



General Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 10, 2015 6:30PM
JB Watkins Elementary School Cafeteria

Meeting Minutes

The General Board Meeting of J. B. Watkins was called to order at 6:35 pm on February 10, 2015. The following people were present: Maggi Lewis, Brittany Krebs, Shelley Neofotistos, Dana Gates, Amy Shutts, Christan Martin, Mary Patterson, April Maurer, Karyn Andersen, Kimberly Cousins.

CALL TO ORDER

Maggi Lewis, president, called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Amy Shutts made a motion to approve the January 2015 minutes. Dana Gates seconded the motion. The motion passed and minutes were approved as written.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Shelley Neofotistos, Treasurer, asked administration for the wish list from the school so that the PTA can provide funds for those items. Administration provided a list of items that are part of their "wish list", checkmarks had been made by items they would like to move forward with. They still have about \$600 left of the \$3300 budget given to them so they are going to reevaluate and potentially add more things. There was a general discussion around parameters for the Wish List Items and making sure that things were "fair" across the board. Maggi Lewis, PTA President, felt we should better define what the PTA's role was with funding for wish list items. April Maurer, 2nd grade teacher, added that in the past teachers were given a price limit for wish list items and she feels it is fine to have limits/parameters. Ms. Cousins said administration will keep track of amounts spent per grade to make sure things are equal across grades. Shelley mentioned that there may be more funds available after all expenses have been paid, it is just too early to tell at this point. We are certain of the \$3300 budgeted amount and that was the parameter. The PTA requested that all of the prioritizing of the list be done by the school and administration agreed.

Shelley then updated the membership on the Technology request that was presented by the administration during the January 2015 meeting. Shelley reviewed the information she had received from the VA PTA Treasurer regarding the PTA position on Technology requests from the school and potential things to consider. Ms. Cousins received a different understanding from the Technology representative (Adam) from the county. Weaver's PTA is buying a set of Chromebooks for their school and Administration would still like us to consider it. They could do without the "cart" from original proposal which brings cost down from ~\$18,000 to ~\$8400. The general membership agreed that the best time to discuss this would be at the September 2015 meeting when there would be a larger attendance.

COMMUNICATIONS

No report

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Brittany Krebs, Vice President, provided an update on the PTA sponsored Author's visit. Ginger Clarke will be coming to Watkins on either March 31 or April 1 this year. With the remaining budget, an additional Arts/Music related program will occur. Brittany suggested that for next year the Author Visit selection process be handled by the School and the PTA will fund and the VP will execute the logistics for the day of the event – this was unanimously agreed to by everyone as it seems to make the most sense.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Maggi Lewis, president, stated that the theme for the meeting was Refocusing and Realignment. At this time we do not have as many volunteers as we have once had. Committee Chairs/Heads need to be the ones answering questions, so please direct questions relating to a particular committee to the head. Some misinformation has been passed back and forth relating to Spiritwear, but that is all straightened out now.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Watkins Wiggle, Maggi Lewis for Tracey Malkie/Kelly Madures, reported that over 300 tickets have been sold. Still looking for more volunteers and supplies. Administration suggested they could do a Parentlink email or phone call if needed. Shelley Neofotistos was going to tell Tracey Malkie about the school offer.

Staff Appreciation, Mary Patterson reported that the Chocolate fountain went well. Birthday recognition continues. The next luncheon is scheduled for March.

Nominating Committee, there is a Committee of 5 members in place – their main focus is to find executive board openings, which are Secretary and President. They will try to think of other candidates for remaining committee if they have time.

NEW BUSINESS/ OPEN FORUM

Needs for this year were discussed. WEP (Watkins Enrichment Program) seems to be covered, but could always use helpers (this year and next). Looking for volunteers to serve on the Carnival Committee. We are still in need for a person to finish the publication of the school directory. All data input is complete.

Needs for next year were discussed. It was mentioned that we could potentially ask teachers for suggestions. The PTA thinks it would be ideal to have prospective volunteers to shadow committee heads so they know what to expect.

Kindergarten Registration will be on April 16. This will be a great time to try to

recruit new people and provide parents information on the PTA and the opportunities for volunteering. Spiritwear will be sold during the Kindergarten Registration. The idea of PTA members taking shifts for the day and man a PTA table was brought up, this will be brought up at the March PTA meeting.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION/STAFF REPORTS

Nothing additional to report, these items were covered during wish list and technology discussion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next PTA Meeting will be March 10, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.