

J.B. Watkins PTA General Membership Meeting

March 14, 2017

J.B. Watkins Elementary School Cafeteria

President Kristen Beazley called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. In attendance were:

Officers:

Kristen Beazley, President

Auburn Stovall, Secretary

Amy Shutts, Vice President, Committees

Laura Kurichh, Vice President, Ways and Means

Divya Raman, Vice President, Programs

Kimberly Cousins, Principal

Karyn Andersen, Assistant Principal

Committee Chairs, General PTA Members and Guests:

Beth Losego, Steve Shutts, Kathleen Grattini, Eddy Grattini, Stephanie Tran, Shannon Hoyland, Amanda Bracey, Erin Clippinger, Kimberly Johnson, Daniel Johnson, Katie Sloan, Rebecca Williams, Leila Ward, Didi Cohen, Price Beazley, Anne Marie Halstead, Barry Farmer, Heather Fritz, Paula Stocks, Irene Delcamp, Sarah Simmons

Kristen thanked Mandy Bracey for all of her hard work with the Wiggle and Auction. She said that the event went so well, the students had a great time and everything was great!

Quorum Certification

A quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the February 14, 2017 General Membership Meeting were presented. There were no corrections and they will stand as presented.

Officer Reports

Treasurer's Report: Emily Stein

Emily was not present but she sent a report stating that the cash on hand as of February 28, 2017 is \$62,376.76. A few items that she would like to note. There is \$500 Field Day support already built into the budget. The Teacher Wishlist has been fulfilled. We spent \$10,000 out of our funds and the school spent an additional \$3,000 using a portion of the PTA Boxtop funds on hand. There may be a few items that still need to be delivered but all purchases have been made. The Wiggle Silent Auction raised \$3,377 minus \$58.24 for Paypal with a total revenue of \$3,318.76.

Vice President's Report: Amy Shutts

Amy stated that we would elect the next Secretary and President this evening and she introduced the nominating committee, Rebecca Williams, Laura Kurichh, Divya Raman and Kathleen Grattini. The nominees for Secretary and President introduced themselves. Amy asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor. Amy handed out the bios and ballots and the vote for Secretary and President was underway.

Vice President's Report: Divya Raman

Divya reported that we recently had a visit from Mo O'Hara. She said that the author left very happy and that some of our students reported that she was their favorite author so far! Divya had students do artwork for Mrs. O'Hara that she then turned into a book. Kristen Beazley baked Mrs. O'Hara Zombie Goldfish cookies. Virginia Repertory performed Harriet Tubman for the third through fifth grade.

The automatic carpool pick up system program has finally passed most of the hurdles with the County and should be finalized next week. The County is hoping to have Watkins serve as a pilot program for our area.

Committee Reports

Hospitality Committee: Leila Ward

The soup luncheon went really well and the teachers loved it. There was lots of great food, thanks to all of the volunteers. The committee will offer coffee and treats next month for Kindergarten Registration. Staff Appreciation Week is in May. The teacher's luncheon on May 3rd is catered. Emails will go out soon about the thirty extra minutes that teachers will get for lunch the day of the luncheon.

Wiggle and Auction: Mandy Bracey/ Jessica Williamson

Mandy reported that the silent auction basket profits were \$3,377 minus the \$58.25 pay pal charge for a total of \$ 3,318.76. There were \$1,356 in ticket sales from the paper flyers and \$300.82 in online sales for a total of \$1,656.82. We sold 156 tickets online and 761 paper tickets. Mandy thanked Amy Shutts and Divya Raman and Administration for helping to get things moving so smoothly.

Kristen mentioned that with the high turnout this year that we may need to think about alternatives next year such as: two separate nights for the Wiggle, possibly mother/son and father/daughter dances instead of the Wiggle to break up the total number of attendees at one time. Rebecca Williams also spoke about the issue of the Silent Auction baskets being too much for the room parents and possibly not doing baskets in the future or thinking of another alternative.

W.H.O.: Erin Brandenburg/ Kat Kelly/ Jaya Baker

Mr. Farmer from Bright Minds spoke to the membership. He spoke about his night at the W.H.O. meeting and thanked everyone for the donations that our school collected. Bright Minds came to the meeting and provided team building activities and the kids had a great time! Bright Minds offers a Youth Enrichment Program for 3-5th graders. The sessions are usually two hours long and are split into teams for problem solving and challenges. Mr. Farmer left Bright Minds pamphlets that will be located in the front of the school for those interested.

