

NPS PTO Meeting Minutes

October 3, 2016

Attendance: Marilyn Corrigan, Trish St. Laurent, Liz McKanna, Lea Highcove, Marianne Kirby, Laurie Kelly, Lynn Bamford, Renae Martin

Official PTO Business

A. Call to order at 7:05

B. **Vote “Yes” on Library.** Laurie Kelly is on board of trustees for the town library. She came to discuss the Vote “Yes” on the November ballot. They have the opportunity to purchase the Belmont Market space in the Pier Market Place. She gave an overview of why we need a new library in Narragansett and talked about our current library’s shortfalls.

The state has a bond that will help get 40% repayment so the most likely scenario is a \$25.per year increase to the average homeowner. Worst case scenario is a \$40.50 a year for the average homeowner. There are FAQ listed on the library’s website. She asks our support to talk to our friends, neighbors and community to spread the word about this important voting matter. If it passes, it would probably take 2 years to complete this new library.

C. **Recreational Facility Update:** Cheryl and Marianne Kirby discussed the new recreational facility. We explained that we are finalizing our Recreation Committee and looking for a few more parents to join so that we can begin making a very structured timeline with which to work. Realistically this is a 4-year project. Two bids have been given. We need to invite these two companies back to meet with our committee and have more students join in and get a great visual plan together.

D. Leah made a motion to approve the minutes from May 2016, Liz McKanna seconded.

Marilyn discussed that we are looking for a treasurer. Brenda Konopelko resigned at the beginning of this school year. We do have an interested parent

who can start in November. For now, Marilyn is acting Treasurer and we do have a healthy budget to work.

Committee Updates:

- A. Book Fair:** Trish St. Laurent said that we broke even for last year's spring BOGO book fair. She did get \$427 in scholastic Bucks. This year's Fall book fair is scheduled for October 19 - 21. Pirate theme this year. Tomorrow (October 4th) the on-line sign ups will be going out.
- B. Box Tops**—Julie Silvestri is the new Chair for the Box Tops.
- C. Teacher Liaison** – Liz McKanna is our liaison again this year. She talked to staff at NPS and notified that she would continue this year and said that she would share reminders and communications to support our events. Liz said she would put the teacher reimbursement forms in all of their mailboxes. It's \$40 per teacher this year, and if they use it towards the book fair, they will get that reimbursed. These forms are on the website. Sue Littlefield was a guest presenter at NPS and discussed breathing techniques with the staff here at NPS to help lower anxiety in kids and staff members. Renae Martin talked about perhaps starting each class with 30 seconds of deep breaths. Renae discussed the 3-series workshops that are coming via South Kingstown Partnership for Prevention. Marilyn addressed how important it is for teachers to become members of our PTO. We realize how precious their time is as far as attending meetings etc., but their support of paying \$10 for the membership really does help support many of our functions throughout the year. Also discussed seeing if Giulio could update the website more often. Marianne discussed that the school website is going to be changed over soon and Giulio is quite overwhelmed right now, however, she will talk to him so we can have the “face” of the school be more current.
- D. Fund Raiser Review:** -- Leah Highcove discussed the holiday fair for this year. It will run 5 days, December 5 – 9. Two parents are helping shadow her this year, because her daughters are in 8th grade this year. Discussed doing the 5-Guys fundraiser again. We made about \$250 but it was effortless. Picking a date before February vacation might work. Leah also mentioned that as a result of last year's survey that we did. Several families mentioned that doing a Gingerbread house making “enrichment” project would be fun. Another idea that was brought up was Bingo. NES had several successful Bingo nights. Lip Sync Battle was done

last year at NPS and was a big hit. That was another idea for a fundraiser. There was a dodgeball tournament a couple of years ago that was also a big hit. Staff versus student basketball tournament.

- E. Upcoming Events** There is an event list for the upcoming events. October is anti-bullying month. We will access this from Joann Mangilli. Joann Mouradajin is starting a “Newsie” club where the students will contribute tweets, instagrams and facebook posts and post on a regularly basis.
- F. Membership Contest** Leah got 2 tickets from Highland Farms for the Trails To Terror. We did note deadline was September 30th so we will honor that with those who already submitted memberships.
- G. Booster Club** Pancake fundraiser on October 30th at Applebees.
- H. Bulletin Board** Renae Martin asked what expectations are for updating the bulletin board. Leah and Marilyn gave brief overview of keeping it current with seasonal themes and any current affairs and happenings that are happening such as fundraisers, Stop & Shop program, Box Tops updates, etc.
- I. Sunshine Fund** Linda Jordan is the Coordinator. PTO would like to make a donation. Cheryl will reach out to Linda to keep in touch so we can send cards for new babies, weddings, promotions. Etc.
- J. Meeting adjourned 8:10 PM**