

Hamagrael PTA Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2011

1. Call to Order
2. Presidents' Report: Amy Higgs and Holly Dellenbaugh
 - A. Introductions :
 - Amy Higgs began introductions of Bd. members and those members present also introduced themselves.
 - B. Report from Presidents' Council:
 - This is a meeting of Elementary Bd. Presidents with Superintendent. There has not been a meeting yet this year.
3. Treasurer's report: Sharmon Valerian and Christi VanRoyen
 - A. Budget Review / Approval:
 - A line itemized summary of budget was made available to members present. Treasurers reviewed some highlights of budget and took questions from members. Highlights included fact that Fall Family Picnic did very well; money already coming in for Craft Fair.
 - Mrs. Valerian also reminded those present of available funds in budget under "scholarship" that can be used by any Hamagrael student to pay to attend/participate in school event.
 - It was noted that we will again do Hoffman Car Wash fundraiser this year. Great Escape fundraiser no longer happening.
 - New line items included money for Green Committee and PTA Newsletter to come out this fall.
 - Mr. K. presented Bd. with check for last year's Target credit card fundraiser.
4. Principal's Report- David Ksanznak
Mr. K. reported good start to the school year.
5. New Business
 - A. Committee Chair Openings- Amy Higgs made members aware of current Committee Chair openings:
 - Art Fundraiser (silver graphics) needs a Chair
 - Pit Party need 5th Grade parents for Chair positions

- Hoffman Car Wash needs a Chair
- Summer Camp Resource Fair needs a Chair
- Staff Appreciation Luncheon needs a co-Chair

A. Committee Chair Reports

- **Healthy Kids Committee:** Karen Shaw presented on upcoming activities. Includes Farm to You Fest (Oct. 3-8). This will include farmers in classroom, recipe contest with winners listed in Our Towne, Farmer's Mkt. scavenger hunt, Squash Hunger Drive in cooperation with CD Community Gardens. Volunteers needed especially for each grade on September 30th to present upcoming event within classrooms. Please contact Karen Shaw if interested in volunteering.
- **Banking:** Sheila Wrede presented that First Niagra bank will no longer be doing school banking. She researched credit union programs and members voted on which to adopt for new school banking program. Members voted for CapCom program (money rewards for student efforts include report card submission and writing submissions to bank program) and Sheila will begin process of getting this up and running.
- **Halloween Party:** Mandy Fallon presented on need for as many volunteers as possible for different aspect of evening. Especially need parents of younger children to be involved as many of the lead volunteers will be "aging out." Can contact Carol Roeder or Kelly Sweeney if interested in volunteering: decorations; set-up; running craft room/haunted house; clean-up.
- **Gardening Committee:** Kathy Witherspoon presented on upcoming gardening needs around the school. Will seek out volunteers for projects. Special need for Peace Garden work which needs thorough cleaning up. Talked about choices of volunteer work in doing this or having a landscaper come and work on. Members expressed wanting to try volunteers for project as budget not available to hire landscaper for scope of project. Ideas from members to have Boy Scouts/ Girl Scout troops take on portion of project; wait until spring to begin large volunteer effort to clean up.
- **Kids Helping Kids:** Deb Salo presented on upcoming events. Talked about fall backpack drive; 85 packs stuffed and distributed. Sept. 21 will be last day of Windham supply drive. Idea to possibly "adopt a family" around the holiday to further assist victims of recent hurricane. There will be a meeting Thursday, Sept. 22nd 9:30am at Perfect Blend for anyone interested in working with committee.
- **Craft Fair:** Sue Napierski gave update on fair progress; \$4000 already collected; 55 vendors secured with 12 new vendors. Need volunteers for set-up; day off and clean up.

- **Room Parents:** Michelle Walsh has Room Parents set-up for each classroom except for one. Asked teachers if any concerns on this year getting assignments a bit later. Teachers present stated that there were no concerns with this.

6. Other

- **PTA Newsletter:** There was a question on how this will be set-up. Jen Gannett presented that she is working to put together categories and distribution schedule; all ideas are welcome. Will reach out to Committee Chairs to let people know when going out and if they need anything included.
- **Smart Boards:** A question was asked about current use of Smart Boards in school. Mr. K. expressed that there are currently four Boards; two are in teacher classrooms, and two for use by teachers elsewhere in the school. Goal to have teachers trained to use and to secure more Boards in the years to come.

7. Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted by Amy Davenport and
Johanna Sullivan; PTA Secretary and co-Secretary