

**Florence Community PTA
General Membership Meeting Minutes, 15 November 2016
Siuslaw Elementary School, Room 39**

Call to Order—The meeting was called to order by Tiffany Holdahl, President, at 4:05pm. A visual count by Ann Carpenter, Vice President, showed thirty-four people in attendance. Only twenty-three members and one guest signed in; a quorum was present.

Executive Board Report—Thanks were expressed to: Three Rivers Casino for the donation of 82 coats and sweatshirts; and to Mark Brennan, with the Siuslaw News, for coverage of the Color-a-Thon.

Minutes—Diane McCalmont moved and Sarah Nunez seconded to approve the September minutes as submitted; motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report—Jennifer reported a bank statement balance of \$17,789.50 as of 20 October 2016. Ann moved and Melissa Samel seconded to approve the financial report as submitted; motion passed unanimously.

Secretary Election—Susy Lacer has resigned as Secretary, effective 15 November 2016. Melissa nominated Sarah Nunez as Secretary, Cynthia Hathaway seconded; motion passed unanimously; Sarah's term will begin 11/16/2016.

Committee Reports:

Membership—Diane, Chair, reported 190 members currently; our goal for the year is 208 (double last year) by March 1, 2017.

Vik Gear—Ann reported a profit of \$600 from sales. A volunteer is needed to sell Vik Gear at basketball games; see Tiffany if interested. Diane showed a new logo design.

Marketing & Publicity—Natalie Lyda, Chair, reported she had made connections with Mark Brennan and Ned Hickson at the Siuslaw News, as well as connections with KCST Radio. She reported she sent a newsletter to students at SES, completed a Community Conversations radio interview with KXCR, and will be updating and redesigning the PTA website.

Color-a-Thon—Crystal Osburn, Chair, reported the fundraising company for the event takes 30% of proceeds; PTA's profit was \$9,400. Tiffany provided a gift card for a pedicure to Crystal in appreciation for her work on this event, which earned far more income than expected.

Multicultural Event—Diane, Chair, reported the committee has 5 members; their first meeting will be November 29th. Take Your Family To School Week will be February 13-17, 2017; the Multicultural event will be part of TYFTS Week. They plan: entertainment, food, decorations, and games, for students and families district-wide. Diane requested \$4,700 as a budget for the event (half of the Color-a-Thon profit), with half of the \$4,700 to be used for the 2017 event and half for 2018. Diane moved and Jenny Velinty seconded to increase the budget from \$700 to \$4,700 for the Multicultural event, with half used in 2017 and half in 2018. A lengthy discussion ensued, including: budget cuts made to most programs for this year, adopted budget shortfall of \$16,000 in expenses versus \$14,000 in income, proposed cost of Multicultural event compared to other PTA events, structuring of program reserves (generally kept in a separate fund), PTA's mission and growing emphasis on family engagement, the benefits and unknowns of holding a new event, suggestion to hold family engagement events in the fall to engage families at the beginning of the school year (event was set for February because no other events then and to coincide with TYFTSW); motion failed with 12 nay and 4 yay

votes. Alice Burns moved and Lynette Holdahl seconded to increase this year's budget for the Multicultural event from \$700 to \$2,350; motion passed unanimously.

Fit Fair—Alice, Chair, reported attendance was down at the event this year, likely due to rain, that the Fair was on a Saturday following a no-school Friday, and because of Color-a-Thon on same day. She suggested considering a different time of year for next year, reviewing the school calendar when selecting the Fair date, not holding the Fair on the same day as the race because race participants want to go home and change after the race instead of attending the Fair. The Fair had more booth participants this year for healthy lifestyles, and good snacks; zumba was popular.

Holiday Shoppe—Alice, Chair, reported it will be held December 5-9, at the SES Library, from 4-6pm each day, open until 8pm on Wednesday; all items are \$2. Tiffany noted PTA had received a donation of party goods that were available for use at the Holiday Shoppe. Ann will be offering hot cocoa for parents to enjoy while their kids shop.

Staff Grants—Jennifer, Chair, reported they reviewed 7 grant applications and awarded 4. Three were denied because more information was requested. Recommended grants: \$250 to Mr. Wells for wallball, \$120 to Mr. Jorgenson for science books, \$210 to Mrs. Crossley for a CD player and 6 headsets, and \$250 to Mrs. Wiggins for a Civil War re-enactment trip. Jennifer moved and Ann seconded to award the four grants; motion passed unanimously. Jennifer noted PTA was still encouraging more applications from staff. Jennifer moved and Natalie seconded to increase the staff grant budget from \$3,000 to \$4,500 for this year, to increase available grant funds for the rest of this year; motion passed unanimously. Jennifer noted receipt of thank you notes from Mrs. Campbell's class. Discussion of how to encourage more grant applications and reports of grant projects. Current procedure is that grant recipients are requested to either send a written report on the funded project, or attend a PTA meeting to report on the project. Suggestion to get photos of funded projects and post on Facebook page; Natalie to follow-up. Jennifer will get Natalie a list of grant recipients. Suggestion to have teachers take a photo of funded projects and send to Natalie.

New Business:

Committee Chair Openings—Tiffany noted Sarah will be taking the lead on the Box Top committee for the SES challenge; a leader for SMS Box Tops is still needed, see Tiffany if interested (possibly Cathy?). Tiffany is also still seeking a Chair for the Vik Gear committee. Anyone

Meeting Schedule Survey—Tiffany explained there was a scheduling conflict for PTA to use the SES Library at 4pm for its meetings. She suggested three alternatives: same time and use an SES classroom; same time and at SMS Library; or at 6 or 6:30pm at SES Library. Mike Harklerode interjected that he was so impressed with the number of attendees at the PTA meetings that he would rework the scheduling conflict to allow PTA to meet at its usual time and place for the remaining three meetings of the year.

Parent Teacher Conf—Tiffany reported PTA will be giving SHS funds to recognize parents during conferences; Jennifer will be arranging treats for SMS—she welcomes helpers; Jeannette Jones will be organizing treats for SES.

Announcements

- Any new fundraising ideas should be directed to Tiffany.
- Bou Kilgore is requesting the PTA scholarship application to be included in ASPIRE resources; Susy will provide the application to Bou.
- Upcoming events: Holiday Shoppe December 5-9th. Next meeting will be January 17, 2017.

Adjournment—The meeting was adjourned at 5:05pm.

Submitted: Susy Lacer, Florence PTA Secretary