APPROVED MINUTES
CORL STREET ELEMENTARY
PTO BOARD MEETING
APRIL 12, 2011

Minutes:

Attendance: Scott Mato (Principal), Lee McGann (Teacher Representative), Vanessa Tomasko (Teacher Representative), Lonni Friedken (President), Anna Childe-Muramoto (Vice-President), Sue Barger (Treasurer), Linda Erickson (Secretary), Lauren Umbel, Michele Rowland, Karen Moser, Becky Misangyi, Jill Ross, Katie Shoemaker, Dawn Maguire, Gaby Winqvist, Stephane Dubois, Aiden Wertz

1. **Call to order: Welcome and introduction of members present:** Lonni Friedken called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and members introduced themselves and signed in.

2. **Approval of Minutes:**
   A change was made to the amount received from the Hoss's fundraiser to $80.10. A motion was made to approve the March 15, 2011 minutes by Karen Moser. Anna Muramoto seconded the motion. Motion passed.

3. **President's Report:**
   Lonni Friedken noted that the A+ Rewards program ended in March and Corl St. will receive $1,548.81. The rewards program will start again in the fall.

   There was positive feedback on the movie night held in March. We will do another one in the fall and the following spring.

   The dodge ball tournament was a success and the parents involved in organizing this fundraiser did a great job.

   Thank you notes were passed around from students and teachers for funding provided for the recent Harrisburg trip for the 3rd and 4th grades.

   There are currently positions open on the Executive PTO Board for the coming school year as follows: President, Vice-President and Treasurer. If anyone is interested they can contact anyone on the current Board.

There are currently open committee chair positions for the following: Newsletter, Boxtops, Yearbook, Innisbrook, Movie Night and the Author Visit. Chairs that will remain in their positions are as follows: Karen Moser – Rewards Programs, Vilmos Misangyi – EXPO, Kathy McClintic – Directory, Katie Shoemaker – Ice Cream Social and Robin Bierly, Carolyn Kello and Anna Muramoto will co-chair the Bookfair.

4. **Principal's Report:**

Scott Mato reporting:
Mr. Mato welcomed PSU students in attendance at tonight's meeting to present the sundial project to the PTO. The book exchange will be held this week. Sustainability activities are taking place at the school involving both high school and students from PSU. For Arbor Day K-2 students planted an ornamental tree near the bench honoring Rick Madore. The garden is coming along and recently an individual who lives near the school who is an entomologist offered their help. There are field trips coming up soon.

Redistricting: Corl Street is not facing any changes currently. There will be no staffing changes. This issue will have to be reviewed year to year at this point. Current capacity for K-2 classrooms is 23, and 23-25 for 3rd through 5th grade classes.

Budget: The School Board has different ideas as to how to deal with the budget cuts for the coming school year and there is some uncertainty as to how much money will be cut. The worst-case scenario seems to be $6 million with the best case being $2 million. The tax rate could increase to 4% this year to address funding cuts. The board is fragmented at this point. There has to be a preliminary budget in May with a final budget by the end of June. Mr. Mato encourages all parties to contact their representatives. Jake Corman is on the budget committee. We can be our own best advocates. Community meetings are being held. Staff who could be affected by cuts have been told. There is a lot of uncertainty currently.

5. **Open Forum:**

Fundraisers: For the coming school year the emphasis will be on having a lesser number of fundraisers and focusing more on some greater earning individual fundraisers. We will continue to do Innisbrook. There will be a carnival theme with the ice cream social to raise funds. Grays Woods has done carnivals and Sheridan Sheehan is looking into what kinds of things they do. Lonni Friedken checked in with someone about renting a dunk tank. The Boalsburg Fire Company might be a possibility. In the spring, the dodge ball

tournament will be held as well as a Run-A-Thon. Students will each run 15 minutes during the school day. Lonni Friedken has a contact person who will come in and run this fundraiser for us. 20% of the profit would go to her. Mrs. Friedken will speak further with her. We will keep the bookfair, spirit sales and rewards programs and are looking at other possibilities for fundraisers with Chik-Fil-A, Applebees, Five Guys and Home Delivery.

The issue of the cost of printing for fundraisers was brought up and it was discussed how Easterly Parkway has eliminated most paper and distributes most information electronically. It might be a good idea to have a classroom parent for each class to help distribute information. Lonni Friedken has contacted Phil Harvey about the list serve. Parents will have to subscribe to the list serve. It was suggested that parents be advised at the beginning of the school year that they need to subscribe to get information.

Marianna's or a Home Delivery fundraiser will be kept for the 5th grade t-shirts for next year.

Discussed PTO funding. PTO has been able to fund a lot of things in the past. There have been some hard feelings when difficult decisions must be made about what to fund. PTO has fewer funds than in the past. The District is going to stop paying for more things and it becomes more critical for the PTO to distribute money wisely. It was agreed that it is important to communicate to teachers and families what PTO is funding. It might be helpful to publish the amount distributed per child for field trips. Some activities that have been funded in the past may change to be scheduled bi-annually, such as Author Visits, rather than annually.

6. **Teacher Representative:**
   Thank you for the teacher treats. The 3rd and 4th grade field trip was greatly enjoyed by the students. Conference slips have been sent home and parents should return the slips to the teachers.

   Aiden Wertz commented on the choir concert, and having a pizza lunch for the students the day of the concert. It was discovered too late that funding wasn't available for the pizza this year which caused some difficulties He asked if we could put money in the PTO budget for next year for the pizza lunch.

7. **Treasurer's Report:**
   Sue Barger provided and update on the budget and income/expenses for PTO.

8. **Request for funds:**
   None

9. **Standing Committee Reports:**
   Open Committees:
   Book Exchange: Lonni Friedken reported for Kristy Witmer. They have collected over 1100 books. After the students choose books the teachers have the opportunity to look at what is left, and the remainder are donated to the AAUW.

   Teacher/Staff Appreciation: Lonni Friedken reported for Regina Brennan. This has been moved to the second week of May. Teachers have made it clear they do not want the PTO spending money. They appreciate food, but do not need anything else.

   Author Visit: Lonni Friedken reported for Paije Davis. The visit is one month away and the kids are all excited. There will be three presentations, and 117 books have been soled. The kids are to wear baseball gear the day of the author's visit, as he is a big baseball fan.

   Yearbook: Lonni Friedken reported for Heather Reese. There are 28 yearbooks remaining.

   Dodge ball: Michele Rowland reported. There were 10 teams of six people each. Most registrations came in the last week. We can potentially increase the number of teams to one per classroom. Teams can have a maximum of eight players. Next year will be close to pure profit. We can try and get donations of baked goods for concessions. This event took a lot of volunteers.

10. **New Business: Ballot Voting**
    Lonni Friedken reported that some parents have indicated they are not comfortable with open votes. They might vote differently if these were done privately. Someone would have to motion to vote by ballot for this to occur.

11. **Sundial Presentation:** A group of PSU graduate students Presented information on a proposed sundial installation on the Corl St. grounds as well as ideas for future use on the playground. The sundial will incorporate the solar system and will be painted. The

project is to finish by the end of the semester. They are requesting assistance from the Corl Street community. Funding will be provided partially from school funds, a parent donor, and Penn State. Plants, mulch and paint may be additional expense. The next step will be for Scott Mato to approach the teachers, in particular the PE teachers to make sure installation does not interfere with areas used for gym classes. The PSU students are hoping installation can be done on 4/21, 4/22 and 4/23.

12. **Adjournment:** Lonni Friedken called the meeting to a close at 9:47 p.m.