

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

June 4, 2014

Stone Bridge High School Library

Prepared by Faith McGarrity

In Attendance:

Bridget Beichler, Principal

Brian Hanselman, Assistant Principal

Jen Cramer, Business Ed. Keyboarding

Donna K. Colombo, PTA President

Donna Shomo, PTA Treasurer

Chris Keyser, V.P.

Faith McGarrity, Secretary

Approximate count of participants: 87

7:05 Call to Order

Welcome and Introduction (Donna Colombo)

Sign in sheets and Volunteer sign up sheets on table.

❖ Status of PTA Charter

- Membership to date is 267 Members which is one of the largest charter memberships VA PTA has seen.
- Proposed Bylaws have been sent to the State Committee. Expect a return within 4-6 weeks. Approved bylaws will be posted on PTA website.

❖ Membership Dues

- **IMPORTANT:** Donna Colombo explained that the Membership Drive this Spring was for the Charter Membership only. There will be another Membership Drive in the Fall for 2014/2015 Academic Year.

❖ Trailside Middle School (TMS) Website <http://www.loudoun.k12.va.us/trailside>

- There is a survey available on the TMS Website. To date, 13-15 people filled out the survey. Next Friday survey will be taken down.

❖ Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1434127036837913/>

- Updates will be posted on the FB Page. It is a closed page, please ask to join.

❖ PTA WEBSITE – Mission and Vision Statement

DC introduced the PTA Website and read the Mission and Vision Statements.

<http://trailsidemiddleschool.my-pta.org>

➤ MISSION STATEMENT / VISION STATEMENT

DC read the proposed mission statement and vision statement and explained how they line up to agree with the state mission statements. The Mission Statement reads: To Promote the education, health, and welfare of the

Trailside Middle School Students while promoting social responsibility, inclusion and involvement of everyone in the Trailside Middle School Community.

The Vision Statement is an acronym of TRAILSIDE. A suggestion was made for a shorter Acronym being TMS (Teach Motivate Strive)

Motion to Adopt Mission Statement and the shorter Vision Statement by Jen Cramer . The motion seconded by Lorna Davis

A vote was held. All were in favor of the Mission Statement and the shorter Vision Statement. Mission Statement and shorter Vision Statement adopted.

❖ BUDGET REPORT

- Donna Shomo reported that the PTA currently holds \$6438 in its account, after insurance, taxes etc. Some discussion of donations by feeder schools **including information that some schools have voted, within their PTA's, to make a donation to TMS.**

❖ TRAILSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY PICNIC

- Donna Colombo proposed the PTA offer \$500 towards the TMS Picnic.
- Donna Shomo moved to accept the proposal of \$500.
- Lisa McGrail seconded the motion.
- Donna C opened it up for discussion:
 - Faith McGarrity gave brief update on TMS Picnic Committee. The Picnic will be the first TMS event. It will be held on August 14th from 6 to 8 pm. The Committee met for the first time that morning. It was decided that the format would be that food trucks would be provided and the community would be invited to bring their own picnic food as well. This would provide options for all.
 - Bridget Beichler explained that she had been involved in the opening of 2 schools previously, one of which held a community picnic. In one school over 700 students were enrolled and over 1000 people came to the picnic. She anticipates over 1200 people will come to the TSM picnic. Given the condensed time frame and the amount of people expected she felt that the picnic format was the best. She explained that the Middle School kids will just flock to each other and talk. She offered that there will be school tours given by the Student Transition Team.
 - Question about whether the BBQ would raise money?
 - BB and DC explained that there would be 1 direct donation fundraiser after comments from the community indicated that that was preferable over other fundraising options.
- Vote taken on \$500 donation from PTA
 - Motion passed with majority in favor.

❖ AUDIT COMMITTEE

- Donna Shomo explained that an audit committee was needed to audit the PTA Books. Under the bylaws an audit must be performed. Adrian Logue

volunteered. 2 more volunteers were needed. On June 30 the books close
An audit report is needed in August. Tiffany Liston volunteered

❖ TMS PTA WEBSITE

- Donna Colombo put the website up on screen and explained all tabs to audience. Donna explained that a link will be on the school website. She explained that there will be a tab to register for membership. There will be a way to purchase Spirit Wear on the website. The website should be active on Monday.

