

Cider Mill PTA Meeting Minutes - Approved May 16, 2017

Attendees:

Carolyn Lyon, Mary Jones, Kim Hall, Lisa Finn, Jen Acerra-Markey, Annemarie Aronowitz, Nicola Davies, Cheryl Ryder, Jennifer Mitchell, Erica Rome, Jill Wilkinson, Tara Snow, Gretchen Jeanes, Lauren Catalano, Yim Yan Lai, Melissa Cirillo

1. Meeting convened at 9:20am
2. Welcome by Nicola Davies

3. Officer Reports:

President's Report by Nicola Davies

- Walk-a-thon theme – “Just Keep Walking”
- Visiting Author needs to be changed to 2 days because of costs
- Reusable sandwich bag to be sold as part of a “Zero Waste” project coming from MB
- Bylaws changes (see attached file)
 - Exec Board being changed from President to Co-President
 - Changing the members of the BoD
 - Removing all references to PTA Council
 - Reducing quorum to 11 members

Treasure's Report by Lisa Finn

- Income from Photo day
- Expenses for grants approved this meeting, teacher appreciation week
- Plan to have about \$5000 left for any summer expenses

Membership Report by Lisa Finn

- No new members

Secretary's Report by Carolyn Lyon

- Presented the minutes from the April 18, 2017 meeting to be approved.
- Motion to approve was made by Carolyn Lyon and second by Jen Markey. Motion approved
- She also asked for everyone who is at the meeting needs to sign in on the attendance sheet

Parent at Large by Kim Hall

- Started negotiating D. Smith's contract
- CT Association of Boards of Education awarded for their calendar, leadership, communication, budget presentation
- Chronic absenteeism – looked at rates per school, CM lowest rate
- Improvement in financial controls
- Slow down and support teachers in the district changes
- CM - Shifting administration time so that teachers are not feeling distance between teachers and admins
- CM – increasing leadership roles in students in school
- CM - Improving and increasing anchor tasks – next year will use small group to increase instruction

- Moving to Voiceover IP for all staff
- Policy revision
 - food and nutrition: parents group working with Chartwells
 - Chartwells must meet actual nutrition guidelines since district receives \$ for reduced lunches, dictates what kinds of selections they can offer the kids

4. Principal's Report by Dr. Jennifer Mitchell

- Thank you for Teacher Appreciation Week!
- Communication survey from PTA will be used in the staff leadership team

5. Teacher Report by Cheryll Ryder

- Luncheon was so appreciated and allows for teachers to mix with other teachers and talk
- Art Show is on the display
- Band concert next week – 4th grade parents invited to concert to see what it is all about

6. Committee Reports

Gifts and Grants (Mary Jones)

- Water Bottle Refill Stations – \$2500, Nicola made a motion, Jen Markey second, motion approved
- Art Show food - \$250 for cheese, crackers, grapes, and water Nicola made motion, Tara second, motion approved
- LLC Items - \$35,000, Nicola made a motion to approve the grant, Kim Hall second the motion
 - Formal TV studio to replace lab #3 – make it an integral communication part of the school
 - Presentation Area in the library
 - Large Screen to share special events and communication
 - Push out the idea of the LLC into the house pods with collaborative table with flexible seating

Hospitality

- Great teachers appreciation week!
- Food truck for teachers in June

Nominations

- Election for Executive Board for school year 2017-2018, Tara made motion, Gretchen second the motion. Motion passed
 - Co-president: Annemarie Aronowitz
 - Co-President: OPEN
 - Treasurer: Lisa Finn
 - Secretary: Carolyn Lyon
 - VP of Membership: Alex Frisbee
 - VP of Fundraising: OPEN

Spring Book Fair

- In the gym week of June 5th – focus on summer reading list

7. Flexible Seating Review – Mrs Rome and Mrs Cirilo and students

- Good to calm down after recess, more than enough seats for students to choose
- Feel independent
- Taking tests, more focused, allows to move around
- Group work easier
- More comfortable for longer work times
- Sharing different seats with other students
- Allows to sit with new students in classroom

Meeting ended at 10:30