

Waitsfield Elementary School PTA Meeting

Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2011 7:45 AM

Attendees

Helen Ward, (president), Beth Libby (vice president), Jenifer Tuck (treasurer), AnnMarie Harmon (secretary), Kaiya Korb, Christine Sullivan, Jennifer Stella and Bunny Downing. Bear Simmons, Elizabeth Schwartz, Lisa Hurwitz.

Minutes

Motion: Moved to approve minutes. Moved: Helen. Seconded: Christine. Passed.

New Officer Positions

Nominations: Christine Sullivan as treasurer. Jennifer Stella as Secretary. Passed.

Garden

Kaiya sent a notice to Harwood Union High School's newsletter to solicit students who would be willing to take care of the WES garden over the summer. So far a few W.E.S. students have expressed interest in working on the garden. Jeremy Gulley and Helen Ward last year supervised these students. They are willing to again support this, but need others to volunteer as well. **Action: Helen** will contact other PTA members to solicit volunteers.

Budget for 2011-2012

It was decided that the annual budget meeting would be held this summer (perhaps at the Green Cup like last year – yum!) while Jen is still around before she leaves for Europe in August. **Action: Helen** will organize this meeting. Jen stated that there has been \$500 allocated for the ski and skate shed from many years ago. It will be discussed in the budget meeting where to reallocate these funds.

6th Grade Graduation

Action: Kaiya will coordinate with Bear who will provide the cake. People don't tend to linger around very long but it is good to have a cake for the kids and crudités and other finger food. **Action: Bear** will send an email to all the parents of 5th graders. Bear will confirm that Krissa can still bring flowers. Courtenay last year brought cold cut trays from Shaw's so Bear will look into finding a family to bring that again. The PTA will pay for the cake. The 5th grade families will volunteer to bring the rest.

Playground Update

A conceptual plan of playground improvements has been drafted by Broadleaf Designs; the plan was shared with the PTA. There will be an open house on June 23 from 4:30 – 6:00 for the community to review these plans. The plan incorporates elements that were brainstormed by students, staff and a committee of community volunteers.

Kaiya is looking for interest and funding to begin moving forward a section of this conceptual plan; specifically, the preschool/ kindergarten play area. There already is \$1,000 that was designated in the PTA budget for the playground. There is also a section in the Budget called "appropriated: TBD" that has been in the budget for years. There would be such a direct

benefit for our school and a benefit for the community as well. Separating the younger kids from the older kids would make a safer situation for everyone.

There will need to be a playground steering committee representing the stakeholders that are putting forth the funds for the project. It is expected that it would be phased over several years.

Motion: Helen moved to allocate \$4,000 for the year 2011-2012 and \$3,000 for the year 2012-2013 for the Playground improvements as presented today. Seconded: Bear. Passed.

Book Fair

Action: Elizabeth Schwartz volunteered to take over the Book Fair from Jennifer Stella, since Jennifer will be the PYA secretary next year. YEAH! Thank you Elizabeth!

New Kindergarten Orientation Event

This was a lovely event and the food was great. Helen did a wonderful job promoting the PTA during this event.

Gifts for Retiring Teachers

Thank You Cards were received from Betsy Eckfeldt, Connie Hartshorn and Kay Marcelle gave a Thank You for the staff luncheon. The cards were recognized by the PTA with gratitude. Connie was given a spa day for two so that she can invite her daughter or anyone else she chooses. Betsy was given a program at the Kripalu Center in MA, a yoga studio.

Fifty Anniversary Party

The Spring Concert was filmed for Channel 44 and will be presented on the local TV station. The video is expected to be uploaded onto the website. Having the 50 year anniversary cake for the families was a great way to celebrate.

Parent Education Night

This event, although excellent, was sparsely attended. For those who did attend found it to be extremely informative and helped to prepare them for the future with older kids with computers. It was discussed what can be done in the future to attract more parents to attend.

Adjourned

8:50 AM. Next PTA Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 8, 2011 7:40 AM in the WES Library.