The location of the next W.H.O. meeting will be determined soon, it may be a "field trip". Stay tuned.

S.T.E.A.M. Night: Beth Losego/ Price Beazley

Beth Losego said that there are 40 science fair projects scheduled to be on display. Mathnasium will be there to do games with the students and there will be a 3D printer from the Midlothian Library.

Skyzone Night: Katie Berkman

The next scheduled Skyzone night is April 24th. We brought up the possibility of cancelling this upcoming Skyzone night due to busy Spring sport schedules. Many at the meeting agreed with this. Note: A decision was made after this meeting to cancel the Skyzone night.

Spring Fling/50th Anniversary: Erin Brandenburg/ Jaya Baker/ Kat Kelly/ Kelly Barry/ Danielle Maldonado

Kristen spoke for the committee. She reported that they have food trucks lined up, the event should be very similar to last years' except this year we are trying it on a Friday evening this year, May 19th.

Ms. Cousins said that administration met with Danielle about contacting Watkins alumni. There is also a discussion as to whether the theme will be 50's for the 50th anniversary or 60's for the decade the school was built.

Green Team: Irene Delcamp

Irene said that Watkins Nursery is coming out to look at the Library courtyard to come up with a plan. They also committed to donating a Dogwood to the school. They are planning that the major work would be done over Spring Break.

Recycling will start in the lunchroom soon with two big bins to start with. The Green Team will work with the lunch staff and volunteers to help the students know how and what to recycle.

County Council: Didi Cohen

Didi reported that one of the main topics at the County Council meeting was drug abuse prevention in middle and high school. The main recommendation for elementary school age children was to keep kids involved and connected with the community. There are websites available on the Chesterfield County website with resources to help with this subject.

Boxtops: Erin Clippinger/Kaie Berkman

The Boxtops committee collected \$704 in February. May 19th is the next collection date.

School Representative Reports

Principal's Report: Kimberly Cousins

Kimberly reported that Watkins is receiving an innovation grant from the Superintendent of \$4,000 that will go towards a project of a media center in the Library. An active panel will be installed in the Library that the students will be able to interact with.

Spring programs are coming to fruition very soon with many project based learning projects coming to light. More information will be coming soon with project details.

SOL prep season is around the corner. A finalized SOL schedule will be available soon.

New Business

Field Day Budget Request

Corey Cotman requested that the PTA sponsor a couple items for the upcoming Field Day. Items proposed are the 40 ft. obstacle (\$350), Boom Blaster (\$150), and a Monsterball (\$140). All members present voted yes to support this request of funds.

Large Project

Price Beazley spoke about a possible large project that consists of a two 75" TV screens in the cafeteria and one in the hallway. There would be a camera in the middle of the cafeteria to catch all school performances. Price will also get a quote on speakers. The first quote that he has received was approximately \$18,000. All members present voted to get two more quotes for this project. This project will use the rest of the money raised by APEX in the Fall.

Election results

Amy Shutts thanked all candidates for their willingness to run. She announced that Leila Ward was voted PTA President and Didi Cohen PTA Secretary for the upcoming two year term. Leila Ward had 25 votes, Didi Cohen, 16 and Kimberly Johnson, 9.

Announcements

- March 16th- Chick-fil-A Night hosted by 5th grade, 5:30-8 pm
- March 23rd- S.T.E.A.M. Night, 6-8:30 pm
- March 31st- 3 Hour Early Release
- April 3rd- W.H.O. meeting, 6:30 pm
- April 7th- Chess Club, 8:05 am
- April 10th- 14th, Spring Break
- April 20th- Kindergarten Registration Day
- April 21st- Chess Club Tournament and Open Play, 8:05 am
- April 24th- Skyzone Night, 6-8 pm
- April 28th- 3 Hour Early Release
- May 1st-5th, Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 5th- Chess Club Tournament and Open Play, 8:05 am
- May 8th- W.H.O. Meeting, 6:30 pm
- May 9th- PTA Meeting, 6:30 pm

Adjournment

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 pm with a motion made by Amy Shutts with a unanimous vote.

_____ Minutes Approved as Written

_____ Minutes Not Approved

_____ Date _____