

Terraset PTA Meeting Minutes 7pm Tuesday March 2, 2010

The meeting opened at 7:05pm

Present: Ellen Cury, Stephanie Randall, Heather Thomas, Amy Davidson, Liz Falcone, Annette Bobby

Apologies: Joan Carter, Suzanne White, Alison Stobie

1. Open and welcome
2. The minutes from January 5th, 2010 meeting were presented. Annette Bobby moved that they were an accurate record of the meeting. Seconded Heather Thomas. Agreed
3. There were no matters arising from the minutes.
4. *President's Report*
 - 4.1. Stephanie reported that the Yoga Fundraiser held Saturday, February 27th was both successful and relaxing. Twelve Terraset parents participated raising \$120 for the PTA. It has been suggested that we "do it again" possibly focusing on breathing and meditation.
 - 4.2. Skate Night, held Saturday January 16th, was very successful. We distributed 174 tickets, 12 of which were free tickets issued as "Green Slip" drawings and group bookings. **Net takings were \$550** -- \$450 more than expected.
 - 4.3. The Foreign Language Advocacy Group (FLAGS) has issued advice on next steps to support the School Board in its request for adequate funding for 2010-2011. Parents need to continue to lobby the Board of Supervisors and the State Government. Once the advertised tax rate is set on March 9th the funds that can be transferred to the school system will be set. Vehicle registration fees can also be used to offset critical funding needs. We are also encouraged to contact Governor McDonnell to oppose cuts to K-12 education and to permit counties to levy a meals tax in order to generate a revenue stream. They have also reported dates of public hearings, encouraging people to attend. Liz Falcone will forward information to PTA distribution list.
5. *Treasurer's Report*
 - 5.1. Bingo netted \$1,273. The target was \$1,300 so we were right on target despite disruption of snow days.
 - 5.2. After school programs are on track - have made about \$2600. Approximately \$250 has been used for scholarships.
 - 5.3. During the year there have been four returned checks. We have collected on two of them. Two people remain on the "cash only" list.
 - 5.4. Two issues with Innisbrook orders were reported. One family placed a large order then failed to pay for it. One family was reported to have collected order payments from a neighborhood but did not deliver the items. These two incidents are possibly the same, further investigation is required. We need to discuss how best to prevent this type of situation.
6. *Principal's Report*
 - 6.1. The Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Fabio Zuluaga, will be visiting Terraset on Tuesday, March 7th. He has been making every effort to support our kids and teachers. Indeed, both he and

Superintendent Jack Dale came to the school last Thursday going to some classrooms and meeting the children.

- 6.2. Students got right back into routine without too much disruption from snow and 5th grade will be doing writing and composition SOLs this week.
 - 6.3. Have rescheduled beginning band and strings concert for next week.
 - 6.4. Have not rescheduled chorus concert. Instead, students will record their performance and present video via WTER. They will do a spring concert.
 - 6.5. Snow makeup will be in form of extra days at end of the year rather than extra hours at end of each day. This is a great relief. Schools must have 180 days whereas other counties have 990 hours. Our "days count" enables teacher work hours on Mondays.
 - 6.6. Insider information on budget. FLES probably will be not cut; full day kindergarten likely to be ok; schools will lose teacher coaches; unlikely to lose K- cap; may see a classsize of +1; percentage of staffing is determined by number of SOL students and poverty level; may lose custodial position; Assistant Principal and SBTS probably safe. Strongly recommend that need to continue pressure on board of supervisors.
 - 6.7. Dr Seuss day on Friday with book distribution from UPS.
7. *Minigrants*
- 7.1. An application for \$2,100 from Mrs. Stevens and Miss Dodd was considered. Its purpose was to subsidize the 4th grade field trip to Jamestown. This amount would represent 25% of minigrants fund. Mrs. Cury suggests a lower percentage in fairness to all students. Mrs. Cury moved we approve \$1200. Seconded Heather Thomas. Agreed.
 - 7.2. Mr. Patterson applied for \$120 for a new stereo. Must be mounted safely. Annette Bobby moved we approve the application. Seconded Mrs. Cury. Agreed.
 - 7.3. Heather Dix applied for \$474.75 to purchase five new digital cameras: used by kids in various video portraite writings. Annette Bobby moved we support the application. Seconded Heather Thomas. Agreed.
 - 7.4. Bettina Forman applied for \$1,545 for guided reading sets. This request is only a portion of what is needed. The school has more students in the reading program and they need new materials to maintain interest. Annette Bobby moved to approve this application. Agreed Heather Thomas. Agreed.
 - 7.5. The third grade teaching team applied for \$195 to pay for a subscription to Brain Pop website. It was suggested this application be held over until September since 2010 funds are now depleted.
 - 7.6. Discussion regarding the donation of computers ensued. They need to meet FCPS specifications, available on their web site. Some kids have no technology -- donated machines could be put into kids homes.
8. *Bingo Night Report*: no detailed report was available but the evening was considered a success with raising just under \$1,300.
 9. *Carnival Preparations Report*: Mrs. Cury requested that we advise when we need access to the school for setup.
 10. *Fall Fundraiser 2010* : Stephanie Randall asked whether we want to stay with Innisbrook for the fall fundraiser. It was agreed that we should establish a fundraising committee.
 11. There was no other business.

Meeting closed at 8:15pm

Next meeting: 7pm, Tuesday, April 6th, 2010.