

MEETING PARTICIPANTS

President Liz Rizzo, Vice President Beth Felix, Secretary Jennifer Duby, Fred Bender, Sarah Jeror, Sarah Schneider, Andrea Patnode, Lois Stenger, Shara Buffington, Kris Briand.

CALL TO ORDER

President Rizzo called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS**Secretary's minutes**

Sarah Schneider made a motion to approve. Sarah Jeror seconded. Approved.

Membership

Membership coordinator position is open. Amanda Charbono must step down. Liz Rizzo is stepping in for now. 119 members, 38 were men. Received 46 new memberships on Fall Family Fun Night. Sarah Jeror asked what position entails. Maintain database of members with contact info. Keep track of who uses email and not. Communicate lists of volunteers to volunteer coordinator Sarah Schneider. Explanation of Just Between Friends website, which is PTA program that is supposed to help manage membership database but is not user-friendly. Liz will be attending PTA convention in a couple weeks, where they will have a presentation on Just Between Friends. Sarah Jeror offered to discuss the position once Liz learns more about Just Between Friends.

Treasurer's report

Karen Schifferdecker unable to make meeting. Liz went over the budget. FFN brought in \$109 from bake sale. Membership dues collected is \$590. Fundraising sold over \$6700, profit of over \$3100. \$434 in donations. Approval of budget pending.

Shara Buffington asked what PTA has as goal for fundraising. Liz answered about \$12,000. Raises question of whether to have spring fundraiser. We have not raised enough to do the programs we have planned for this year. No one suggested to cut back on programs.

Principal's report

Justin suggests to ask your kid about Veteran's Day gathering they had Thurs Nov 10. Simple but meaningful gathering. They walked up to Veteran's Memorial, sang songs, read poems.

Despite that we have been identified as a school in need of improvement, our NECAP scores are 39th best in state.

Barbara Tremblay is retiring at end of school year. School Board is deliberating how to move forward.

Leadership team would be willing to come to a PTA meeting to present info on Renovation plan for HS.

End of Day release procedure. Justin spoke to teachers and staff about what was discussed at last PTA meeting. Releasing from playground gate is problematic b/c of play time issue. (Parents who let their pre-elementary kids play on playground while waiting for bell to ring.) If want to continue that, must continue release from kinder door. It would be too much traffic, too confusing to keep track of who is released from school but still playing on playground and who is not yet released. Releasing from Canaan side would have too much traffic going by kinder windows, too distracting. Justin will be working with Dave Saladino, who does traffic patterns, to see if he can help come up with other

solutions. Best plan for now to continue status quo, but slow down kids coming out door and make sure they say they see ride etc.

Picture Day - Class pictures did not come out according to company's standards. They will retake in spring or create composites.

Family Fun Night report

Very successful night. All 95 bags were given away. Kids had a great time. Huge crowd. No issues or problems. FD made a great appearance.

NEW BUSINESS

Garden club

Beth Felix trying to put in 2 gardens; wildflower and vegetable. Farm to School program from Hartland provided Beth with wonderful ideas, book and resource ideas. They have a grant we can apply for. Four Winds has grant also. Want to put in blueberry bushes, birdfeeders. A garden bed for each grade for kids to maintain. Each class have parent helper to organize. Farm to School had idea of summer camp, field trips to e.g. Cedar Circle. Possibility of working with Shara Buffington to start a compost. Window boxes in each classroom already growing plants. Farm to School would love to come to a PTA meeting.

January FFN Talent Show

January 20 snow date Jan 27. Raffle Baskets. Beth not in favor of doing baskets again b/c people d/n donate. Suggest 50/50 raffle instead. Discussion. Beth Felix agreed to organize FFN. Liz will compose note for Justin to send home about baskets. Sarah suggested starting now to remind people; also reminded that teachers put in reminders in class notes. Babben suggested including it in the Hoot. Sarah asked if do 50/50 also. Discussion. Agreed to do 50/50 as well as Raffle Baskets.

Second grade classroom has asked for CD players for classroom for books on CD.

Liz had info about MVPN parent series. Liz attended Why Think About This Stuff Now lecture. Liz encourages people to like MVPN on Facebook or join Enfield Listserve to find out schedule of parent nights. Next one is December 7, titled Just the Facts Ma'am: knowing the law about drugs and alcohol. Location will probably be MVRHS, childcare and meal provided. Canaan prosecutor Chris O'Connor will speak.

Fundraising Ideas

Do we need to do another fundraiser? Or do we pare back budget. Discussion.

Babben gathered some ideas:

Auction. Did it in past, raised several hundred \$.

Each classroom did project e.g. quilt.

Bake sale

Something similar to Gingerbread Festival. (auction by The Family Place of donated home made gingerbread houses). Do something similar with chocolate

Chocolate bars

School-themed stuffed animals

Fleece blankets

Yankee Candle

Pizza fundraiser - Joe Corby Pizza

Sarah Jeror suggested Close Buy. Catalog fundraiser from Maine. Not sure if they would do NH. Beth said there is a NH/VT catalog fundraiser that includes King Arthur, etc.

Shara said Canaan preschool raffles off cord of wood. Wood is donated, so pure profit. If wanted to do spring, could find someone to donate mulch, topsoil etc.

The Simple Gifts Project. Catalog fundraiser, but you don't buy a product. You buy Saving a Child's Sight, Malaria Medication, etc, for kids in developing nations.
Scratch Card. Scratch the ticket, amount is revealed, that's how much you have to donate. Receive a booklet of coupons for scratching.
Spinner. Same idea.
Stuck for a Buck. Selling strips of duct tape. Duct tape VP to gym wall. Several ideas similar to this.
Justin pointed out would not be appropriate for this age group.
Beth suggested soliciting items from area businesses to raffle off.

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Sarah Schneider moved to adjourn the meeting.
Babben Kulbacki seconded the motion.
President Rizzo adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.