

Freedom Elementary School PTA

Meeting Minutes, May 6, 2021

I. Call to Order

Virtual meeting due to COVID-19. Brandi Blevins, President, calls to order the virtual meeting of the Freedom PTA at 6:32 p.m. on May 6, 2021.

Attendance

The following individuals are present at the meeting: *Jessica Smith, Kara Copley, Becky Clemens, Nicole Stefan, Brandi Blevins, Becky Kaufman, Louis Rolfes, Melissa McGuinness, Justine Sillers, Jen Meyer, Rachel Andress, Sarah Bucior, Liz Rosenberg, Kaye Weaver, Rachel Murphy, Ashley Schall, Karice Parada, Rachel Sternberg, Karen Barnes, Sandi Miller, Lori Coon*

II. Approval of Minutes from last meeting

Motion to approve minutes. Motion carried.

III. Event Review

- A. Stratosphere Auction: Feedback: it was fun but very hectic. Need better organization for any future auction events, need more online items, and items that are listed online also needs to be separated from in-person only items. The in-person items did not have a starting bid, but online items did, which resulted in higher bidding. We raised \$7,650 from auction alone. We plan to have the kids write thank you notes to the business donors. Becky C. will go in-person to ask about profit share amount, as they have not yet responded to emails. The Bozeman's would like to work with FES again in the future. We hope to partner with them to do a community outreach project (ex. Food drive, community clean-up, main street shopping)
- B. Penny Wars: Thank you Jen, Becky K, and others!_The kids loved it! Plan to do this again next year. Star Wars Theme again? (may look at other theme ideas, but the Star Wars was super fun) Sarah B. recommended we ask parents for Star Wars decorations etc, as she has a bunch we could use. Karice noted she has several costumes also. Kaye noted that the 501st Legion has members that dress up in Star Wars costumes, so maybe have someone next year, or possibly this Monday for Kona Ice? Ms. Smith advised the school is paying for Kona Ice, so it will not be coming out of the playground fund. Penny Wars raised \$10,493.27.
- C. Teacher Appreciation Week this week: Ms. Smith: It is different this year since we are unable to have parent volunteers inside of the school, but the teachers are enjoying everything that has been provided.

IV. Spirit days: Becky C.

- A. April: Chick-fil-A \$395; Stratosphere unknown, Smoothie King \$60, It's All Good food truck \$150 (this was disappointing as they were not prepared for the volume of people, they ran out of food, menu was different than they have originally planned) Can we have more than one truck at a future event? No, as food truck vendors do not want the competition, as they need to make money too.
- B. Softball Food Trucks: Kona Ice, unknown amount raised, as they provide a check at the end of the season. Rolling Smoke BBQ, they have come twice, amount raised is unknown at this time.
- C. Bupperts: All of May, mention FES and portion of sales will go to us.
- D. Merritt: 10 days for \$10. None have sold.
- E. Upcoming Spirit days: Chick-fil-A is today (5/7), Rita's 5/13, Pizza 5/19 (not sure of vendor yet, as there has been some confusion with the current planned vendor), Mr. Jack's 5/25.

V. Playground Timeline Update

4/22- Bid Announcement went out
4/30- Interested Firms invited to school to tour site
5/27- Proposals due
6/8- Written proposal evaluations
6/22- Top proposals invited to present and winner will be decided
7/14- CCPS BOE Approval of chosen proposal
Mid-September- installation (pending phase 1/2) see below*

We hope to have Phase 1 started by end of September. Although we all wish the playground could be completed over the summer, it's just not possible due to timeline. They will be able to coordinate best times to do the work, even though school will be in session, and it should not interfere with traffic flow.

To complete both phases we will need \$150k in hand by mid-June. If not, we will have to do Phase 1, and do Phase 2 at a later date. The problem with this is we will pay more in shipping fees and construction costs since we can't do all at once.

VI. Budget Recap: Louis Rolfes

- A. With the brick fundraiser, GoFundMe, Events, etc, we have raised \$103,000. With the surplus of \$10k, we have a total of \$113,000 for the playground so far. This does not include the \$25k for the legislative bond initiative, which we are waiting for the logistics to be ironed out. There is also a \$20k grant that is possible, but we will not know until June. With the upcoming rummage sale and Fun Run, we hope to bring in the remainder needed.

- B. Nathan Chris Baker Foundation wants us to touch base with them after they hold their large golf fundraiser, as they may be able to offer more \$ to us depending on how much they are able to raise.

VII. Teacher Update: Jessica Smith

- A. We will have five Kindergartner teachers next school year. There are so many new kindergartners coming in.
- B. We have an additional portable coming for next year from another school, as we are utilizing every possible space in the school currently.
- C. Redistricting should start after next September

VIII. Upcoming Events

- A. Banding this weekend on 5/8. Sales have been horrible, only sold to 30 families so far. It was a \$200 fee to book. We won't lose money, but we won't make money either. Feel free to invite non-freedom families!
- B. Rummage Sale 5/15, rain date 5/22. Bill Whitty is running this.
 - 1. Allison's Closet has donated 14 boxes of items and providing us with tables to use.
 - 2. need volunteers! We have a volunteer to pick up and take unsold items to charity.
 - 3. Charlotte (5th grader) will have her lemonade stand set up. Becky K. may also have donuts to sell. Melissa will have a table set up to sell spirit wear.
 - 4. Idea to have Hoffy on the street waving people into the sale. A sign committee has also been formed.
- C. 5th Grade Promotion and Picnic
 - 1. This will be held outside, so parents may attend.
 - 2. Promotion will be 6/14 a.m. with a rain date of 6/15
 - 3. Picnic will be 6/11. No parents allowed; however, we will need minimal parent volunteers.
- D. Fun Run: 6/7, Trish and Brianna will be running this. Kids will run 30 minutes at a time. Virtual kids can come run also.

IX. Executive Board for 2021/2022 School Year

- A. Co-Presidents: Lori Coon and Becky Clemens, Motion to Approve, Approved
- B. Vice-President: Becky Kaufman
- C. Treasurer: Louis Rolfes has agreed to do another year. (If anyone wishes to shadow him next year to learn the role and take over the following year, please let us know)
- D. Secretary: Melissa McGuinness

X. Other

- A. Sandi Miller offered to help plan events over the summer

- B. Ms. Smith would love to have all PTA events for the next school year laid out prior to start of school year.
- C. Suggestions to have more teacher involvement at events/meetings. There are already Hoffy dollars for teacher incentives.
- D. Sway vs. Emails vs. Facebook. Many parents are not on social media, so emails are preferred. Possibly a shorter/more precise Sway email?
- E. Idea of Class or Grade Parents. Karice volunteered to coordinate with the help from Sandi and Liz.

Next meeting will be June 3, 2021

New Executive Board will take over on July 1st. We will then discuss Back-to-School night for Sept. and solicit for committee volunteers.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm by PTA President Brandi Blevins. Minutes submitted by Melissa McGuinness