

River Plaza PFA Minutes for April 26th, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Marguerite Stocker at 7:05pm. A quorum was present (5 Board members and 11 voting members). The colors were presented.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were reviewed from the March meeting. The minutes were approved.

Officers' Reports

Treasurer's Report: 2015-2016 Budget was reviewed. The Great Race brought in twice as much as usual as they emptied the funds since the event is ending. We have a \$2,000 credit for Field Day due to the sponsors. So it is paying for itself. The Variety Show was also a success. The DVD sales enabled us to keep the expenses down and cut costs in half. Other small events such as ice skating, plant sales, Blue Claws are not fundraisers.

The 2016-2017 Budget was handed out as it will need to be reviewed and voted on at the May meeting. One big item is the disappearance of the Great Race. We also have 2 incoming Kindergartens and 3 outgoing 5th grades so we are down the number of kids in the school which impacts the money coming in. Due to this we decreased the amount of money budgeted for room reps as there will be one less class. For income, the number is staying the same as we went over this year but next year we will have fewer students. The Spring Fundraiser line item will also need to be looked at as a general Fundraiser item and we may do more than one since the Great Race is disappearing. The expenses being proposed to be lowered reflect the fact that we will have one less class next year and/or we have historically been under budget on these items each year (such as the Halloween Hullabaloo).

Suggestion was made to better publicize when students attend PFA sponsored events. Perhaps students can get a sticker to show parents which events are sponsored by the PFA. Another suggestion was made about trying to get more pictures of PFA events out on the Board of Ed Instagram account and social media. We could also set up our own Facebook page. We may explore this option.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence: There is no correspondence to review at this time.

Committee Reports

Mother's Day Plant Sale – This is an order-only sale. You must order in advance. Plants will be delivered to children in their classroom before Mother's Day weekend.

We are working with a prevention specialist with Project Plus for Drugs and Alcohol. A joint presentation will be held with Nut Swamp to hold a meeting for parents at Nut Swamp School (as their room is larger). It will be for parents only. Details will be coming soon.

Teacher Appreciation Week – This is next week. Same schedule as last year. We will do flowers, a brunch and some other special things for the teachers. An e-blast will go out with a Volunteer Spot for donations for the luncheon. Any questions can go to Kathleen Marinich.

Blue Claws – About 40 families signed up.

Field Day – We may spend more than the \$250, but we brought in a lot from the sponsors.

Principal's Report

Mrs. Shaw was not present at the meeting. Marguerite read the report.

Thank you to Gail Pellicone for running Pennies for Puppies.

Soccer nets are now up and running.

PARCC testing has begun. Math is next week Mon-Thursday.

Please let us know if your child will be out for Take Your Child to Work Day. This is an excused absence.

Jump Rope for Heart forms went home today and will be held the end of May.

In honor of Arbor Day, each family will get 1 tree sapling to bring home.

The science fair was a big success. Thank you to those who helped run it – Mrs. Levy, Robin Stella and Kim Gillick.

Spring Book Fair Fundraiser will take place at Barnes & Noble on June 13th from 5-8pm. This is to raise more money for literacy and math enrichment. Student art work will be on display and some students will perform music. They will also run a drink contest through the café.

Old Business

An e-blast went out about the fundraiser update. The Parents' Night Out was not approved, so we will hold a super 50/50 and a basket raffle. Tickets will be sent home soon. We would like to start an online auction for the baskets to get more tickets sold. The email for the 50/50 and the raffles will go out on May 3rd after we get official approval for the raffle.

Suggestion was made to send out invitations for the May meeting to hype it up and draw more people in. Suggestion was also made to put baskets on display somehow for parents to see a week before. We can put them out back and front on some days. People are also offering to sell 50/50s at pick-up. Kathleen will regroup with Marguerite about selling tickets.

Safe Routes to School: Work has been underway with the township. Video was taken to show the route and taken to the township. The Freeholders are concerned about the safety which is excellent. A grant may be possible, even if not this year. The idea of courtesy bussing was also thrown out. This comes down to a County issue and we need to bring officials together. Safe Routes to School will be coming in May to do a survey of our routes, starting with the route on Hubbard. We may also want to try to involve the Monmouth Conservation Foundation as they are in charge of the new park going in on West Front Street and passage to the park will be impacted by this.

New Business

The new budget was reviewed and will be voted on at the May meeting. It will be put in an e-blast as well.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Marguerite at 8:11pm and was approved.