

# JB Watkins PTA General Membership Meeting

September 15, 2020, 6:30pm  
Virtual Meeting - Google Meets

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President Sara Sitkiewicz called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

In attendance were:

Shital Dave, Shara Tucker, Rebekah Adams, Sara Eisert-Wlodarczyk, Lina B., Carolyn Morrison, Stephen Monroe, Paige F., Katy Dacey, Kris Winn, Werner Versch, Roshie Govender and Taylor Bernard

**Officers:**

Sara Sitkiewicz, President  
Lacey Knoll, Treasurer  
Becky Hoang, VP Ways and Means  
Jean Patton, Secretary

**Committee Chairs & Guests:**

Arielle Greene, Erin Clippinger, Kimberly Johnson, Shannon McGinnis and Whitney Revell

All other committee chairs were absent.

**Quorum Certification**

A quorum was established.

**Approval of Minutes**

*See secretary report*

## **Officer Reports**

### **President's Report: Sara Sitkiewicz**

Sara called the meeting to order and welcomed all attendees. She explained that PTA events are limited this year due to COVID however, the PTA is committed to supporting staff, teachers and students as we move forward.

Sara thanked Kat Kelly for her service as PTA president and recognized Whitney Revell as the PTA Volunteer of the Year. Recognition was well-deserved as Whitney has dedicated countless hours to the Green Team, outdoor beautification and lunch room recycling.

Appreciation of Karen Carps' contributions and work on the PTA's website was also recognized. The PTA has several open committees. Sara encouraged interested parents to email her directly for more information on open committees and how to get involved. If we don't have volunteers, some committees may not happen this year.

Parents were also encouraged to join the PTA. Or, at the least, provide their name and email address through the PTA website to receive important communications. All Back to School PTA information and spirit night flyers are available on the PTA website.

### **Treasurer's Report: Lacey Knoll**

Lacey shared the proposed 2020-2021 PTA budget. Overall numbers are much smaller than the prior year as the board is being conservative in estimations. Because there is no Apex Fun Run, the PTA is conducting a direct donation campaign. This historically brings in less income than the Apex Fun Run. Sara made a motion to approve the proposed budget, Lacey moved to accept and Kim Johnson seconded it. The proposed PTA budget was approved.

Lacey also presented the 2019-2020 PTA Audit for review. With no questions, Lacey made motion to accept the audit. Shannon seconded it and the audit was approved.

### **Vice President – Ways and Means Report: Becky Hoang**

Becky explained the decision to reschedule the Apex Fun run to next fall. The PTA will not incur any additional fees for moving the date. With no fun run, we will be relying heavily on Spirit Nights for income. The first Spirit Night is with Marcos Pizza on October 1. Marcos will donate 20% of sales, for the entire day, to Watkins PTA.

The next Spirit Night is November 18 at Chicken Fiesta from 5pm - 8pm. They will donate 20% of all sales to Watkins PTA. Another Spirit Night at Marcos Pizza is scheduled for March. Becky will continue looking for other Spirit Night options.

### **Secretary's Report: Jean Patton**

Meeting minutes from the March 2020 PTA General Membership Meeting are posted to the PTA Facebook page and website. Jean presented the minutes for review. With no questions or comments from attendees, the minutes stand as presented.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Reflections: Kim Johnson**

Kim is working on a school-wide communication with information for parents and students about the Reflections competition, guidelines and deadline. Entries are due October 30.

### **Staff Appreciation: Kim Johnson**

The Staff Appreciation Committee coordinated a welcome back lunch for teachers during teacher work week. Snacks were also provided. Kim is looking for other creative ideas to recognize staff and teachers during this time. Please forward any ideas to her directly for consideration.

### **Box Tops: Katie Berkman (not present)/Erin Clippinger**

Despite virtual learning, box tops are still being collected. A large (blue) collection box is stationed outside the front doors of the school. Erin reminded attendees that parents can either clip box tops and drop off in the collection box or, they can use the Box Tops app. There are two collection dates this year - October 15 and February 19. No class competitions will take place this year as students are virtual.

### **School Sign: Erin Clippinger**

Erin continues to maintain the school sign and put up any pertinent messages needed. Since she has a fifth grader this year, Erin is looking for a volunteer to take over the sign maintenance next year.

### **Yearbook: Erin Smith (not present)**

Sara reported that Erin Smith is leading the Yearbook committee. She relayed to Sara that Herff Jones (HJ) is willing to work with us this year. We will likely lower the page count and the amount of yearbooks purchased however, we will maintain the \$20-\$25 price point. The yearbook will likely be chronological in nature and delivered to students at the end of the year. Yearbooks orders are not open yet but will be ordered through the HJ website. Parents are encouraged to download the HJ app and upload pictures throughout the year. More information to come soon.

### **Spirit Wear: Courtney King (not present)/Emily Parnell (not present)**

The Spirit Wear committee is working on a t-shirt and mask design. More information to come soon.

### **Green Team: Whitney Revell/ Arielle Greene**

Whitney reported about the TREX plastic bag recycling program. Watkins placed sixth among area schools for the most plastic received and recycled. With the current situation, we will not participate this year.

Arielle and Whitney were very close to having the raised bed vegetable gardens installed at the school. Arielle and Whitney designed the beds, provided a layout to the County and applied for the necessary permits prior to COVID. Mrs. Best has grant funds available to assist with purchasing supplies needed for the project however, the Green Team may need an additional \$200 for installation.

Green Team is looking at additional shading options for the Kindergarten playground.

Whitney mentioned that some Green Team activities such as cleanup and mulching of outdoor flower beds and raised bed installation will be challenging as large groups of volunteers are prohibited. Whitney may simply weed outdoor gardens this year with the volunteer gathering limitations.

### **Pumpkin Lighting (Shannon McGinnis)**

Shannon spoke with Mrs. Borgman about the Pumpkin Lighting. A virtual event is the only option at this time. Shannon is working on details however, the event will be open to all students. Each student can design a pumpkin and submit photos for a video or photo collage. More information to come soon.

## **Representative Reports**

### **Principal's Report: Debbie Weatherford (not present)**

Mrs. Weatherford was unable to attend due to connection issues. She communicated to Sara to please encourage parents to call, email or text her directly with any pressing questions or concerns.

Sara encouraged parents to attend the Wednesdays with Weatherford calls as they are a wonderful source of information about virtual learning, return to school plans, etc.

### **Teacher Representative Report:**

None present.

## **New Business**

Arielle asked about return to school appreciation gifts for teachers. Something like hand sanitizer. Sara encouraged Arielle and parents to reach out to Kim Johnson directly with ideas.

Denim Drive was moved to March however, parents are encouraged to continue collecting and saving denim for the March collection date.

The clothing collection box outside of the school, in the parking lot, is open again. Parents can recycle clothing, shoes, towels, etc. The school receives a donation dependent on the weight of items collected.

Finally, the next PTA meeting is a daytime meeting at 12:45pm on October 13.

## **Adjournment**

With no further business, the PTA meeting was adjourned at 7:07 pm.

## **Authentication of the Minutes**

Respectfully submitted to the Board for approval this September 17, 2020 by Jean Patton.