

**West High School PTSA
Regular Meeting
December 12th, 2013
The Cove**

Call to Order:

Celia Rozen called the meeting to order at 5:35; a quorum was present.

Additions to Agenda:

The agenda was approved as presented.

Present:

Tracie Pierce, Celia Rozen, Berta Gardner, Misa Arai, Rod Hill, Dawn Brayfield, Erin Brayfield, Rick Stone, Gary Prokosch, Jennifer Fink, Marge Stoneking, John Bernitz, Sam Bernitz, Brenda Bowles, Deb Casello, Kathryn Casello, Dawn Danner, Vivienne Murray, Bonnie York, Mary Geddes, Elana Fortson, Elise Moore, Jacob Volz, Cindy Tabios, Adrienne Reed, Cindy Mans, Scott Erdmann, Debby Burwen, Mikayla Teel, Davonee Troutman, Maeva Ordaz, Wendy Leseman, and Staci Cox.

Approval of Minutes: November 14th, 2013

Tracie moved that the minutes be approved as amended, seconded by Vivienne. The motion passed.

Guest Speaker: Berta Gardner

Vivienne introduced State Senator Berta Gardner. Berta reported that there is a low chance of school vouchers passing. Many legislators are visiting schools in their districts in order to get an idea of what the needs in the community are. The Anchorage Caucus meeting will be January 11th, at which community members can talk to their legislators. On the 7th of January there will be a Legislative Committee meeting, at which members of the public can listen and send in questions.

Reports

Principal's Report:

Rick Stone thanked the PTSA's involvement in getting the Career Resouce Center running. The website is getting worked on, and Rick thanked the parents who shared their perspectives on what is needed. The CTE building's schematics plan will go in front of the School Board in February. Ground breaking will occur in the coming summer, as will construction on the end of the back field work. The dance at Snowball was staffed much more conservatively. The school budget cuts will hit the school harder than normal this year, and Rick asked that the community speak up for how valuable education is, and to speak up at the public meetings to make sure their voices are heard.

Treasurer's Report:

Deena Mitchell was not at the meeting, so she sent in a written report. Deena recommended that the PTSA hold spending for today's meeting to at most \$20,000. Tracie moved that the treasurer's report be approved as submitted, seconded by Marge Stoneking. There was discussion about how to plan for the rest of the year, given the uncertainty in eScrip. Mary Geddes expressed concern that there are missing liabilities, and asked that Tracie wait to approve the report until Deena is present at the meeting. Tracie retracted her motion, which was approved by Marge.

Eagle's Cache Report:

Dawn Danner reported that she is now taking over the Eagle's Cache from Gail French

Membership Report:

Brenda reported that there are currently 286 members, which is 9 greater than last year. This total is 15 members greater than last year.

Newsletter Report:

Jennifer reported that the December newsletter is printed out, and to send in any comments on the new website to her.

Fundraising Report:

Tracie reported that there are funds that will be deposited in the PTSA account soon.

President's Report:

Celia reported that she is happy with the PTSA's role in the school. She said that she is happy with the community that is supported by the PTSA, and feels that the teachers at West want to stay at the school because they feel the support of the community.

Member Concerns:

Cindy asked about how best to get in contact with teachers, and if she was approaching it best by emailing teachers. Rick responded that Cindy is doing it right, and to contact higher in the system when teachers don't respond.

New Business

CRC Committee:

Adrienne Wilson reported on the work she, along with Jennifer Fink and Vivienne Murray, have been working on developing the Career Resource Center, to replace the work that Gail Rutz did in previous years. There are volunteers who will be in the counseling office to help students with scholarships, college applications, and more. Adrienne said that the PTSA's role in the CRC is to help the counselors with communication and filling out forms. Tracie asked if PTSA volunteers have access to confidential information, and Adrienne responded that they do not. John moved to ratify the actions being taken by the CRC committee, seconded by Tracie. The

motion passed. Celia proposed that there be a chair of the CRC. Adrienne volunteered to be the chair of the CRC committee.

Grants:

- Tracie moved to approve the grant for Ms. Hart's plates for \$100, seconded by Vivienne. The motion passed.
- Marge moved to grant \$1,000 to the International Club for Phillipines disaster relief, seconded by Sam Bernitz. There was discussion of whether it is acceptable by the PTSA bylaws to grant this money. John requested a friendly amendment to increase the motion to \$1,900, to which Marge and Sam agreed. The motion passed 9-7.
- Eli moved to grant \$634.87 for DVD purchases at the library, \$1,746 for Softball uniforms, \$2,300 to the Spanish Club, and \$925 to baseball for equipment, seconded by Elise. The motion passed.
- John moved to grant \$4,218.40 to the library for databases, \$238.75 to Ms. Robertsen for West Side Story tickets, \$1,850 to NYO, \$400 to Poetry Out Loud awards, \$2,000 for Alaska Airlines t-shirts, \$2,250 for Model UN registration fees, \$3,986 for rifle equipment, seconded by Cindy. Tracie made a friendly amendment to reduce the library database to \$2,218.40, given the line item discretionary fund for the library, approved by John and Cindy.

Adjournment:

Sam moved to adjourn at 7:11, approved by unanimous consent.