

Nevada PTA Minutes ~ November 3rd, 2014
6:00 p.m. Central Elementary Library



President – Emily Coussens; ecoussens@msn.com
Vice President – Kedra Hamilton; khamilton@nevada.k12.ia.us
Secretary – Charmi Geerdes; gforcex4@yahoo.com
Treasurer – Angela Fritz; angelamfritz@gmail.com
www.nevadaiewapta.org
nevadaiewapta@gmail.com

1 Call to Order: Emily Coussens called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Emily Coussens, Charmi Geerdes, Kedra Hamilton, Melissa Muschick, Renae Lindemann, Amy Clore, Angela Fritz, Lisa Johnson, Heather Petersen, Megan Grout, Courtney Kline, Niki Martin, Maryann Ryan, Beth Safranski Derrick, Kathy Goecke, Katie Baker, Joel Fey, Jesse Tibodeau, Jamie Stowe

1.1 Welcome

Introductions were made and attendees were asked the reason they joined the PTA.

1.2 Approve Agenda

Emily Coussens revised the November agenda, switching the Unfinished Business topics 1.1 & 1.2. Motion to approve the revised Agenda made by Renae Lindemann, 2nd by Courtney Kline. Motion passed.

1.3 October Minutes

Renae Lindemann pointed out a typo in the name of one of the attendees in the October meeting minutes which will be corrected. Motion to approve the corrected minutes was made by Renae Lindemann, 2nd by Heather Petersen. Motion passed.

1.4 Treasurer's Report

Angela Fritz reviewed the October Treasurer's Report. Highlights mentioned were the amount raised by the t-shirt sales, the outstanding amount from Open House is the unpaid tip to Alley's Pizza and the two High School Senior scholarships were both distributed in September. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Renae Lindemann, 2nd by Megan Grout. Motion passed.

1.5 Teacher Drawing

Lisa Johnson won a \$20 gift certificate to Target.

2. Unfinished Business

2.1 Butter Braids

Joel Fey wanted to share a possible conflict with the Butter Braid pick-up night of November 11th. If the High School girl's volleyball team wins their next game then they could possibly be playing on that night in Cedar Rapids. That would not only impact the basketball students who would normally help the PTA unload boxes but also the amount of people available to pick up their Butter Braids. Late Tuesday evening we will know if a conflict exists. Decision was made to contact the Butter Braids distributor to see if we could possibly switch the night to the Monday before (the 10th) or even the Monday after (the 17th).

Maryann Ryan will take this away as a task to monitor. Maryann also provided an update on the sales in general. This year \$15,286 has been received between the Butter Braids sales and donations.

2.2 Halloween Costume Exchange

Heather Petersen provided an update on the Halloween Costume Exchange. 56 costumes were dropped off and 46 were picked up. There were 62 costumes in storage that can be used as a starting point for next year's swap. The shortened drop off and pick up times worked well as did the interim activities for the kids that stayed. There was a drawing for tickets to Black Heritage Farms and a candy corn guessing game with tickets to the Haunted Forest as a prize.

2.3 Parent Teacher Conference Meals

Reminder that conference meals are requested to be brought to Central Elementary & the Middle School around 2 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4th. There were still a couple sign up slots available which did include clean up if anyone is available to help.

2.4 Cub Pride T-shirts

Emily Coussens provided a quick update on the Cub Pride t-shirt sales. The t-shirts should be done on November 5th. After that Emily & Courtney Kline will put the orders together to be distributed.

2.5 Scholastic Book Fair

Beth Safranski Derrick shared an update on the Scholastic Book Fair. The first day of the book fair was on Saturday and she was pleased with the amount of volunteers this year. The book fair also runs on Tuesday & Thursday during conference times. Update on sales volume will be provided at the December meeting.

2.6 Membership Update

Kedra Hamilton advised that we are very close to meeting our goal of 100 members. There are a total of 101 members that have registered with the PTA but there are about 10 outstanding membership dues that need to be received. Discussion took place on possibly doing a celebration or recognition once the PTA has a total of 100 paid members.

2.7 Festival of Trees

Megan Grout advised she is in receipt of the Festival of Trees registration form and will get this submitted. She believes Mindy Buyck had a spare tree that was going to be donated to the PTA & Kathy Goecke confirmed this could be stored at the school for future use. Megan welcomes any ideas for how to decorate this year's PTA tree. It was noted the Girl Scouts theme is hats, gloves & mittens.

3. New Business

3.1 Clothing Drive & Coat Swap

The PTA has received a couple of ideas from members that are unable to attend the PTA meeting so these were shared on their behalf. Jenna Hutzler utilizes a clothing donation website (www.shoola.com) where a portion of the sales of the donated clothes goes directly to our school. She is interested in organizing a clothing drive to help increase the volume of clothes and thus the donated amount to the school. Jenna posted the link to the Nevada Iowa PTA Facebook page if others are interested in finding out more information about this program they can view it there as well as contact her directly to help. Another idea shared was a winter coat swap with a neighboring school. The thought being that if the swap was with a partnering school then it wouldn't be obvious to kids where or whom the coats came from. Kathy Goecke did advise that in the past this has been a definite need of students but this year Jodi Herron received a requested grant that should fully provide for any needed coats. Concerns were also raised about timing since the cold weather is rapidly approaching & not having enough time to coordinate. The idea will be added to the first agenda of the 2015-2016 school year.

3.2 Carnival

Emily Coussens advised there is still a need for a couple of sub-committee chairs. Courtney Kline & Amy Clore volunteered to co-chair the Silent Auction & Raffle. Heather Petersen volunteered to chair the Volunteers sub-committee. Kathy Goecke did advise this year all of the teaching staff will be donating their volunteer hours to the Carnival as the Can Drive has been discontinued.

3.3 After-Prom Committee

Jamie Stowe & Jesse Tibodeau were in attendance to present to the PTA an opportunity to work with the Senior After Prom parents. Historically the Senior parents have formed a committee that would coordinate After Prom activities in order to promote a safe environment for kids after the dance. The committee receives their funds from several avenues including business donations, the Draw Down Dance and this year they will be sponsoring a Trivia Night. The Senior After Prom committee is requesting to become a formal PTA committee and thus follow the PTA by laws and our checks & balances. Discussion did include the fact that the Senior parents would make up the committee with the chair & co-chair needing to be a Senior parent PTA member. The expectations would be equal to any other PTA committee including brief updates being shared at the monthly PTA meeting. Concerns were raised in regards to the PTA money and budget being separate from the After Prom money and budget and reassurances were made this would be the case and even a separate account will be opened at Community Bank to ensure they are detached. The After Prom committee's budget is solely the amount that they raise in their own fundraising efforts and no monies will be added or removed by the PTA general funds. A motion was made by Courtney Kline and Maryann Ryan to allow the Senior After Prom committee to become a formal PTA sub-committee where the funds raised by this committee will be kept separate from the general PTA funds, but follow the PTA guidelines. Heather Petersen 2nd the motion and all were in favor. Motion passed.

4. Announcements

4.1 Next PTA Meeting: December 1st, 2014

4.2 Next Meal Provided by: Heather Petersen

4.3 Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. made by Renae Lindemann, 2nd by Megan Grout. Motion passed.