

Terraset PTA Meeting Minutes

Wednesday November 5, 2008

The meeting opened at 7:05pm

Members Present: Renee Gilanshah (President), Stephanie Randall (Vice-President), Scott Logan, Pam Sipher, Dianne Rose, Kurt Rose, Hanne Mescall, Liz Falcone (Secretary), Ellen Cury, Joan Carter, Traci Waller, Marsha White (Treasurer), Gary Powell, Laurie Hodge.

Apologies: Barbara Byron

1. Renee welcomed all present and briefly mentioned the threat to the Clinic Room Aides (CRA) Program presented by the anticipated budgetary cuts in 2009-2010. Of particular concern was uncertainty about who would be responsible for the distribution of medications if CRAs are no longer available.
2. Minutes from October 7, 2008 were presented. Marsha White moved to accept the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting. Seconded Scott Logan. Accepted.
3. There were no matters arising from the minutes.
4. *Treasurer's Report* (Marsha White)
The Treasurer reported "a busy month." Income for October totaled \$22,781.99 with \$15,939.90 recorded for Innisbrook Giftwrap Fundraiser being cash and checks paid directly to Terraset PTA. Other big receipts came from After School Programs. There was one returned check for \$85, which is most likely a payment for the Mad Science club. Expenses totaled \$8,432.57. Online payments and monies owed to Innisbrook have not been reconciled as yet. A statement is expected.
5. *Principal's Report* (Ellen Cury)
 - 5.1. Mrs. Cury thanked Kurt and Dianne Rose for erecting the second basketball hoop. The County is expected to paint the court and the school will arrange for the installation of locks to secure the hoops.
 - 5.2. Mrs. Cury reminded the meeting that Math Night is scheduled for Monday, Nov 10. She noted that "Partner Games" will be introduced on the night funded through the money raised last year. These games are used to support the curriculum objects of each grade level. She encouraged everyone to attend so they can see where the money went and reminded us that the funds raised this year will support continued improvement of math resources next year. There will be no tickets at the door for Outback Dinner to allow for catering.
 - 5.3. Report cards will be distributed on Tuesday Nov 11 and the Honor Roll for grades 4-6 will be announced. Each Honor Roll student will be named in Terragram.
 - 5.4. School photocopiers have been re-arranged. All general-purpose copiers are now in the learning areas. PTA representatives are asked to use the copiers in the office. The Rizo machine should be used for all jobs greater than 20

- copies. For smaller runs, ask the office staff to enter the code on the second copier.
- 5.5. Mrs. Cury indicated that all of March through April is clear of any major school activities leaving possible dates for Spring Carnival open.
 - 5.6. Mrs. Cury suggested the Spirit Wear needs to be displayed. It was suggested that photos of spirit wear could be added to newsletters and web site.
 - 5.7. Mrs. Carter indicated that she still needs volunteers for the Thanksgiving luncheon on Nov 21st
6. *IRS Update* (Renee Gilanshah)
Renee advised that the IRS has decided to exonerate Terraset PTA of the fine levied due to late tax filing. The Terraset PTA Local Unit Bylaws will be modified to require the outgoing Treasurer to complete all tax filings.
 7. *Volunteer work space at Terraset* (Renee Gilanshah)
Renee advised that the workspace known as the “The Vault Room” and signed as the “Book Room” is not available to PTA Volunteers as a work place. All volunteers should work in the cafeteria, the “stage” room, or the tables provided in the hallway.
 8. *Grant Applications update* (Stephanie Randall)
 - 8.1. An application for a Target Grant was submitted Nov 1. If successful, the grant will fund up to \$800 towards the Jamestown Field Trip for 6th Grade.
 - 8.2. Renee Gilanshah submitted an application for approximately \$5000 for a Lowes Outdoor Projects grant. Successful applications will be advised in January.
 - 8.3. Gary Powel and Stephanie Randall met with Mrs. Cury to discuss the direction the Grant Applications committee should take. It was agreed that grants that focus on Math and Technology should be pursued. The committee aims to submit one application per month and is on track to date. The committee will subscribe to mailing lists that advise of up-coming grant opportunities. The intention is to find a good match then figure out if Terraset has the internal resources required to follow up, particularly stakeholder teachers’ time.
 - 8.4. Time permitting, Mrs. Cury will check FCPS intranet for suitable grant opportunities.
 9. *Terraset Student Directory update* (Barbara Byron)
 - 9.1. The new Terraset Directory will be distributed on Nov 11
 - 9.2. This fundraising effort net \$720.10 for the PTA
 - 9.3. After heading up this activity for three years, Barbara advised that she will not be able to chair this committee next year. A vote of thanks is extended to Barbara.
 10. *BoxTops update* (Pam Sipher)
 - 10.1. Pam advised that the most recent BoxTops drive returned \$191.50 for the school.
 - 10.2. There were 72 student participants representing 18% of the student population. In addition, some teachers contributed. Mrs. Matthews Kindergarten class won the Giant Mrs. Fields Cookie. Pam’s goal is to increase the participation rate for the next drive, hopefully reaching 25%.
 - 10.3. A check for \$464.24 was received for Dec. Credits raised by collecting Campbell’s soup labels were used to acquire some PE equipment.