❖ UPDATES BY BRIDGET BEICHLER

- Bridget commented on the amazing turnout of people and introduced the student transition team and asked them to share one idea they had.
 - Alison Carolyn (Belmont Station) - after school class activities,
 - Amish Madhav (Belmont Station) Ping Pong / chess club.
 - Adjay ? (Belmont Ridge) Slogan: Choose the right Wolf.
 - Dru Devine ? (Stone Hill) Comfy chairs
- Bridget explained that the student transition team was chosen to provide a balanced voice. The Staff that worked with the Student Transition team was Laurie McChesney (6th G. counselor) – from Seneca Ridge
Mrs. Hagood (librarian) ; Mrs. Whittington (Spectrum teacher) former math teacher from Belmont Ridge; Jen Cramer (keyboard teacher) from Belmont Ridge .

❖ UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION

- BB explained that the ADMIN is still in cubicle farm in the Admin Building. They will not likely be able to move in to the new school until July. The school has not been turned over to LCPS yet. It is still owned by the Construction Company. Until it is turned over, she requests that no one enter the property. She will advise as soon as it is turned over. The interior of the building has some great features. She was very excited about it.
- Walk Zones – will be provided as soon as possible.
- Newton Lee – will be an open road. The fence will come down. Some buses may be routed through Newton Lee. There will be a very precise method for drop off and pick up.
- Traffic Light - there should be a light installed on Claiborne at the entrance of the school.
- WO&D Trail – there will be a pathway from the trail to the school. There is a county owned building (Bathroom) and air station on the trail abutting the school grounds
- Crossing guards – will be posted on Claiborne. TSM is hiring Crossing guards.
- Sidewalk on Portsmouth – being discussed. Will impact walk zones.
- Drop Off will likely be at 8:10 or so.



❖ OTHER UPDATES

- School supplies - - All teachers have not yet been hired. School supply lists will be provided in July. The goal is to give one list and not have to return in the first week of school to purchase more supplies.
- Course sheets – should be received in the next few days. PLEASE REVIEW and communicate any changes within the next week or no changes can be made.
- NEWSLETTER – the **first** newsletter was in the mailing. All future newsletters will be provided electronically to save on paper. Please register online to receive these newsletters.
- BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS – Brian Hanselman is the administrative lead for business partnerships. He created a packet for solicitation of business partners. It is a tiered system of banners, donations, wish list donations. To date BH contacted 52 businesses. TSM has 10 business partners. The vision is to create culture and traditions and connect businesses to our community and our academics.
- WEB PAGE – Staff biographies will be listed on Web Page. So far 120+ out of 130 staff have been hired.
- FACEBOOK – “Like” us on FB
- STAFF RETREAT – will talk about peer tutoring programs, etc.
- RESOURCE PERIOD – will be used for service learning, tutoring, remediation, some HW
- TEACHER COMMUNICATION – a question was asked about requirements regarding teacher communication. BB responded that there will be an expectation that inquiries will be responded to in 24-36 hours, calendars, Vision, Clarity should be current and updated. There will be some flexibility as well. “What gets monitored gets done. What gets done gets monitored”.

❖ CLUBS / ACTIVITIES

- Odyssey of the Mind and Lego League teams are forming but they need parent support. Reps from both these activities were present at meeting to talk with parents.
- There will be a Drama / Musical next year at TSM. Mr. Halliman (**sp?**) will take lead
- Running Club – several staff members are runners and will likely lead a running club.
- There will be a Creative Arts Reflections Club
- Jennifer Walsh (jwalshpnp@verizon.net) will be after school club and activities coordinator. Please contact her with questions or suggestions.

MEETING BROKE UP TO ALLOW PARENTS TO SPEAK WITH CLUB COORDINATORS AND SIGN UP FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES.

MEETING ADJOURNED ABOUT 8:40 PM.