

Solon Middle School PTA Minutes October 13, 2009

SMS PTA President Cindy Castro called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recording Secretary Report- Sandy Moentmann. The minutes from September 8, 2009 were approved and filed.

Corresponding Secretary Report-Lubee Rowell. The record books for volunteer hours and attendance were circulated. A thank you note was received from Mrs. Paula Hardy, seventh grade math teacher, expressing her appreciation for the support of the PTA. The volunteer list for the fall PTA event was circulated.

Treasurer Report- Cindy Castro reviewed the following report for Treasurer Patti Lohiser. For the month ending September 30, 2009 the beginning balance was \$6411.77. There were receipts of \$4,401.55 and total disbursements of \$2,537.69 for an ending balance of \$8,275.63. A correction to the printed treasurer report was identified. The \$625.00 noted under Spring Fling should have been under Solon PTA Council Dues. This will be forwarded to Mrs. Lohiser.

Principal Report- Eugenia Green.

- **Yearbook sales** Mrs. Pumpa will continue to sell yearbooks to students through this week.
- **Magazine Sales** this is the only fundraiser done by SMS. Sale begins this Thursday, 10/15 with a kick off assembly explaining the program and incentives to the students. Money raised by magazine sales provides funds for all of the clubs at SMS, trip scholarships, awards and agenda books.
- **Cookie Dough** In addition to magazines, the students will also be selling frozen cookie dough. The cookie dough will be delivered in November. Details will be available on line.
- **Volleyball** There will be a volleyball tournament 10/24. Also, see notes under sports refreshments.
- **Red Ribbon Week** will be celebrated the week of October 26.
- **End of the Quarter Celebration** will be held from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. on 10/30. There will be a DJ and other activities for all students.
- **Report Cards** will be issued November 6. Parents are to keep the report card and sign and return the envelope. There will also be a locker clean out and textbook check the same day.
- **Choir concert for October** 19 has been cancelled.
- **Parent conference letters** will be going out soon. The first mailing will be to notify parents who **need** to conference with their child's teacher. A second mailing will be sent to all parents to invite them to conference as desired. This system is used to give scheduling priority to parents whose student may be having difficulty. Parents may conference with teachers at anytime by appointment.
- **A question** was asked about dressing up for Halloween. There has been no official decision at this time.

- **A question** was asked about SMS students receiving high school credit if they are in an advanced class. Mrs. Green explained that the Ohio Department of Education is revising/reorganizing state standards at this time. Currently there is discussion about discontinuing the OGT at the high school level and replacing it with the ACT. There is also discussion about a three tiered system of grading directed toward “mastery”. There is a proposal before the state school board that middle school students who take high school level classes get high school credit. Currently the student/parent may choose to have their advanced class count as high school credit. Changes in this area would affect students taking foreign language, algebra or honors geometry.

Assistant Principal Report- Scott Hatteberg. Mr. Hatteberg was pleased to report that the year continues to go very well.

Vice President Report- Leanne Jones. The PTA Fall Fun Event will be October 23, 7-9 pm. Tickets will be on sale the week before the event on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday during lunch period. Tickets will be \$3 advanced purchase or \$5 at the door. The concession stand will be open and cash is required for purchases. This promises to be a fun and exciting event with something for everyone. There will be a body artist, hayride, basketball, ping-pong, a DJ and **NEW GAMES**. Empty 2L bottles are needed for Pumpkin Bowling. A volunteer sheet was circulated.

President Report – Cindy Castro.

- Parkside Fall Fun Fest is scheduled for this Thursday, October 15 from 6-9 volunteers are requested for 2 shifts. If you are available, please call Mrs. Schneider at 216-990-4999.
- The high school PTA fundraiser is a craft fair to be held on November 14. There are still slots available for crafters.
- Volunteers are still needed for Budget Bin
- Mark your calendars for the PTA Kalahari Event in January.
- Many people have been busy this month. Thanks to the Staff Appreciation Committee - Teresa, Lube, Lorna and Andrea - for organizing the staff dinner on curriculum night. Thanks to Carol Sedlacko for getting the parent volunteer info to the chairs. Thanks to Angela Centa for taking care of membership and thanks to all of the parents who have helped with sports refreshments so far this year.
- Please note that SMS is registered at Heinens. If you shop at Heinens and have a customer card, you can go online and make SMS the beneficiary of your shopping. We’ll get up to 1% back.
- There is a meeting at the Solon library tomorrow night, the 14th, called Mean Girls and Cliques. It is for parents only, not children.

