

Fountain Hills PTO Executive Committee Meeting November 18, 2014

PRESENT: Tara Lamar, Dwight Johnson, Karen Pedersen, Kristy Coup, Nicole Perkins, Ken Brande and Jill Reed. Rosemarie Barker arrived at 9:44. Omar Vargas and Lauren Vargas arrived at 10:08.

ABSENT: N/A

The meeting was called to order by Tara Lamar at 9:08 a.m. in the Conference Room at Fountain Hills Unified School District Office.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: There was a motion to approve the October 21, 2014 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Membership Drive: All teacher certificates have been issued. There was a late hire that we added. Going forward, we will need to revise the teacher certificate letter with more detail on how and what the certificates can be used for.

Pizza Parties: The pizza parties are complete except for Mrs. Helm. We will reach out to her to get the party date set. The 6th grade still needs to get their sweet treat reward. They will receive ice cream sandwiches or cookies at lunchtime. The budget for 130 children is \$50. Karen will be emailing the 6th grade teachers to coordinate this.

Directory: This is a work in progress. There have been many complications.

Book Fair: As we discussed last month, the book fair was very successful in the new location at the Middle School/Four Peaks. McDowell Mountain's profit was \$5,897 with total sales of \$9,829. The profit for Four Peaks and Middle School was \$4,544 with total sales of \$7,575. Next year, the merger between Scholastic and A+ will be complete. We will no longer receive 60% of sales but rather 40% of sales. We checked into the program that Barnes & Noble offers which is 20% of sales. A motion was made to do the book fair during conferences again with Scholastic. The motion was seconded and approved. It might be possible to do a buy 1 get 1 sale in conjunction with the spring event. We will discuss this again at a later date.

Apex: November 24th will be the collections day from the run at Tara's home. After meeting with Anita Gomez, it was the general consensus that the run has lost its luster. The kids weren't very excited for it this year. The teachers felt like the kids were pressured in the classrooms to get sponsorships. Four Peaks' estimated profit is \$3,300 between 8 classrooms. McDowell Mountain's estimated profit is \$10,600 between 20 classrooms. The estimated profit should be around \$7,000. Last year our profit was more than double that at \$18,000. At these numbers, it is not worth it for the PTO or Apex to continue the run going forward. A motion was made to not renew the Apex Fun Run. The motion was seconded and passed. As an alternative, it was mentioned that the Color Dash could be a good replacement for the Apex Fun Run. Sonya at

Amenzone Fitness is going to do some more research on the Color Dash. Initial research shows we could receive 50% of the profits. This could be a possible event to do in the spring.

Karen left the meeting at 9:32.

Gala: Nicole will visit with the teachers about the classroom baskets. All baskets are due in by January 15th.

We are continuing to accept donations from many different businesses.

Karen from Firerock sent over a new menu with a list of appetizers to choose from. The price she is quoting on the new menu is higher than what was originally agreed upon. Jill is going to get with her to straighten the pricing out.

We still need to follow up with Nicci about getting the PayPal link up and running on the website for ticket sales and registration.

McDowell Mountain Yearbook: We are still in need of a Chairperson for this project. This is not a money maker for the PTO and it was discussed whether or not we should do one. Nicole and Tara volunteered to start working on the project.

Rosemarie arrived at 9:44.

Final Election Results: The override passed by a mere 100 votes. Thank you to all of the volunteers who reminded the community to vote. Clearly it made the difference!

NEW BUSINESS

Grandperson's Day: This will take place on November 25th at McDowell Mountain. Nicole and Tara will be taking pictures. Nicole suggested using a large empty frame for the kids and their grandparents to pose in for the photos. Each photo is printed on the spot and sells for \$5. We need to check the ink and paper supply and get petty cash. A back drop for the photos also needs to be made. An E-blast will be sent out advertising this event.

McDowell Mountain Bobcats to Falcon Pep Rally: McDowell Mountain will officially be unified with the rest of Fountain Hills by taking the Falcon as their mascot. Mr. Lawrence and Mrs. Dehombreux have been very active in planning this event. Our goal is to show unity and to bring the community together. The band will be in attendance along with the robotics club and the cheerleaders. Dog tags were ordered for the kids that are being called brag tags.

Lisa with Vital Signs will be getting us the cost for the marquee later today. We are also exploring options for a younger looking Falcon. The cost should be around \$1,500-\$2,000 and will be substantially less by not having it light up.

The bid was received on November 24, 2014 for the sign at a cost of \$1,639.67. An email vote was taken to approve moving forward on the sign. The motion was seconded and passed.

T-shirts for the ceremony have been purchased for all of the teachers. We still need to sign off on the art work. Rosemarie brought samples on her phone. It was decided to use one of the images and to remove the date that was originally shown. The shirts will be sold to the kids for \$10.

Omar and Lauren arrived at 10:08.

Fountain Hills Birthday Party: The application to participate has been submitted. Set-up for the event will be at 3:00. We are not able to break the booth down until 6:00. We will be located on the Avenue of The Fountains. We will need to supply a birthday treat at the event.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Anita Gomez would like the PTO to help with Arts in the Courtyard by providing inflatables to bring in the smaller children. The event includes the entire arts department, i.e. dance, art, band, drama. They charge \$15 per person and have The Radisson provide a complete dinner. The PTO's goal is fundraising. By providing inflatables, the PTO wouldn't be able to make any money. We can help promote the event through the E-blast.

Spring Carnival ideas- we discussed what some other schools do. It was brought up that maybe we go back to what we did several years ago by doing our own food and selling bands for inflatables. In the past, we have never done the carnival in the spring because it competes with Little League Baseball. Golden Eagle Park would be a great location for the carnival. Even with games going on, the kids could still participate in the fun. We are always short on volunteers so maybe the high school kids would like to get their volunteer hours complete.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The reports will come tonight. As of October 31st, the balance was \$82,288. Today the balance is \$80,181. Around \$11k will go back to Scholastic. Estimated balance at \$70k. Lisa Martinez had to reschedule the meeting regarding the funding of teacher certificates until next week. Our balance is up from last year at this time.

VP REPORTS

McDowell Mountain

Request for Funds – None

Site Council- Enrollment has remained the same. The Veteran's Day assembly was a huge success. There were a lot of Veterans who showed up. It was very emotional and moving. Everyone is excited about the Falcon ceremony and the dog tags. The 2nd and 3rd graders are working on self-portraits for the Gala auction.

Four Peaks and Middle School

Request for Funds – Amy Nichols - \$2,000 to offset the price of the reward trip to Sunsplash waterpark. This trip is given to students who meet their reading goals.

Approximately 100 kids would go. It was decided there is no educational value here and the request was denied.

Site Council – none

No further business was brought before the Board and the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m. The next PTO Board meeting will take place in the Conference Room at the Fountain Hills Unified School District Office at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 20, 2015.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristy Coup
PTO Board, Secretary