

APPROVED October 18, 2007

NPA Community Enrichment Committee Minutes September 20, 2007

Call to Order

Margaret Rynn called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. In attendance: Rossana Baker, Khamson Sirimanivong, Kim Hart, Margaret Rynn, Carol Bousquet, Kathy Childers, Mary Lee Fisher, Toni Post, Jim Fisher.

Financial Statements

Margaret Rynn shared the current cash flow statement for the Community Enrichment Committee. She also shared the outline of a budget document for the school year. Kathy Childers reported on the recent sales of tee shirts and hoodies, indicating a profit of roughly \$600 which should cover the expenses associated with the annual appreciation luncheon, excluding gifts. Khamson Sirimanivong indicated that she has some very good corporate contacts which may be able to offer some community support for items such as movie tickets and gift baskets. Such offerings would diminish the amount of CEC monies raised for appreciation gifts, while increasing the amount of monies available for projects such as free lunch subsidies and classroom enrichment.

The committee agreed that the “select” funding line was not particularly relevant at this time and should be deleted. Any monies directed to that line item will be directed to the “Good and Wellness” line item. It was underscored that the budget is a working document and subject to change as needs change.

Fundraising

- Painless Fundraising Oversight – Carol Bousquet indicated that new parent Kathi Peretti has volunteered to take over the position of overall coordinator of the the painless fundraising programs, as well as the management of the Albertson’s Community Partners program.
- New Fundraising Ideas – Margaret Rynn presented information on some recently received solicitations for fundraising programs which could include sales of wrist bands, license plate holders, sport wind clings, and other options. As part of the discussion, it was suggested that perhaps a “sustainable” thread should be embraced in fundraising opportunities. Examples of these might include personalized (NPA) polycarbonate water bottles, as a means to cut down on the generation of disposable plastic water bottles. The committee was interested in this type of trend, but concern was raised that the Spanish Club might be embarking on a similar activity. Kathy Childers offered to check with Mrs. Ortiz to ensure no duplication. Rossana Baker offered another idea that of a clothing exchange. Families could bring gently worn uniform clothes to a school event for which they would be charged a modest flat fee to participate and exchange clothes. No final decisions were made in this area.

- Barnes and Noble Fundraising – Kim Hart reported from her inquiry about this project. Kim will work with the music teachers on possible musical events as the centerpiece of these sales days at Barnes and Noble.

Building Community

- Newsletter articles – It was reported that Linda Sogge has been in touch with Lisa Ganey who may be willing to assist with compilation of newsletter articles each month. Toni Post indicated that the best solution in her estimation would be to have a volunteer capable of using the publishing software, to collect articles, format them, and send to Toni ready for posting on-line. It was recommended that a call for capable volunteers be broadcast to the NPA parent population as soon as possible, after confirming Lisa Ganey’s continued interest.
- Web page posting of CEC agendas, minutes – The committee continues to be interested in posting agendas and minutes of the committee to the school web site as a means of enhanced communication with the greater NPA community. It was recommended that each committee could set up a web page and post their information there, with a link to the NPA main web site. The committee agreed that this discussion is more appropriately located with the Governing Board, and suggested to Jim Fisher that the Board should consider how best to communicate actions and discussion.
- Community Bulletin Board – Linda Sogge had reported she would be willing to take on the update of this on a long term basis. It was unclear if any update had been made yet.
- Family Events – The committee decided that part of building community involves events to bring families together. One suggestion was to hold a movie night in the gym. Rosanna Baker and Margaret Rynn offered to come up with some ideas and a plan to share at the next committee meeting.

Volunteer Recognition Program – Mary Lee Fisher reminded the committee of the ideas discussed at the last meeting and began the conversation from that point. It was agreed that some event should be organized, with a preference to avoid scheduling anything in the month of May. A BBQ or ice cream social were discussed as possible activities. In addition, it was recommended that volunteer names be highlighted each month in the newsletter. A further recommendation was to send thank you notes with a movie ticket in it immediately following a volunteer’s time spent. Some of the corporate contacts referenced earlier by Khamson Sirimanivong were discussed as a great resource to use for volunteer recognition. Mary Lee Fisher and Toni Post will come up with a plan to share at the next meeting.

Other Business - Khamson Sirimanivong reported that her area of expertise lies in the drafting of grant proposals. She has been working with Bob Lombardi on a grant proposal covering approximately \$7,500 worth of items on the teacher wish list. This proposal has been submitted. She asked committee members to keep alert to grant opportunities for which she could submit requests on behalf of the school.

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Bousquet