

**BURNS PARK PTO
General Meeting – Draft Minutes
November 20, 2014**

Executive Committee Members Present: Molly Crankshaw, Jen Denzin, Dan Hamalainen, Lauren Kirnsherf, Helen Levy, Sylvia Marino, Courtney McCreadie, Jenn Monk-Reising, Ken Polsinelli, Rabindar Subbian, Marie Todd, Laura Whitridge

Staff Present: Chuck Hatt, JR Leonard, Patrice Johnson

Others Present: Noemi Barabas, Teresa Fulimeni, Alex Hamlin, Gwen Harrigan, Laura Hayden, Rekha Desai, Janet Spiegel, Andrew Schroeder

Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm

AGENDA

- 1. PTO President's Report**
 - a. President's Remarks
 - i. Advance copy of directory
 - ii. Lunches with Love starts next week

- 2. Required Organizational Business**
 - a. Rabindar noted that there is a quorum present.
 - b. Approval of minutes of October 16, 2014
Motion to approve minutes – Rabindar Subbian, second – Sylvia Marino, approved unanimously

- 3. Proposals**
 - a. Start New at Golf (SNAG) – (\$1,318)
 - i. Presentation of SNAG program and introduction of program to support physical education
 - ii. Looking for additional funding
 - iii. Incorporated into BP Curriculum
 1. PE classes
 2. Field Day
 3. Possible Rental

- iv. Fund 2 sets of equipment
- v. Fundraising ideas
 - 1. AA Parks and Rec
 - 2. AA Ed Fdn
 - 3. Local Businesses
 - 4. Georgetown and Ann Arbor Golf and Outing
 - 5. Consider BP PTO support as a match

Motion to support grant request – Ken Polsinelli, second – Dan Hamalainen, motion approved unanimously

- b. Presentation – Linh Song, Executive Director, Ann Arbor Public Schools Educational Foundation (song@aapsef.org)
 - i. Financial Support for Public Schools (\$1.3MM)
 - 1. Teacher Grants
 - 2. District-wide Programs
 - a. STEAM program - \$350,000 fundraising effort
 - b. Supports program in all 7 middle schools (all or nothing effort)
 - c. 30 computers, printers, robotics kits and equipment per school
 - d. Teacher development – 4 to 5 teachers
 - e. Raise full amount by March
 - 3. \$50,000 per school, pre-packaged program to implement STEAM - Project Lead the Way (www.pltw.org)
 - 4. Scholarship Support
 - a. Funding Sources
 - i. Memorial Gifts
 - ii. Recognition Gifts
 - b. Gifts
 - i. Local specific student needs
 - ii. Pay for play support
 - iii. Other student needs
 - 5. Focus on funding collaborative effort
 - 6. Teacher Grants
 - 7. Consider future funding for athletics
 - 8. Leverage alumni to support district/foundation

- 9. Distribution of Educational Foundation postcards
 - ii. Organizational Structure
 - 1. Dr. Swift, ex officio member
 - 2. Volunteer Board
 - 3. Independent from School District
 - iii. Burns Park – Ms. Krankshaw and Ms. Higgins coordinate on the science and art curriculum along STEAM program
- c. Presentation – Patricia Johnson, ELL Teacher
 - i. Condensed version of staff program of communication skills for new English language learning students to meet basic needs, which takes about one year.
 - ii. Different than formal education language needed for success at school which can take 5-7 years
 - iii. Role of ELL education evolving in the district; moving from isolated model to integrated model, considering role outside of school to entire family, and how the teacher can be a resource for the entire school community.
 - iv. Use visuals more often
 - 1. Shared pictures provide immediate confirmation that everyone is on the same page
 - 2. Increases confidence and communication
 - v. Use math language to leverage entire math initiative to improve communication
- d. Golden Apple Grant Request (\$653.84)
 - i. Request from Sandy Kreger, Carol Keith, Mike Cramer & Sharon Pryce
 - ii. Support t-shirts and kazoos for 5th grade play
 Motion to support funding grant request – Rabindar, Jenn 2nd, passed unanimously

4. Member Proposals

- a. New Business

5. PTO Committee Chairpersons Remarks

- a. Movie Night
 - i. New Chairs
 - 1. Jane Hollingsworth
 - 2. Julie Lubeck-Hofer
 - ii. 12 chaperone minimum
- b. Book Room
 - i. Significant change year over year
 - ii. Working on P-Z
 - iii. \$2400 out of \$3900 spent
- c. Reading Club
- d. Auction Update
 - i. Raised- \$22,000 at auction
 - ii. Travel Package - \$6,954
 - iii. Grange Dinner - \$2,816.70
 - iv. \$31,759 – gross revenue
 - v. \$24,841 – net raise
 - vi. Class photos – thank you to Jen Geer

6. Principal's Report

- a. Principal's Remarks – conversation with teachers regarding more engagement with PTO; “Putting the T back in PTO;” highlight having a visual representation in every lesson; learning is about representing ideas in multiple symbol systems and integrating curriculum; improves content and ability to think; recognizes varied learning styles; all of our initiatives are building a better learning experience for all of our students; examples of successful alumni (Nathan Solon, Ben Heiss, Ben Glass, etc.)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth P. Polsinelli, Co-Secretary

