

John Paterson PTO

October Meeting

Attendance: Barbara Turner, Lynn Rioux, Linda Cascone, Maureen Callahan, Lisa Abrams, Marie Zenobi, Alisa Houldcroft, Janet Schneider, Karen Kenney, Eileen Colonese, Tony Servidone, Marilyn Wilsey, Stephen Foresi, Sandi Girolamo, Cheryl Davis, Dawn Wolf, Joy DePaolis, Kim Barresi, Stephen Bennett, Sharon Lichota, Loraine Lagace.

Review of September Meeting Minutes – Motion to Accept Made and Seconded

Childcare arranged by Alisa Houldcroft's Girl Scout Troop. Need RSVP for future meetings to plan on approx. # of girls needed.

Treasurer's Report – Sandi Girolamo and Cheryl Davis

Approx \$5000 profit from fall fundraiser and about \$2000 from Fall Bookfair (up from last year by 31%)

Principal's Report – Stephen Foresi

SLP wonderful attendance

NEASC accreditation process; Newington has been accredited for almost 30 years.

Currently in 2nd year of 2 ½ year process.

CMT Meeting this Thursday the 12th from 6-7 pm in the gym.

WedFire Prevention/safety; NVFD will come

Halloween Parade- focus on safety; rain plan is indoors, but cannot accommodate parents

Mr. Lenares, the Board of Ed Rep scheduled will not be able to attend.

Membership Drive Update – Eileen Colonese

160 members now/ 128 parents and 32 teachers

Received another 10 today

Fundraising –

Genovese some deposits

October 24 is delivery date; pick up is scheduled for 3:00 – 6:30pm

Will need volunteers.

We are approx ½ way to our goal of \$15,000

Thurs or Fri fundraiser will be done so orders will be received for Xmas. Incentive may not need to do another in Spring.

Wrapping paper and Yankee Candle have historically been our most profitable.

Scrip Gift Card Program – Eileen Colonese

2 day turnaround time

Mention of a Holiday Boutique Nite with coffee, pastries and selling certificates

We will need parents to staff a table in the front lobby at pick up time.

Need Volunteers – will assemble a group at the end of the meeting

Will only accept checks; no cash

Will email notification when gift card is in for pick up.

Also need volunteers to solicit businesses for donations for the Fall Fest – Alisa Houldcroft and Randi Thureson volunteered.

Request for Funds – Dawn Wolf

Mr. Kemp has requested monies from the PTO for a new sound system. Request also submitted to NEF for a grant. Getting a 2nd quote to verify the price (should be done tomorrow) from existing company.

Motion to provide up to \$4960 less any grant monies made by Dawn Wolf

Motion seconded by Sandi Girolamo.

No opposed.

Mr. Foresi suggested 2 bids be obtained for purchases the PTO is asked to fund for the future.

Author Visit – Janet Schneider/Joy DePaolis

Jerry Palotta coming Thursday

Students designed their favorite letter

Does bring books when he comes.

Parents are welcome to attend; he will do 3 presentations:

K and 1st grade at 9:30 am

4th Grade at 10:45 am

and 2nd and 3rd Grade at 1:15 pm

The presentations will last about 1 hour.

Patricia Polocca book sale; she has 50 books. She will provide bookplates- she has carpal tunnel syndrome and does not sign books here during visit. Publishers will accept returns we just pay return postage – publisher gives us 40% discount.

Motion made to pass on discount to parents by Eileen Colonese

Motion seconded by Lisa Abrams.

No opposed.

Book order due Monday, popular books are The Keeping Quilt, Mr. Faulkner, Thunder Cake and Meteor.

Hospitality Report – Randi Thureson

Cafeteria Workers day Wed, flowers and a note given to each from the PTO. Bus drivers day coming; will buy candy (maybe use Scrip next year)

Custodial Workers Day next month

Witches Brew – Mr. Foresi will check to see if it will be done.

Tile Art Project – Presented by Eileen Colonese

Info received from Sonya Casarato; Part of Project #1, the key is missing from the art near the gym. Has been given to a printer for key to be made, will cost from \$600-\$700.

Project #2 is the Tile Art Border. Phase 1 started 2 years ago; art drawn in class, firing done and payment made. Pictures from last year are waiting to be sent in and fired – will be an additional \$3200-\$3500. Phase 3 has not been started by Ms. Feola. This will be an additional \$3200-\$3500. The tack strip has been estimated at an additional \$1500 minimum and there has yet to be a quote for installation. In the past, installation was done by a Newington parent free of charge.

We had earmarked the money transferred from the Scrip account (approx. \$7000) originally to fund this project. Original plans or notes for this project do not exist. Will require further research and will be presented at a future meeting, hopefully November.

Website –Dawn Wolf

Dawn is working with Len and Joanne Errera to gather info to bring to this group on options available to us as far as a PTO website linked to The John Paterson site.

Committees and Co Chairs – Dawn Wolf

A list will be put together as to who has volunteered for what to date and discussion for volunteers will be had in detail at the next meeting.

Pamphlets for Family Fun Nite Activities distributed for interested parents to review, received from PTO Today, some new ideas include an arts and crafts nite, a science project nite, as well as a movie nite and a family game nite. ? Randi Thureson interested in an arts and craft nite? ?Karen Kenney interested in a game nite?

PTO Insurance – Sandi Girolamo

Basic coverage mandated by Board of Ed in place. Additional coverages can be purchased at any time thereafter. We are insured as of the date of our application, on or about September 30, 2006.

Meeting ended at 8:20 pm.