

OMS PTSO General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 1, 2016

Attendees: Lamay Vannavong (President), Larissa Pitts (Vice President), Lisette Parson (Treasurer), Stephanie Sansom (Communications), Principal Largen, Tracy Jeffries, Jennifer Wells, Jessica Cody, Michelle Hult, Tressa Harris, Bridget Prikker, Brantlee Spurrier, Elise McGurk, Melissa Taylor, Alisa Johnston and Christine Huston.

Called to order at 9:04a by Ms. Vannavong.

Ms. Vannavong gave introduction.

PTSO Executive Board members introduced themselves.

Budget review:

- Questions & Comments:
 - Agendas: Mrs. Prikker commented on size and noted preference for larger size. Downsizing explained by Board & Mr. Largen—economics; looking to spend less because although it's important that each student have the opportunity to utilize an agenda (Mr. Largen's philosophy is "all or none") that not all students/teachers/teams use them.
 - Discount Cards. Mrs. Prikker commented that she loves the discount cards and is looking forward to next sale. She buys many and gives them as gifts. She's hoping for even more local businesses on the new discount card. The Board has been in contact with discount card program director and notified him of all of the new businesses in our area. He is working on incorporating them.
 - Color Run:
 - Mrs. Hult inquired about the budget. Mrs. Parson responded.
 - Mrs. Hult commented that she thought that it had been decided at the Spring 2016 General Meeting not to have the Color Run. Board and Mr. Largen explained that although doing a different fundraiser other than the Color Run was discussed at the Spring 2016 General PTSO Meeting that a decision had not been made to end the event. The Color Run has become a much-anticipated annual event that everyone really enjoys. Because it works well within school hours and also serves to raise money, it was decided to continue the Color Run. The Color Run profit this year is approximately \$6,500. This number is down from last year, and so is our headcount dramatically. Mrs. Cody commented how the Color Run at Clover Middle School is done as an incentive and that the CMS PTO's budget takes a huge hit. She considered OMS' Color Run a major success as even after expenses, the Color Run was a very profitable event. Discussion was had about how to better promote and increase profitability; also, how to make it fresh & more exciting for older students. Other parents commented on how much their students enjoyed the event.
 - Appreciation: Mrs. Hult inquired about the budget. Mrs. Parson responded.
 - Crossing Guard Collection: Mrs. Hult inquired about the Crossing Guard Collection and whether that money came out of the Appreciation budget. Mrs. Parson explained that

because that is a separate collection, the money received from the collection goes directly to the crossing guards. (People can send in Crossing Guard donations anytime through December 16.)

- The budget approved unanimously after 1st motion to approve made by Stephanie Sansom and 2nd motion to approve made by Brantlee Spurrier.

General Discussion:

- Mrs. Prikker commented on how much she enjoys the school's Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast.
- Mr. Largen gave update on Internet Connectivity Program—currently helping 15 families with a total of 48 students. Discussion about how to get internet for all students; cell towers needed.
- Mrs. Pitts commented on PTSO's efforts to generate new streams of revenue, such as Boosters Program and new rewards programs (Spirit Rock rental, Shutterfly, Shoparoo).
- Mrs. Cody commented on opportunities for grants.
- Mrs. Prikker inquired about field trips and commented on their costliness. Mr. Largen explained the ever-increasing costs of field trips and that it may come to a point where we don't do them if they are too expensive. He explained that there is a requirement to get three (3) bids every year from tour companies and that they always select the lowest bid. Discussion and brainstorming ensued about field trips.
- Mrs. Pitts mentioned that PTSO is managing Giving Tree this year.
- Mrs. Pitts commented on the PTSO webpage and Facebook page as being excellent sources of information. Also noted Fall Newsletter having been distributed via Blackboard email from school, as well as link posted on Facebook page to PTSO webpage document. Encouraged participants to check out PTSO webpage and Facebook page for current events, programs and information.
- Mr. Largen mentioned that the Thanksgiving Meal Food Drive is happening currently through November 17.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50a by Ms. Vannavong.