

LPA minutes
11/9/2011

An officer's meeting is held prior to official LPA meeting. Suzy Rea, Kerry Williams, Trista Jones, Kendice Rollison and Linda Moore were in attendance.

Officer's Meeting:

Suzy:

We have to pay for website this year. Our cost will be \$84/year.

Treasurers Report:

Suzy asked what we're going to earn for the year. Trista said that the amount in the budget is what we'll expect to make. Trista suggested moving the Run for Reading income and Book Fair income listed as Ancillary Accounts as its own category on the budget instead of Fundraising. All agreed. Suzy is attempting to identify the exact amount we have available in the budget. All agreed that we have \$7,500 for teacher proposals, based on anticipated income and expense over the 2011-2012 school year. Trista will update budget and redistribute. Kendice discussed the opportunity to earn some money from a Mackenzie River night – proposed a "pizza night". We are considering the pizza night for December 7th which is the night of the choir program.

LPA Meeting:

In attendance:

Johnna Visser, Pika Meyer, Christine Shaw, Laura Kuntz, Kerry Williams, Kendice Rollison, Trista Jones, Suzy Rea, Linda Moore, Douglas F., Kristin Taylor, Chris Coppolillo, Paige Wyatt, Laurie Neal, Randy Walthall.

Suzy started the meeting with a note about Mrs. Nelson & Miss Hopkins visiting us later in the meeting to discuss their trip to Helena yesterday.

Suzy motioned to approve last month's minutes. Trista seconded the motion.

Committee reports:

Thanks for Giving—Pika Meyer said all is going well and any big donations need to be brought to the Wilson Gym. She also mentioned that we still need some volunteers. Suzy will send an email to the LPA address list to request volunteers.

Teacher Appreciation—Suzy thanked Johnna for volunteering to coordinate the teacher's meals.

Holiday Program—Kendice will ask the music teacher what she's looking for this year for decorations. Chris Coppolillo thought there was a parent who offered to chair this program.

Fundraiser—we raised \$3,300 for Montana Artists. Suzy thanked Kristin Taylor for managing that program. A little over \$13,000 total income including direct donations. Suzy discussed how other schools are raising big money from doing a “running” fundraiser. Before January, we will ask for recommendations from parents as to whether, as a school, we want to “sell something”, or do we want to have an “event”? Suzy mentioned that it is labor intensive and difficult to find parents to make it happen.

Teacher Proposals—Randy and teachers sit down and rate proposals from parents. The teachers get an amount for field trips etc from any money LPA earns. In addition however, there is money for teachers for other spending. Teachers are given an opportunity to vote on how they’d like to spend this additional money. The Teacher Proposals in order of interest by teachers: Top proposal was books for the library to support the new writing program \$1,000. Replace boots and equipment for cross country skiing \$640. Microphones and mixers for carts for 9 classrooms. 2 LCD projectors for classrooms and music room \$1,400 approx. New updated computer for the math para \$1,600-\$2,500. 10 pack of ipads for the whole school \$5,400. 2012 world book encyclopedias for the library \$800. 2 Hover cams-next generation of projectors. Can be used to film the lesson and present at same time \$300 each. Purchasing equipment--\$250 for mp3 players, cassette players. One parent suggested that we put together a wish list of items because parents might have things at home that the school could use for instance computers or tape players. In the past, we have asked teachers to put together a “wish list” for a giving tree and some of the teachers were uncomfortable about asking for things. Some teachers benefited more from the donations than others. Randy clarified that LPA funds are spent the way LPA decides. Teachers are given an opportunity with an amount of money given from LPA to identify areas of need and the teachers vote on what is the priority for them, then LPA makes the final decision. Sound system for the gym still needs upgrading. Randy received a quote for \$8452. Our Thrive parent liaison suggested that we look to spend some of our money on funding that project because it is an important one that would affect all the kids. Randy said he could contribute \$1,500 toward the sound system and LPA will consider a fundraiser specifically to raise remaining funds needed for the sound system. Suzy suggested that we have another meeting to make a decision on the proposals and asked parents whether anyone would like to participate. Johnna & Linda Moore offered to participate. Meeting will be held at Wild Joe’s on Friday, November 18th at 8:30am.

Kristin Hopkins and Debbie Reynolds—update on trip to the state capitol:

Debbie showed us the plaque they received. The day went like clockwork. Fabulous parent chaperones. The ringing of the bell was exciting. Kristin mentioned that what they do in their class is funded by LPA and gave lots of examples and thanked Randy and the LPA for giving them free reign for teaching what they think is important. The kids behaved well both inside and outside. The kids sang 2 songs and wore bolo ties for Governor Schweitzer who ended up being in Brazil. The kids got to meet with the lieutenant governor instead and he was very giving of his time and very kind to the kids. Randy thanked Kristin & Debbie and congratulated them and told us that their award is very well deserved.

Johnna asked which class won for the fundraiser and how they will be awarded. Kristin mentioned that they will receive \$5 to spend at the book fair.

Kerry mentioned that next month we'll have representatives of the new bullying prevention program present at our LPA meeting. Trista will head a committee of parents to look at Longfellow activities. Email Trista if you're interested.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05pm