

**UPPER ST. CLAIR PTA COUNCIL
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 6, 2012**

Call to Order

The June 6, 2012 meeting of the Upper St. Clair PTA Council, held at the Central District offices, was called to order at 9:33 a.m. Lyn Benonis recorded the minutes

Opening Ceremony

Kristen Matheny welcomed all in attendance, introduced the newly appointed Executive Committee members, and led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda

In continuance of the previously established PTA green initiative, President Matheny reminded all that the PTA Council site posted a copy of the agenda, and a few copies will be available at the Council meetings. The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of the Minutes/Correspondence

The minutes of the May 2, 2012 meeting were approved as presented.

Statement of the Treasurer

Newly appointed, Beatrice Conte reported that there are bills requiring payment. Susan Rosati made a motion to approve their payment, motion was approved. Final Treasury reports from Susan Liptak are attached.

Treasurer Report- June 6, 2012

5/2/12 – 6/5/12

The USC PTA Council's GENERAL FUND had a beginning cash balance on May 2, 2012 of \$9,139.52.

We had no receipts this month.

Disbursements totaled \$67.88 which included expenses for:

■ Copies for Gate

■ Changeover Luncheon Expenses

This leaves us with an ending cash balance in the General Fund of \$9,071.64 as of June 5, 2012.

The USC PTA Council's SPECIAL ACCOUNT FUND had no activity this month leaving the balance of \$1,186.74 unchanged as of June 5, 2012.

PTA Council Treasurer 2011-2012

President's Report

PTO Council President, Kristen Matheny, shared that the last Executive Council meeting included discussions that this year has been admittedly tough, but also has moved PTA to the forefront of many discussions resulting in many great opportunities and themes. Going forward, we should focus on a theme of *unity*. One idea is in a joint outreach program and additional suggestions to bond the six units are welcomed and requested.

President Matheny reported that yesterday's Ft. Couch PTA vote resulted in the unit's continuation as a PTA, not meeting a requisite 2/3's vote to affect a change to a PTO. She stated that the work and research should be taken and used as a template should the option be introduced again, and be ready for some unanswered questions that should be answered. Perhaps a team can put together a fact sheet regarding accounts, etc whether or not we move forward. Though the hope is to bring together, rather than allow it to be the divisive issue it's become. Kristen beckoned members to become more active at Ft. Couch and for Ft. Couch to become more active with the current PTA organization, adding that she would research what PTA has to offer all the PTA's.

When the floor was opened for questions, Susan Rosati questioned why the PTA council, that exists solely because of PTA, played a role in investigating a PTO change, to which Kristen answered due to unification. Angela Pedersen's asked a question and it was confirmed that, yes, the PTA organization was aware of the PTO investigation and interest in PTO. Angela expressed that in the past Upper St. Clair was more active in PTA, beyond our school district, getting involved at the state level. She offered the suggestion (though it may be semantics), but rather than form a template perhaps "archive" the PTO information, as template sounds more like an action plan. Find out what more the PTA has to offer rather than bill it as a process for the units to dismantle.

Kristen Matheny finds "archive" acceptable and states that "the why PTA is relevant is our (Council's) job."

Stacey Pare agrees stating that Council's role should only be to investigate PTA, with Julie Halpner observing that it seems hypocritical for the Council officers, who have sworn to uphold the PTA mission, to spearhead a PTO movement.

Kristen offers that Council is also responsible to represent its members, the parents, and needs to listen to them. Adding, however, we cannot continue in this fractious state. The information can be archived and accessible. If there are those still interested, a team can be convened, not composed of unit presidents, but ideally represented by all units.

As a goal, PTA presidents should make the PTA relevant. Kristen Matheny will investigate available training, more dynamic presentations that engage, and look for these speakers. She is open to suggestions and welcomes anyone to contact her.

Stacey Pare suggests that daytime Ft. Couch meetings make it difficult for working parents. Felicia Musillo offers Baker's solution of alternating every other month with a morning and evening meeting. Julie Halpner suggests that getting parents to PTA meetings should be our #1 priority, and maybe our focus should be on getting our parents to commit to our schools rather than what we call ourselves.

Kristen Matheny suggests a "bring a friend" meeting reiterating that we want participation and always welcome ideas.

1st Vice President Report

Susan Speer had nothing additional to report today.