- 10.4. Next drive, finishing Dec 12, will focus on participation, and the class with the highest participation rate will receive a Pizza Party.
- 10.5. Another four collections planned for the year.
- 10.6. The idea to use large graphs and signs to track participation was revisited.
11. *Innisbrook update* (Laurie Hodge)
 - 11.1. With a last minute order of 30 items, the total sales for Innisbrook Giftwrap fundraiser reached \$20,850. All monkeys are down... Mr. Patterson has been slimed... the Banana Split Party is over... and Laurie Hodge thinks she will volunteer to run the Giftwrap sale again next year!
 - 11.2. Total expenses for Gift Wrap Fundraiser were \$100.
 - 11.3. Received a check for approx \$200 from Innisbrook for School Supplies Sale.
12. *Spring Carnival* (Renee Gilanshah)
 - 12.1. Traci Waller reported that she and Kim Lowther have a list of volunteers ready to assist with the Spring Carnival. They plan to have an Earth Week theme and will schedule the carnival for the 19th or 25th of April
 - 12.2. Robert Cosgrove is no longer able to chair the Silent Auction Committee. Liz Falcone will take on the role. Genie Bailey was chair last year and may be able to pass on information. Carolyn Lowe, who managed the Silent Auction for many years, may also be able to help. Letters usually go out in December. The Auction typically raises \$5000-\$6000.
13. *Spirit Wear update* (Stephanie Randall)

Stephanie reported that the Spiritwear sale is in progress. It was agreed that sample items should be put on display. Photos will be taken for promotional purposes. Items are available in both youth and adult sizes. The recommended sizings seem to be accurate.
14. *Other Business*
 - 14.1. Scott Logan asked if the PTA had organized fundraisers to Nationals games or similar. General discussion concluded that previous attempts had no been successful. Terraset families appear to respond best to events within close distance to the school.
 - 14.2. Mrs. Cury advised that Jasmine Mohammad, an alumni of Terraset ES, Langston Hughes MS, and South Lakes HS will stage her first professional singing performance at the Community Center.
 - 14.3. Recent Chick-fil-A Tigers on the Town raised \$150.09. The manager, Mr. Kim, donated an additional \$100 to the PTA. A Thank You note will be sent.
 - 14.4. Laurie Hodge has drafted a story on the great success of the Terraset Giftwrap fundraiser and sent it to the Post, Reston Connection, and Fairfax Times.
 - 14.5. Mrs. Cury extended a heartfelt thanks to the PTA, on behalf of the Terraset Staff, for the Appreciation Luncheon provided on Tuesday, Nov 4th.
15. The meeting closed at 7:55pm

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, December 2nd, 2008.