Council Delegate Report- Louise Isroff reported from the Solon Board of Education meeting held 9/14/09. The Board will be buying three new busses for a total of \$213,000.00. Part time position for the Chinese language teacher has been increased to full time. The new system for substitute teachers is working well. Several cases of the flu have been reported. Information about flu prevention has been sent to families via email. Solon has been named an “Outstanding School District” in Ohio. The Association of the Supervision of Curriculum Development has been filming at SMS and SHS to produce a training video for teachers.

Roberta Riordan filed a report from the BOE meeting of 10/12/09. Disbursements were approved for partial payment for the renovation of the SHS band room (\$39,744.00), final payment for the Orchard parking lot (\$47171.81), student chair desk units for SMS (\$5635.37), and partial payment for the Roxbury gym restoration (\$9606.40). The following items were approved: Retire/Rehire of Assistant Superintendent Tom Stupica, Supplemental contracts of intramural teachers and coaches, Home tutors and substitutes, Reimbursement to parents for transportation to/from non-public schools that are within 30 minutes of school bus ride but for which it is impractical for Solon to transport their children (averages about \$172.00/yr./family), Approval of many tuition reimbursements for teachers. Reminder that outside organizations must request building permits to use the district facilities.

Standing Committee Reports:

Academic Boosters: No report

Box Tops: Please continue to send in.

Budget Bin: Louise Isroff reported that posters and other notification/advertising is out. Volunteers are still needed. Middle school and high school students may work earning volunteer hours. A sign up sheet was circulated. Consignment day is Wednesday 10/21 and the sale runs Thursday 10/22 – Tues 10/27.

Community Service Award: No report

Community Outreach: Robin Stanton reported that we will support Robert Jamison School in Cleveland this year. The first project will be a book drive held 10/26 – 11/06. Students are to bring in gently used books appropriate for K-8th grades. One meeting has been held for students interested in this project. There will be additional meetings 11/3 after school and 11/10 before school. During these meetings, the books will be sorted, labeled and counted. November 12 is the planned delivery day. Parents will be needed to drive students to Robert Jamison School where SMS students will deliver the books and read to Jamison students. All of these activities will count toward student community service/volunteer hours for SMS students.

Dances: See Vice President report.

Directory: Laura Jaffe reported that all of the data has been entered for SMS directory and they should be published soon.

Eighth Grade Gift: No report.

Health Welfare & Safety: Elizabeth Goodin. The National PTA has designated November as Healthy Lifestyles Month. A new PTA publication can be viewed on line at www.PTA.org that outlines recommendations for physical activity, rest, nutrition and preventive medical care. This is a very informative resource for parents & students.

Hospitality: Thank you to Frannie and Cheryl who provided the mornings refreshments.

Membership: Cindy Castro reported the following for Angela Centa: SMS PTA membership is currently 391. We have received \$782.00 in donations. Membership cards were sent home with students on Monday. A second request to join will be sent out soon.

Newsletter: The deadline for the newsletter is Friday. Send your information to Fran Stewart-Mook at franstewart@ameritech.net.

Parent Volunteers: Carol Sedlacko has completed the list of parents who submitted volunteer sheets. These lists have gone out to committee chairs.

Sports Refreshments: Sue Burlage circulated a list for volunteers reminding the group that this is the only fundraiser done by SMS PTA. Middle school students are allowed to volunteer when accompanied by a parent. There will be a volleyball tournament 10/24 and many volunteers will be needed.

Staff Appreciation: Lube Rowell announced a meeting to be held today at Borders at 7:00 pm

Student Appreciation: We will provide ice cream bars to all students during the end of the quarter celebration from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. on 10/30.

Student Recognition: The student of the month list has been published and the bulletin board is up.

Workroom: Volunteers are needed to do copying for the teachers.

Unfinished Business: Flyers are available to promote the SMS PTA fundraiser through Barnes and Nobel that will be held in December.

New Business: Artwork by SMS students is on display at the Reminderville Village Hall.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

Recording Secretary Sandy Moentmann