2nd Vice President Report

Dr. O'Toole began by stating that the big issues are budget and related state issues. It is his belief that the issue has been addressed in the best possible way, attacking it on many fronts. The board has proposed a tax increase that has not yet gone to a final vote. The teachers union agreed to open contract negotiations affording the district a \$3.7 million savings over two years. Seven positions will not be replaced of the fifteen retirements. They are working hard to not feel the pain in class size and choices and to keep close to what we are accustomed. Dr. O'Toole directs attendants to the website to read his letter and the FAQ's regarding the budget. Pensions still remain the largest obstacle, as they are state mandated, and districts have no control. Budget is an issue throughout the commonwealth.

Board Advisor Report

Rachel Lowden states she has nothing to report.

School Board Director Report

Angela Pedersen reports on behalf of Amy Billerbeck. Angela echoes Dr. O'Toole's sentiment of how hard governance really is. She would like to clarify an accounting misnomer, should the budget pass, regarding the perceived surplus. She states that there

is not truly a surplus, the money would remain in the bank for the already known future deficit. Act 1 did not allow the district to recoup for the .4 millage increase required to pay back the bond, as was previously voted.

Angela believes we are offering things to allow for every child to succeed in life/college, and affirms that it is expensive and worth it. She feels we need to support all programs because they support some child.

Angela informs the attendants that the 2nd Annual Upper St. Clair Gala will occur on October 20, 2012. The night promises to be a lot of fun. Tickets are \$100 p.p. and please get in touch with the committee members with silent auction donations.

Wishing to address Boyce field criticism, Angela explains that the money from bonds cannot go into educational or general budgets and must go towards capital improvements. The field will be in good use by athletic associations and was what felt right for the community's use.

Unit Presidents' Reports

Baker

Felicia Musillo reported on the following:

-Our last Baker PTA meeting was held on Tuesday, May 8th. It was the change over meeting. All new officers were installed.

Fundraising:

-Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A in May - Raised over \$300

Staff Appreciation:

-Held the week of May 7th. Ann Shiry and her committee did wonderful job as always. The parents were very generous with their donations to make the staff appreciation a success. The students also participated in the week long event with daily themes.

Student Activities:

-May 3rd we had a fun S.T.A.R. night open house.

-May 4th was our Jump Rope for heart Assembly.

-Baker's Musical Production , It's a Kids Life, was held on May 10^h

-Field Day was held on May 18th. This is always a great event, especially when the weather cooperates. However, this was the last year we will host the event at the high school. We will be moving field day back to Baker next year for an end of the year, all day event.

-Baker Book Swap was held on May 22nd and 23rd. Students were able to trade in their books for "new" ones!

-May 31st was Kindergarten Meet and Greet

-1st Grade Outdoor Classroom on May 16th

- 2nd Grade Outdoor Classroom on May 11th
- 3rd Grade Outdoor Classroom on May 8th
- 4th Level students have received their PTA sponsored “graduation” T-shirts” to proudly wear to their special events.
- 4th Level Memory Books will be preordered this month and available for pick up after printing this summer. Email notifications will be sent to all families who ordered.
- 4th Level Pool Party was held this past Monday, June 4th. There were great pool games, activities in the gym, crafts, pizza and cookies.
- All classroom end of the year parties are in the process of being planned for next week.
- Back to Coffee for all committee chairs scheduled for August 25th at 10 am at Felicia Musillo’s home.
- We are ready for a busy summer with our committee chairs and look forward to the 2012-2013 school year

Eisenhower

Diane Stief’s report included the following:

STAFF APPRECIATION-

April 30th-first week of May-This year's theme was “Splash into Summer”. The front hallway was decorated with summer items and each teacher was surprised on Monday with their classroom door decorated. Throughout the week, we had breakfast, lunch and desserts, massages, daily gift card raffles, chinese auction and raffle baskets, each teacher was given flip-flops in their size and an insulated mug for a refreshment. The teachers seemed thrilled.

BOOK FAIR-

May 1 through the 3

STAR NIGHT-

May 3

SPRING MUSICAL-

May 10

ELEMENTARY BAND CONCERT @ HS-

May 14

“WATER DAY ACTIVITIES”-

May 16- The 2011 Leadership Academy fourth grade students from all elementary schools were invited to join the United Senior Citizens of USC

for the 40th anniversary of the clean water act at the old rec. center. They engaged in activities to support the precious resource-WATER. The goal of the get-together was to create a video of our interactions and science experiments for the EPA contest.

