

**Louise Archer PTA
General Membership Meeting
January 13, 2016, 7:30 pm, Library**

Minutes

Attendees: Sarah Barry, Kerry Blankenship, Sarah Bohn, Priya Chenthil, Tinelle Davies, Gergana Jostova, Karen Landwehr, Michelle Markrigiorgos, Laura Plante

I. Call to Order at 7:31pm by Kerry Blankenship

II. Principal's Report

Thank you to all of the parents and the PTA for all of the ways you showed appreciation to our staff during December. Thanks to Withers Hurley for hosting the PTA holiday gathering and we really enjoyed the cookie carry.

Dr. Garza had a meeting with all principals in the county to announce her proposed budget. The biggest piece that rings true to all of us is that education is a necessity, not a luxury. We all have different levels of interest and understanding and she's trying to get all groups of people to share their input. The two things that are mentioned that she really wants to support are teacher compensation and class size below 30 at the elementary level. If we don't receive the funding then there will be greater challenges ahead. The next important date is the public hearings on January 25th. The final budget vote isn't until May.

You received an email about March 1st. Louise Archer doesn't have any voting on site. Dr. Garza isn't seeing imminent concerns about safety and the first she heard about that was yesterday.

III. President's Report

The local PTAs are looking at sending a joint letter from area schools asking the Board of Supervisors to fully fund our schools. We will be adding our name to the list.

We are looking for members of the nominating committee and there will be an announcement in the Sunbeam this Sunday. We need a President, Vice President, Secretary in addition to Membership, Garden Club, Building Use, an additional Chair for the 5K, Thanksgiving Lunch and School Supplies.

December was busy and fun. Thanks to everyone who brought in cookies for the Cookie Carry. The PTA event at Withers Hurley's house was wonderful. Thank you to everyone who donated food and drinks.

Ice Skating is Saturday, January 30th at SkateQuest in Reston. Pizza Bingo is also coming up.

We have been asking people to donate to our Armchair Fundraiser, but we haven't hit the numbers we're looking for so we will be doing a Read-a-Thon in March. Claire William is excited to help with that and you'll be hearing more about that in the coming weeks.

IV. Treasurer's Report

We've raised \$13,300 for our Armchair Fundraiser. We've had a lot of cash flow through our before and after school activities. Yearbook booster ad money has just started coming in.

V. Old Business

a. Minutes approval of December meeting
No quorum so will be done at next meeting.

VI. New Business

See information below in Program Announcements.

VII. Program Announcements

a. Pizza Bingo

Pizza Bingo is Friday, February 19th from 5:00 - 8:00. We are seeking volunteers for the event. There are spots available on Sign Up Genius. We are soliciting items for silent auction and raffle prizes. We are also in need of gently used toys for the prizes and will need to purchase additional prizes.

b. Loyalty Rewards

Amazon earnings school year to-date (7/1/15 - 1/8/16) are \$1626, which is exactly even with last year's earnings at this time. Giant Food Rewards school year to-date is \$1148, which is over double last year's earnings at this time (last year we were at \$478 in January).

c. Thoreau Fundraiser

Thoreau is having another auction to raise money for their campus campaign on February 26 at 7:00 pm at the Vienna firehouse. Tickets are \$25 and include heavy appetizers and a drink.

d. Sunshine Times

We had a meeting in December and had over 100 attendees. The deadline is this coming Friday, but only four articles have been submitted, so the deadline has been extended through next Tuesday evening so students have the long weekend to complete their submissions.

e. International Night

We had 20 slots available and 18 are filled. We have a meeting next Wednesday at 6:30 in the Cafeteria.

f. Science Fair

Science Fair will take place on Tuesday, April 5th. More information will be posted soon.

g. Teacher Luncheon

We are doing a chili lunch on January 21st and will probably do another one after Spring Break that will feature international foods. There is a Sign Up Genius where you can sign up to donate food items or drinks.

Adjourned at 8:13 pm. Next meeting is February 10th at 9:30am.