

Freedom Elementary School PTA

Meeting Minutes, November 5, 2020

I. Call to Order

Virtual meeting due to COVID-19. Brandi Blevins, President, calls to order the virtual meeting of the Freedom PTA at 6:36 p.m. on November 5, 2020.

II. Attendance

The following individuals are present at the meeting: *Jessica Smith, Karen Barnes, Mindy Shifflett, Kara Copley, Becky Clemens, Joyce Barnes, Ashley Schall, Jason Dolan, Sheen Maldonado, Nicole Stefan, Sandi Miller, Brandi Blevins, Becky Kaufman, Louis Rolfes, Melissa McGuinness*

III. Approval of Minutes from last meeting

Motion to approve minutes. Motion carried.

IV. PTA Committee

- A. Our previous VP has left and Becky Kaufman has been filling in temporarily. Motion to approve Becky Kaufman as new VP, approved.
- B. Secretary position is open: Motion to approve Melissa McGuinness as new secretary, approved.
- C. Looking for interested parties in taking over President position next year.
- D. Teacher liaison: Ms. Waterman continues with this position.

V. Old Business Review

- A. Membership drive is slow, only up to 24 members. (this is the lowest ever) We will do a 2-week membership drive (virtual also) with an extra recess for the winning class. We will have this information included in the next newsletter.
- B. Pumpkin painting: 8 students entered, and winner received a gift card. It was brought to PTA's attention that many parents did not receive info regarding this event.
- C. Amazon Smile contest: 13 people entered. Winner received a \$10 Amazon gift card
- D. Teacher Welcome Back Lunch: Nora's
- E. Chick-fil-A: They owe us a discount from last year
- F. Treat Train: Staff received string bracelets. Monthly treats will continue.
- G. Shed: Possible in December. Tech students will be working on this.
- H. Water bottle station: Up and running. Filters will need to be replaced possibly every 6 months.

VI. Principal and Teacher report: Jessica Smith

- A. Staff really enjoyed Nora's lunch.
- B. Learning curve with virtual and hybrid, but everyone has worked hard. The speakers the PTA provided have been great for interaction with students.

- C. School needs substitute teachers, substitute lunchroom assistants, and an hourly custodian.
- D. American Education Week is coming up: parents can join virtually.
- E. Virtual book fair will be at the end of November
- F. Redistricting report: on hold temporarily. Freedom is still overcapacity. Looking into a possible portable for next year while waiting for redistricting.

VII. New Business review

- A. Reviewed committee chairs
- B. We hope to continue with the Fun Run this year
- C. STEM fair ideas? Perhaps a virtual STEM fair where students send in videos of their projects. We will send out a survey to gauge interest.
- D. Spirit Nights: Chick-fil-A (11/6), IHOP possible for November, Basta Pasta (11/18), Kismet (11/25), Five Below (11/21 through 11/28)
- E. Hot Spots: No one from Hot Spots present to discuss

VIII. Budget Recap: Louis Rolfes

- A. Overview of budget
- B. Bingo night and Dance were big losses due to cancellation. Everything was purchased for dance, so hopefully can have it in future.
- C. Expenditures: Projectors (\$6,300), Hersey Park.
- D. Net income: \$2,814. Projected expenses: \$25,005. Projected Revenues: \$36,000.
- E. Hope to do virtual Fun Run. Looking for ideas for student's fundraising pages from web companies.
- F. Motion to approve budget virtually** (meeting virtual due to COVID restrictions)
Approved.

IX. Playground

- A. Need approximately \$100,000 for new playground. Current playground is on its last leg.
- B. One slide was removed due to vandalism. Surveillance cameras were blocked by leaves, so could not see who did it.
- C. Hope to start the brick fundraiser in November to generate funds.
- D. For insurance purposes, PTA will give the money to the school, and the school will need to purchase playground equipment.
- E. We can apply for grants, but need to have funds in place (approximately half of total needed)

Meetings will continue on the first Thursday of each month (virtually until further notice). Next meeting December 3, 2020, at 6:30 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm by PTA President Brandi Blevins

Minutes submitted by Melissa McGuinness