STRINGS CONCERT-GRADES 3&4 @ HS
May 22

KINDERGARTEN SPRING VISIT-
May 23-PTA did a short presentation on joining the PTA and volunteering opportunities at Eisenhower.

FOURTH GRADE FAREWELL @ HS
May 24

Streams

Michele Fisher reported on the following:

Streams Chick-fil-A Spirit Night was held on May 7. Streams made a profit that night of \$173.34!

Our final PTA meeting of the 2011-2012 school year was held on May 8. Our new officers were installed. Michele Fisher, President, Christine Vinay, Vice President, Roland Gargani, Treasurer and Harlow Lisak, Secretary.

In May, the 2nd grade enjoyed field trips to the Outdoor Classroom, the USC Log House and Heinz Hall while 1st grade also visited the Outdoor classroom.

The Spring Musical was held in the Streams gym on May 10, while Programs & Assemblies presented “A Vocal Journey with Etta Cox and the Al Dowe Band” on May 14.

The “Spring into Kindergarten” orientation was held on May 23rd for the incoming kindergarten class. The current Kindergarten class had their own “move up day” to 1st grade also on May 23rd and got to experience eating lunch at school on June 5. Also on June 5, the 4th grade had their move up day to Boyce.

Our PTA Turnover Lunch was held on May 24.

May 25 was Streams Pirate Outing where some of our 4th grade students started the evening off by singing the National Anthem under the direction of Mr. Jeff Leonhardt.

470 tickets were sold. The next day, Saturday, May 26, these same students were part of the dedication festivities at the Miracle League Field, singing, "Take Me Out to the Ballgame". Streams School has a bronze plaque on the wall of donors, thanks to the efforts of last year's Streams Children for Children Silent Auction!

Today (June 6), the Kindergarten Olympics are being held. Friday, June 8 will be Streams Field Day for grades 1st-4th. That same evening, the 4th grade graduation party will be held at the High School to celebrate the class of 2020!

This year, the Streams PTA is proud to sponsor the first annual Kindergarten Connection! This idea grew from an ice cream social that occurred at one of our Streams parent's homes a few years ago. At the PTA meeting on May 8, 2012, membership voted to sponsor this as a fully funded PTA event. All incoming Streams Kindergarteners will be invited to attend Kindergarten Connection on Tuesday, June 12, 2012 from 6:30pm-8:00pm at the Rec Center on McLaughlin. The purpose of this occasion is to allow the incoming Kindergarteners and their families the opportunity to meet each other before the start of school. A take home craft, a frozen treat from Rita's as well as simple activities are planned. Through this social, we will also be setting up play dates in the park for this class throughout the summer at Wiltshire Park. Moving forward, this will become an annual event for each new incoming Kindergarten class. This will also become a PTA committee chaired by the PTA President and Vice President with committee members consisting of parents of incoming kindergarteners.

Boyce

Amanda Beggy reported on the following:

Past Events:

Deer Valley Trip- Now- May 18

5th Grade NASA Trips- May 14-21

4th Grade Open Mike with Mrs. Brown- May 16 at 9:30am

May 22-25- Staff Appreciation Week

5th Grade Musical- May 23 & 24

Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A- May 30th 5-8pm

6th Grade Graduation Party- Ft Couch June 1

4th Grade Move Up Day- June 5; parent meeting 7:00pm

Upcoming Events:

Field Day- June 11

Next Meeting is September 12, 2012-Wednesday 9:30AM & 6:30 PM SALLY FOSTER MEETING!!!!- This will be the only evening meeting for the year

Fort Couch

Deb Levy's report was read as submitted:

President's report

In May Fort Couch had a wonderful Teacher and Appreciation lunch. Many amazing foods and desserts were made by our parents. The teachers and staff couldn't thank us enough. The 8th grade farewell was a huge success. It was held at the high school on May 31st. There was a great turnout. Finally, on June 5th Fort Couch PTA voted on a resolution to dissolve the PTA. The vote was 27 to dissolve the PTA and become a PTSO, 20 to remain a PTA. Since the dissolution requires a 2/3 majority (which in this case would have been 32 votes), the resolution did not pass. For this year, Fort Couch will remain a PTA. Thank you to everyone who took the time to come to our meetings and for coming out to vote. Have a great summer, we will see you in the fall. Also, our vice president for Fort Couch will be unable to take on the position in the fall. If you could announce that Fort Couch is once again looking for a VP that would be great. I will send out an ealert tomorrow.

