

**Louise Archer PTA
General Membership Meeting
May 11, 2016, 7:30 pm, Library**

Minutes

Attendees: Kerry Blankenship, Tinelle Davies, Mary Franceschini, Cathy Hardman, Gergana Jostova, Vera Korff, Michelle Makrigiorgos, Laura Plante, Patrice Scheyer, Abby Shannon, Margie Woods

I. Call to Order at 7:38pm by Kerry Blankenship

II. Principal's Report

Teacher Appreciation Week was fantastic. You all did so many wonderful things for our parents. The luncheon was delicious. The oatmeal bar was a huge hit. They loved the coffee bar. Thank you to everyone because I know that it was huge effort.

We have posted the dates for field day, award ceremonies, 6th grade promotion, SOL dates and end-of-year concerts on the school website. We try to keep the SOL weeks as calm and low-key as possible.

The Parent Survey is now available for the next year. This is your opportunity to give us information about your child that you think may be helpful in classroom placement. Please do not request a specific teacher, as we have teacher movement and changes. We really do use the information you provide in conjunction with what the teachers know to place your children. The survey will be open until May 31st.

We have some retirements and teachers leaving: Deb Lord, Elizabeth Pearson, Brooke Gibson. Laura Higgins is taking time off. Kat Arrasmith is going back to school. Julianne Kass is also leaving. Meredith Everett is taking a year off. I'm already in the process of filling positions and expect to have most everything done before the summer.

We have put in a request for the bike rack, but I'm not sure when it's coming.

III. President's Report by Kerry

Rebecca Huffman did a great job with the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon. In our PTA closet, we have a giant file cabinet and it was filled with PTA newsletters from the 70's and 80's and Rebecca used those as centerpieces. Heather Buescher did a great job along with help from Abby Shannon.

I sent out requests to the PTA Program Chairs about budget and asked them to take a look at their budget for this past year and let me know if they thought any changes were needed. We'll be sending out a request for people to be a part of the budget committee.

The only committee positions that aren't filled are Garden Club and a Pizza Bingo co-chair. We have a lot of new people stepping in to fill positions and it's very exciting.

We are holding a June meeting in reserve. Michelle and I have been talking about technology needs and if there is room in our budget for the PTA to make a donation of laptops, we will need to have a meeting to vote on that donation.

IV. Treasurer's Report by Gergana Jostova

We have a few fundraisers and event that raised more money than anticipated. Pizza Bingo earned additional money. The Read-A-Thon brought in unexpected funds. The Original Works fundraiser also earned more than we had expected.

In terms of income we're at 88% of what we had budgeted. Expenses are at 65%, however we haven't yet paid our afterschool activities and that will probably be around \$11,000 by the end of the year. We'll have more expenses come out of our Azarra Fund for school supplies for our students in need. We'll also have Homework Club expenses. The PTA pays the salary for the four teachers who stay after school for that club. We have a few more field trip buses to pay for as well.

V. Old Business

a. Minutes approval of April meeting

Motion made by Mary Franceschini to approve April minutes. Motion seconded by Gergana Jostova. Motion approved.

VI. New Business

a. Nominating Committee

We need to vote on our executive board members for the next year. The committee would officially like to move to nominate Emily Korff as President, Abby Shannon as Vice President and Elizabeth Lucca as Secretary. Motion seconded by Mary Franceschini. Motion approved.

VII. Program Announcements

a. Teacher Appreciation Week – Heather Buescher

TA week was a great success and thank you to everyone who helped make it possible.

b. Science Fair – Laura Plante

We had about 200 participants. We had a lot of help cleaning up at the end and thank you to everyone who stayed to help. It was really hot and next year we will look into having water there.

c. Walk & Wheel Wednesday/Bike to School Updates – Cathy Hardman

Last week we had the National Bike to School Day. It went really well and we had a good turnout considering the weather. We will have our challenge that we've had with the other Vienna schools during the week of June 13th-June 17th. Spokes has offered to allow the children to come in for free helmet checks during that week. We gave goodie bags to our two crossing guards and they were very appreciative.

d. Original Works Fundraiser – Cathy Hardman

We raised nearly \$2400 and we're planning to do it again next year. The company has been very accommodating with all requests.

e. Cultural Arts Assembly – Cathy Hardman

I just found out about a flamenco group and there's a possibility that we will have an assembly before the end of the year. Cathy will work to determine the costs and it may have to wait until next school year if it's over our budget.

f. Math Camp – Tinelle Davies

Ms. Sahai and Ms. Porterfield will be offering a Math Camp this summer. There will be two sessions – June 28 – July 1 and July 4 – July 8. Registration will open soon.

g. Reflections – Keira Schwartz

We had more than double the amount of students participating in the Reflections program this year than in any prior year. The PTA's program chairs received numerous comments from parents about how much their children enjoyed the program, and especially the art show. Once the Virginia PTA provides the updated forms for the 2016-2017 program, we will update the Reflections page on the PTA's website before school lets out for the summer.

Adjourned at 8:32 pm.
