

AGS PTO GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

May 21, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm. Board members present were Lori Kessler, Ann Gerardi, Cathy Dremel, Denise Bautch, Mary Collins, Jennifer Tonn, Lisa Foydel Kramer, Sandy Miller (Principal), Sandy Smith (Teacher Representative). Guests included Kate Doesburg.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The minutes from the March 19, 2009 general meeting were reviewed. Cathy Dremel made a motion to approve, Lisa Foydel Kramer seconded. All in favor.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Lori Kessler reported that the sign-out sheet for the PTO equipment is being used. Two 10'x10' canopies are available for PTO and school use. Chris Winkle provided a Book Fair update (see attached) which was discussed among the board members. It was agreed that the Book Fair committee would request that Scholastic provide more Caudill award books. Jennifer Tonn made a motion to use Scholastic next year, Denise Bautch seconded. All in Favor. Tonia Pringle and Julie Kling will coordinate Market Day next year.

Kate Doesburg reported on "Safe Routes to School" (www.saferoutesinfo.org), which is a national program and is already part of Batavia's comprehensive plan. The goal of this program is to encourage kids to walk or ride bicycles to school to help alleviate issues with congestion at pick-up and drop-off. Mrs. Miller suggested forming a committee within the PTO to work with the Board of Education and draft some possible solutions to the traffic congestion. Parental concerns that deter allowing children to walk or bike to school include weather, unsafe drivers, speeding traffic, poor sidewalks. Kate Doesburg will get more info on the Walk to school event on October 7, 2009. Carpooling would also be encouraged.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Ann Gerardi reported that, per Mrs. Krachtus, our school picture contract with Lifetouch runs through 09/10 year, and they will not do a family picture night. Gator Gallop is scheduled for 9/25/09, and Ann will get a letter out to the teachers before the end of the year. There is lots of enthusiasm for having the Gallop on a Friday.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Cathy Dremel expressed some concerns about the transparency of the PTO's spending policies. Discussions were held among the board members. It was suggested that the PTO should review the spending policies & procedures: when to get bids, etc. The PTO bylaws address this issue, with purchases over \$1000. Ann and Lisa suggested that we publicize RFPs on the website and in the Gazette when we are expecting to make a large purchase/expenditure.

There were lots of favorable comments regarding the proposed budget. The board members discussed some of the specific items in the proposed budget, including standardization of parties and the 5th grade party. Cathy reported that standardization of parties has teacher and parental support. Marcie Mefford is the head room parent coordinator next year, and will handle this distribution of party supplies, etc. Mrs. Miller suggested we set a \$6 per pupil amount for the 5th grade party. As a school, the administration and teachers agree, the 5th grade party should only be a slightly enhanced party, not an over-the-top blowout. The staff works hard to keep the 5th graders under control towards the end of the year so they have an orderly exit from AGS. Some of the board members will meet with Marcie to discuss parties during the summer. Mrs. Miller asked that we put a \$300 line item back in the budget for signs for Character Counts/PBIS. Lisa Foydel Kramer made a motion to approve the budget as amended (underlined above), Jennifer Tonn seconded, all in favor.

Cathy reported after the meeting was adjourned that there was an error in the budget spreadsheet that was voted on during this meeting, and that the special appropriations line item was omitted from the total expenses. Cathy suggested we remove the dollar amount for special appropriations to make the budget balance. Denise Bautch

made a motion to approve the budget as further amended (three underlined amendments), Jennifer Tonn seconded, all in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Denise Bautch provided the financial report through May 21, 2009 (see attached). Denise upgraded the QuickBooks program.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Sandy Miller thanked everyone for the retirement party. Teacher Appreciation week was wonderful. Field Day will be June 1, all help is appreciated. Registration packets will be out this week. Open houses were well attended and went well. Commemorative bench is installed in front, surrounded by flowers. Another bike rack would be a good. Ms. Erickson will move to third grade next year. Some room relocations will occur. AGS website being developed – Sandy and Cindi are helping with the ideas.

COMMUNICATION'S REPORT: Jennifer Tonn reported that the PTO booklet is done. Small business Expo has three vendors signed up so far. Directory contest winners: 1st place: Angela Kilbride, 2nd place: Hannah Tonn. Flower sale went very well, with a \$3100.50 profit. The PTO gets a kickback for referring another school. Some flowers are still for sale. Jennifer expects results to be even better next year. The PTO will get bids from 3 vendors next year. Cathy Dremel wants to take over organizing the flower sale after next year.

WAYS & MEANS REPORT: Lisa Foydel Kramer reported that 44 tickets have been sold so far to the Cougars game. Need to follow up w/ Dominos. One more market day on June 3. Cartridge recycling is still up in the air.

CLASSROOM SUPPORT REPORT: Amy Moore was unable to attend, but wanted to report that she needs volunteers for new family tours. Promote the ice cream social heavily on the first day of school and at the meet greet and find your seat and school kit pick-up day.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT: Lisa Foydel Kramer made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 9:23pm, Ann Gerardi seconded, all in favor.