Deb Levy, Fort Couch

Standing Committees Reports

Arts in Education

Susan Rosati reported that this year's PTA Reflections theme is "The Magic of the Moment." This year there should be no barriers in applying as in the past. Applications can be done all online.

Directory

Beth Hornak reported on the following:

All key chairmen have been oriented to their roles. Advertising commitments are being finalized – we have currently lost one advertiser – but will have another to take their spot. Our plan is to get our PTA mailing to the district families one week prior to start of classes. Proofreading will take place within a week of Labor Day break. We are planning for the Directories to be delivered the week of October 8th, primarily with delivery to the HS on October 10th for Open House.

Unit presidents will play a key role in this process. Our committee will need your officer & chair listings along with phone/email by August 1st. We ask that you submit what you have at that point – all of our tech chairs work outside the home and will not be in a position to do big jobs at the last minute. If a few positions are open, it is easy enough to fill those few in at a later date. We will also be asking for you to participate in the proofreading process – a 30 – 60 minute commitment – on the first day of proofreading. Our new tech chairs still need to meet with their district contact and this will help us determine how soon proofreading can begin. Either I or Beth Ellis (Directory Proofreading Chair) will be emailing all involved people throughout this process - I promise with adequate notice.

The best way to contact anyone on our committee will be through the Directory email which is uscdirectory@gmail.com . I will be overseeing that and will direct queries to the appropriate chairs. Please note that through June & July our response time may be slow – but by August through delivery, we will be working through that source on a daily basis.

It was noted by Council that Beth should be commended and recognized for her many years of hard work for the Directory.

Membership

Stacey Pare asked unit presidents to contact her with who their membership is, and contact information. She has purchased the necessary envelopes and stamps.

Staciepare@gmail.com

Michele Fisher asked if newly incoming families are mailed. The discussion focused on how to get the membership out to new families, and Rachel added that welcome packets were placed in offices of the units with pertinent information. Stacie will also email Dr. O'Toole to see about Mrs. Stabile coordinating a way to bridge the gap of folks that arrive after the information has gone out. Also to address Susan Speer's question regarding an intention to coordinate mentor families for new families.

Special Projects

Rachel Lowden had none to report.

TIP/PIE

Susan Speer's report follows:

The committee is currently brainstorming ideas for possible TIP/TIE speakers for next year. We hope to have 3-4 events – at least one of which would be an open mike with Dr. O'Toole. If anyone has any subjects they would be interested in please email me.

Welcoming Committee

Stacie de la Parra's report was read as follows:

The 8th Annual PTA Council New Family Welcome Event will be held on Friday, September 21, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. A catered dinner will be offered to our guests, followed by complimentary tickets to the home football game against Penn Hills.

Unit presidents, kindly forward/confirm your welcome committee, as some of the work will start in late summer.

Reporting Organizations

PTSO

Beth Erlanger reported on behalf of President Karen Austen:

May 15 – Faculty/Staff Talent Show

May 16 – Dean's Breakfast

May 16 – PTSO Changeover Meeting

May 21 – High School Awards Night

May 24 – PAC Meeting

May 24 – Senior Banquet

June 4-7 – Finals

June 8 - Senior Breakfast/Graduation Practice/Seniors' Last Day

June 12 – Last Day of School and PROM

June 14 – Graduation

June 18 – USC Kennywood Day

Community Foundation

Pierrett Van Ryzin is no longer the chair, the position is open.

Leann Adamo offered a plug for the Family Movie Night at The Boyce Mayview Community and Recreation Center on Aug. 23, 2012 and Wednesday Sept. 12, the Giving Tea at the home of Terry Piatt.

Old Business

The open committee positions were mentioned during the meeting and the PTA/PTSO transition was also addressed previously.

