

## **Executive Board Meeting, April 7, 2008**

Present: Kathy Brito, Stevie Ray Dallimore, Francesca Burns, Marci Stringham, Luisa Diorio, Kristen, Denny Chern-Kelk, Tory Frye

The minutes for the March executive board meeting were approved.

Kathy Brito announced that the balance of the PA bank account is \$16,582.61 (minus a payment for \$71.02). Of that amount, roughly \$1,000 is earmarked for the cash prizes for the top sellers from the fall fundraiser. Other potential and foreseen expenditures/uses of PA funds include:

- A request in writing (email) from Chris Jennings, the music teacher, to Francesca Burns for funds to take 30-50 students from the Intermediate School chorus to go see a Broadway show as a reward for their hard work and sacrifice of personal time. The estimated budget is \$1,600 and assistance from the PA for any amount is requested.
- According to Kathy Brito, the flagpole on the walk way is rusty and needs to be painted
- The talent show will need financial assistance from the PA for things such as equipment, professional time and janitorial staff to help with clean up. Jim Corona is putting together a budget but the estimated amount needed is \$800.
- The second grade video project with a budget of \$2,600
- Food supplies (cakes, drinks) and decorations for the graduation party
- Stevie Ray Dallimore indicated that a teacher approached him about funding for a science trip
- The Spaghetti Dinner (which Luisa Diorio and Kathy Brito later indicated they would coordinate)

Lengthy discussion about all of these requests and funding items ensued. Francesca Burns wondered whether the second grade video project is still viable at this point. Tory Frye voiced her opinion that the PA should support the video project if it is still viable because it is a very enriching program for the students. Kirsten Cowal made a motion to recommend the video project for funding at the upcoming general meeting if it is found to still be viable. The motion was seconded and passed. Marci Stringham wondered whether the Executive Board would want to have some kind of criteria for selecting and/or approving additional enrichment activities since it is possible that other teachers will approach the PA if the PA approves the requests that are before it at this time. Kirsten Cowal wondered if the Executive Board should seek Ms. Chory's approval to fund Chris Jennings' project and others like it. There was discussion about an appropriate amount to recommend for approval for Chris Jennings' project. The figure of \$800 was discussed. Denny Chern-Kelk wondered if the Board should match whatever he raises. Some simple computations established that if the Board provided \$800 that students would have to pay around \$26 and Francesca Burns worried that this was too much for students to pay. Stevie Ray Dallimore will speak to Chris Jennings to get more information about the project, including whether the total amount includes transportation, whether the event will be in the daytime or evening (and whether it will fall on a school day versus the weekend), whether chaperones are needed, how much students will have to pay, etc.

The Board's approval of recommending that the PA allocate \$2,600 for the second grade video project was reiterated. Luisa Diorio announced that the election dates have been approved by Ms. Chory and will be June 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 10<sup>th</sup>. With regard to the various outstanding issues regarding the bylaws, Kirsten Cowal indicated that:

- The discrepancy between the A660 and the PA bylaws regarding the scheduling of elections is the following: the A660 indicates that elections must take place between the fourth Monday of May and the second Friday of June and the bylaws that they must at least 10 days after the second Wednesday of May and the second Friday of June. Following the suggested revisions made by Judith Michael and Michael LaCombe last year, the Board will recommend revising the bylaws to state that they will be scheduled in conformity with the A660.

- The issue of whether to change the title of the UPA delegate was tabled and is on hold. Kathy Brito will ask Carlos Brito to investigate whether the UPA is truly defunct and if it is the Board will recommend changing the title of the position. If it isn't or if it is unclear the position will remain as is with the understanding that the holder of that position will have other duties.
- As far as she (Kirsten Cowal) can tell, Parent Associations are strongly encourage to post the schedule of meetings at the beginning of the year. She noted that the bylaws currently state that the meetings will be held on the last Thursday of the month unless otherwise indicated by the Board. Kirsten Cowal suggested that the PA membership vote on when to hold general meetings at the last meeting of the year. Other Executive Board members felt that next year's Executive Board should make the decision about when to hold meetings. Some suggestions were made about how to raise and discuss the issue (i.e. the general meeting will be held on the third Thursday of the month unless it conflicts with the CEC meeting in which case it will be held on the second Thursday of the month. No definitive agreement was reached on the question of how the issue should be addressed (vote by the PA membership, Board making decision) and by whom (current Board or next year's Board) although the majority seemed to be leaning towards leaving the issue for the upcoming Board.

Hopes were raised and discussed that the upcoming Executive Board would have a smoother transition than was the case for the current Board. The last issue that was discussed was the agenda for the upcoming general meeting. Agenda items include voting on the second grade video project, the elections, the bylaws and voting to approve the vendor for next year's class pictures. The fundraising committee will be interviewing vendors before the next meeting and will make its recommendation at that time. There was an inconclusive discussion about how to present the various funding requests for approval to the membership. The idea that received most attention was that of asking for approval to spend up to \$5,000 on last minute enrichment programs. It was noted that the Talent Show has to be presented separately since it is not an enrichment activity. Discussion will be continued at the half an hour meeting of the Executive Board before the general meeting.