Approximately five volunteers need to go through training prior to working; one trained person needs to be in the booth at all times;
- Total games this season: 21;
- Approx. money raised if we work all games: \$4,200

The group was concerned that this was too much work for too little money. There was also concern that we would burn out our limited volunteer pool – will volunteers still work at the Art Fair, Science Fair, and other time consuming events if they worked at the Kohl Center? On the other hand, we could potentially draw on a whole different group of volunteers (i.e. dads who are interested in the games). Because the first hockey game is October 28, we decided to get more information from Donna, then vote by email.

Social

Mary Jo Romero asked about purchasing inexpensive flatware to use at the Teacher Potlucks held four times a year. Social has a budget of only \$750. Gauri Bansal suggested she check a restaurant supply store in Madison called Hobarts for inexpensive flatware. Mary Jo checked prices at Sam's Club and can purchase flatware for 100 people for approximately \$50. Considering the low cost, Jane Peschel made a motion for Social to purchase flatware, not to exceed \$100. Amy Hermus seconded the motion. Approved.

The first Teacher Potlucks will be on November 13 & 20 at Prairie View.

Publicity

Peggy Bakken reminded the group that the deadline for articles in the school newsletters is the 15th of each month. The group also thanked Mike Kiffel for his excellent work on the PTO web site redesign.

Artist in Residence

Jane Peschel noted that the PVE Artist in Residence, Sue Hulsether, needs 10 percent down payment before beginning work there. Teri Mills mentioned that Courtney Odorico is collecting construction materials from NKE students and will begin working on a project this fall.

Art Fair

Raandi Schmidt requested the list of Art Fair volunteers for NKE.

Science Fair

Nothing new to report

Assemblies

Britney Smith handed out a list of Assemblies for the year. Because the group is under budget, they're considering purchasing jump ropes for each child at the Jump Rope Warrior assembly on November 24. If not, they'll consider adding another assembly. For the Professor Numbers assembly, Jane Peschel suggested using the PVE auditorium.

Old Business

Family Fun Barn Dance: Because Eugster's increased its price to \$6 per person (food sold separately) we decided to cancel the Fall Barn Dance. We discussed a number of different locations, but couldn't find one big enough for 500 people. Next year, Amy Hermus will call Eugster's in the spring to check prices for next fall. Mike Kiffel mentioned that a number of other PTOs use their Fun Nights as fund raisers (raffles, silent auctions, fun runs, etc.) The group decided to table a Fall Fun Night this year for lack of planning time. In March 2004, we will start planning for next fall. We will schedule a special Board meeting to look into options for the event.

New Business

Enrichment program: Marie Christianson from the PVE health office passed along a flier about a half-day enrichment program offered by the Stoughton After School Club (ASC) on a day when kids didn't have school. She wondered if the PTO would be interested in doing something similar. Teri Mills said she would pass it along to the Oregon ASC.

Memory Books: Mary Jo Romero reported that in the past, PVE received approximately 20-30 extra memory books for children who couldn't afford to purchase one (Teri Mills confirmed the same for NKE). This year, the schools will not receive these free copies. PVE secretary Nancy Outhouse wondered if the PTO could purchase Memory Books for children whose parents did not purchase the books. She is trying to negotiate a special price (full price is \$5.95); we would need a total of 40-50 for both schools. Mary Jo will report back next month.

Adjourned: 7:45 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 4, 6:30 p.m. at NKE library