New Business

No new business was presented.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lyn Benonis

Council Secretary

Date approved: _____

UPPER ST. CLAIR PTA COUNCIL GENERAL FUND

Meeting Date - June 6, 2012

May 2, 2012 - June 5, 2012

5/2/12 - 6/5/1

Current Mon Year To 2011-2012
To Date Date BUDGET

General Fund		\$ 4,208.88	\$ 4,900.00
Directory RESERVE		\$ 3,100.00	\$ 3,100.00
Directory Advertising Prepayment		\$ 3,100.00	3,100.00
Beginning Cash Balance 7/1/11		<u>\$10,408.88</u>	<u>\$ 8,000.00</u>
INCOME			
Directory	\$0.00	\$10,135.00	10,100.00
Interest Income / Misc	\$0.00	\$0.00	-
Membership Dues	\$0.00	\$2,312.00	2,500.00
Unit Contributions			
Arts In Education	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$350.00
Membership Envelope	\$0.00	\$365.00	\$365.00
Membership Stamps	\$0.00	\$900.00	\$900.00
Welcoming Committee	\$0.00	\$525.00	\$525.00
PIE/GATE/TIP/TIE	\$0.00	\$280.00	\$280.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$0.00	<u>\$14,817.00</u>	<u>\$15,020.00</u>
		\$25,225.88	\$26,120.00
EXPENSES			
Administrative			
President	\$0.00	\$23.85	\$50.00
Secretary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Treasurer	\$0.00	\$55.13	\$75.00
Arts in Ed (Reflections)	\$0.00	\$363.81	\$600.00
Candidate's Forum	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Changeover Luncheon	\$38.98	\$38.98	\$200.00
Council Contributions			
Arts in Education - Ref	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
PIE-GATE-TIP-TIE	\$0.00	\$140.00	\$140.00
Welcoming Committee	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
Directory	\$0.00	\$13,088.58	\$13,200.00

Directory Reserve	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,100.00
Future Projects	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,550.00
GATE	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Health and Safety	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Holiday Brunch	\$0.00	\$175.44	\$200.00
Honorary PTA Life Membe	\$0.00	\$162.81	\$150.00
Insurance	\$0.00	\$275.00	\$350.00
Leadership Training	\$0.00	\$89.04	\$300.00
Mailing expense-Stamps	\$0.00	\$70.00	\$1,800.00
Membership (envelopes ar	\$0.00	\$55.47	\$445.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$90.00
Founders day Contributio	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
Hannah Kent Schoff Fun	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
PA PTA Convention	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Paper & Printing	\$28.90	\$273.39	\$250.00
Publications	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
PIE - Partners in Educatio	\$0.00	\$121.72	\$250.00
Dr. Pope Scholarship Func	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Spelling Bee	\$0.00	\$363.06	\$550.00
TIP/TIE - Topics in Educati	\$0.00	\$54.64	\$500.00
Welcoming Committee Exp	\$0.00	\$408.32	\$525.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$67.88	\$16,154.24	\$26,120.00
Ending Cash Balance 6/5\$ (67.88) \$9,071.64			
Total Directory Income YTD		\$13,235.00	
Total Directory Expenses YTD		\$13,088.58	
Directory Fund		\$146.42	rolled \$140 into directory reserve
Total Cash Balance		\$9,071.64	
Directory Fund		\$0.00	
Directory Reserve		\$3,240.00	
General Fund - Remaining Cash Bal		\$5,831.64	

Upper St. Clair PTA Council – General Fund			
5/2/2012 – 6/5/2012			
OPENING BALANCE 5/2/12			\$9,139.52
RECEIPTS:			
TOTAL RECEIPTS			\$0.00
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE			\$9,139.52
DISBURSEMENTS:			
5/29/12 – USC School District – Copies		(\$28.90)	
5/29/12 – Rachel Lowden – Changeover Lunc		(\$38.98)	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			(\$67.88)
ENDING BALANCE 6/5/12			\$9,071.64
Submitted by:			

Upper St. Clair PTA Council – Special Projects Fund	
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5/2/2012 - 6/5/2012							
OPENING BALANCE 5/2/12						\$1,186.74	
RECEIPTS:							
TOTAL RECEIPTS						\$0.00	
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE						\$1,186.74	
DISBURSEMENTS:							
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS						\$0.00	
ENDING BALANCE 6/5/12						\$1,186.74	
Submitted by:							

5/2/2012 – 6/5/2012		
OPENING BALANCE	5/2/12	\$1,186.74
RECEIPTS:		
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$0.00
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE		\$1,186.74
DISBURSEMENTS:		
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		\$0.00
ENDING BALANCE	6/5/12	\$1,186.74
Submitted by:		