

Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired PTA Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2017.

Time began- 5:00 dinner, 5:30-6:30 meeting

Board members present: Robert & Tammy Casey, Steve Rice, Alyssa Rasnick

Minutes from the 9/20/16 meeting were read by Alyssa Rasnick

Lori Cole moved to approve the minutes. Tammy Casey, seconded

**Treasurer's report**

\$3,797.39 Beginning balance as of September 1, 2016

*Withdrawals from Sept-Jan*

-\$1,000.00 (Kylon and Dominique 2016 scholarships)

-\$1,430.08 (Applied Graphics car show tshirts)

-\$10.00 (DFA permit)

-\$66.46 (Sams club refreshments for car show)

-\$100.00 (ASBVI Booster club for homecoming)

-\$400 (Cash box for show)

= \$3,006.54 in total withdrawals

*Deposits from Sept-Jan*

\$342.00 (9/16/16)

\$505.00 (9/23/16)

\$15.00 (9/29/16)

\$1,611.00 (9/29/16)

\$40.00 (10/07/16)

\$32.00 (10/24/16)

= \$2,545.00 in total deposits

\$3,797.39-\$3,006.54 = \$790.85

\$790.85 + \$3006.54 = **\$3,335.85 new balance as of Jan 1, 2017.**

#### **Car Show:**

Steve Rice commented that while the show was successful volunteer-wise, the turnout was nowhere near where we had hoped it would be. We “broke even” and need to start over with fresh, new fundraising ideas. With so much work and so little pay off, he does not recommend doing it again next year.

#### **Pie Auction (2<sup>nd</sup> annual):**

Last year, Cheri Miller reported we made \$600 on the Pie Auction.

Alyssa reported that music director and STUCO sponsor, Alicia Reddick, has requested that we not hold the Pie Auction during the Talent Show due to time constraints.

As per Alicia’s suggestion, as an alternative time, we could hold it before the Spring Concert. Mr. Caton made a few comments on how much work goes into the concerts and logistically, it can be difficult to factor in another aspect of the show when it is already difficult to keep it to a reasonable time.

Erin Gildner made the suggestion that the dinner be moved back from 5-5:30 pm and the Pie Auction happen in the cafeteria from 5:30-6:00. Most parents, she said, are just hanging out anyway, waiting for the concert to start. The PTA majority voted that this was a good idea. The Spring Concert will be held May 11. Cheri Miller will be the main point person for the fundraiser.

#### **New Fundraiser discussion:**

Some fresh ideas arose from the meeting:

1. Erin Gildner- Etsy craft fair. Vendors could rent a space in the gym or a table outside. Members elected we have the show in October to prepare for the holiday gifting season. Majority of the members present thought this was a good idea. For additional volume of customers, we could team up with Harvest Fest here in the Heights when we have our craft fair.
2. Another idea was presented to have our Spring Fling family night and feature a small craft fair with booths for rent, this April.
3. Lori Cole- Garage/Rummage Sale in the gym. Vendors of established businesses (Scentsy, Mary Kay, etc.) could set up “trade days style” and rent a booth.
4. Michele Smith- she cautioned members that most fundraisers for our school always “dip from the same pot” of money and it would be essential to have good publicity or otherwise, it will be the teachers and staff funding their own project.
5. Erin Gildner- Innisbrook, a company we used in the past, no longer does wrapping paper fundraisers

6. Cookie Dough and chocolate bars were brought up, but the majority voted healthier options.
7. Candle sales are already taken by STUCO
8. Mrs. Harvey-Park Lane jewelry- she will get back with the group with more info
9. Bryan Casey- He and Tammy know of a warehouse of "stuff" that he could buy sets of china, furniture, etc. for really cheap if we were to put on the garage sale.
10. Lori Cole- Sheets with high thread count for sale- she will follow up with information
11. Whitney Music- She has a friend who can get us on the Estate Email list

**Current needs of the school:**

Lori Cole, Braille Challenge Director, approached the PTA via formal letter to ask for funding for the state-wide Braille Challenge that will be held on February 2. Last year the PTA gave \$500 to the cause. Alyssa Rasnick brought attention to the current state of finances and asked members to help allocate how funds should be spent for the remainder of the school year in lieu of limited funds. Diya's mom participated via Zoom and she spoke up to say that she wanted the same \$500 be given to the Braille Challenge. Members voted that \$500 be given to the Braille Challenge and two, \$250 scholarships be given by the PTA this year to graduating seniors.

The PTA anticipates Mrs. Doan requesting \$500 for the end-of-the-year academic and dormitory awards.

As far as teacher appreciation goes, last year, \$600 was put toward teacher lunches from Jimmy's Serious Sandwiches. The teacher members present said they would rather get a \$5 Sonic card for Teacher Appreciation Week in May rather than have lunch catered, even though they were grateful for the lunch.

Our next formal PTA meeting is scheduled for March 15.

Our Fundraising Committee meeting will be February 13 in the ASBVI Cafeteria unless another location is decided.

Minutes submitted by Alyssa Rasnick. 2/3/17