

**Somers Middle School PTA
General Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2011**

Attendees: Teresa Lombardi, Karen Collura, Laura Sweig, Becky Williams, Patrice Graham, Kathy Cucchiarella, Erika Sherman, Linda Morgante, Lou-Ann Galibert, Linda Docherts, Diane Colavito, Joseph Cuiffo, Bonaria Conte, Iris Zhang, Janice Pirrotti, Jeff Getman

Call to Order: Kathy Cucchiarella called meeting to order at 7:34pm

Approval of Minutes: May General and Executive Board Minutes were accepted with no changes.

Presidents Report:

- Budget Planning Session will take place by Dr. Blanch. He would like to hear from the community about what it important to us while he prepares for next years budget. Possible date: October 19th at 6:30pm-more info to follow. If you are unable to attend the meeting please feel free to submit any questions you may have.
- There will be 2 fundraising options this year. You can make a straight monetary donation to support the PTA or participate in the Little Caesars Fundraiser. District wide numbers are down. We are open to suggestions. Discussion took place about 50/50 raffle, talent/variety show, teacher's volleyball game. Kathy and Becky will bring these ideas back to Council.
- Mrs. Watkins signed up the school to participate in the DeCicco's fundraiser in Brewster. Currently working on enrolling in the Stop and Shop fundraiser. All money raised goes directly to the school not the PTA.
- Primrose and SIS have asked for volunteers on their fundraising distribution day's .Dates to follow.
- Will be speaking to Administration about incorporating study techniques at SMS (Homework helpers, Time Management and Memorization techniques).

Treasurers Report

- There is \$46,673.30 in our bank account.

Fundraising

- To date there are 30 orders submitted for our pizza fundraiser. Profit to date is \$150. We must have at least 100 orders to avoid the shipping fees. Discussed combining order with the high school to avoid the fee. The deadline to order has been extended.
- The Mahoney's are running the Used Clothing drive this year. The event takes place on October 23rd from 9-12pm in the SMS lower parking lot. Tax deductible receipts are given.

Membership

- As of October 3rd we have 340 members (36 are teachers). We have received over \$600 in monetary donations. E-mail was sent out by Mrs. Watkins to the entire faculty about joining the PTA.

Red Ribbon

- Red Ribbon week will be held on October 24th –October 28th. Theme this year is “Hand in hand let’s make a stand.” Red Hands will be given to all students. Students are asked to write a message on the hand. There will be a drop box in Mr. Getmans office. There will be prizes awarded to Best Message and Most Creative Message. All of the holding hands will be taped in the hallway.
- Students will also receive Red Ribbon Bracelets as they enter school in the morning. On Friday at lunch all students wearing the bracelet will receive ice cream.
- Monday is wear red day. Tuesday is “be a winner” day (wear your favorite team jersey). Wednesday is twin day. Thursday-High school Varsity athletes will sit with students during 7th and 8th grade lunch. Friday-winner of hands contest will be announced.

Reflections

- Laura is finishing up some of last years entries. The theme this year is “Diversity is...”
- Deadline to submit is December 1st. Rules are posted on the Council website (soon to be on all websites)
- Please ensure that forms are filled out properly.

Flea Market

- Flea market to be held on June 9th (rain date June 10th).
- Book swap will also take place there
- Discussion took place about selling food-Ericka will order from Patsy’s Pizza toward end of the day.
- PTA will still sell water bottles

Box Tops

- Box Top Contest under way at SMS. Students that send in the most box tops by either 11/1/11 or 3/1/11 will receive a \$50 gift card. Mr. Getman approved a flyer to be posted in teachers lounge.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:28pm

After our PTA meeting, Mr. Getman offered a session on navigating the website. Topics covered before the presentation were as follows:

- School opening went well, 6th graders adjusting well.
- Buses are arriving on time (this is the smoothest transportation year ever)
- Reviewed why we have lunch table assignments
- Discussed AIS ELA& Math classes based on test scores
- Please do not pick up any SMS students at SIS.
- There will be a homework helper club run by Mr. Kealy from 3-4pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.
- New computer labs are up and running.

Teresa Lombardi
SMS PTA -Recording Secretary

Our next General meeting is February 9th 2012, SHS Library, Joint Mtg with SHS PTSA