

NHA PTO Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:20 pm.

Prayer by Principal Morrow.

Quorum verified by Demiko Aiken.

Minutes from the November 7, 2017 meeting approved as written.

State of the School Address by Principal:

1. Rain garden completed before the Holiday break.
2. Asphalt work remains to be completed around the rain garden area. The garden replanting will take place in the Spring. Ribbon cutting to be scheduled.
3. Search and interview process is ongoing to identify a new high school English teacher. In the interim, Mrs. Cohen is teaching grades 8-9, and Principal Joy is teaching grades 11-12. The goal is to have a teacher identified by the end of the month.
4. Mr. Frank (handyman) is no longer able to fulfill handyman projects around the school. A request for volunteers was sent out in the weekly FYI. PTO vice president, Mrs. Nwadinma Omoike, proposed Angie's List as a potential means to find another handyman.
5. Ms. Noriko Wright passed away over the Christmas break 23 Dec. A memorial service will be held at New Hope for Ms. Wright on a date/time to be determined in February.
6. Ms. Aisha Faison and Mr. H made over \$1,000 from Technology Sales fundraiser event in December.
7. Open House Panel of HS teachers and students to inform parents of NHA's high school programs will be held on Jan 26 from 5:30-6:30 in the Founders Room.
8. Six transfer students over the past month. There are two new Chinese students that will begin the second term. Need for a host family for one Chinese boy.

Financial Report by Aneesa Summerville:

1. Mrs. Summerville reviewed the financial report which included provided an update to Oct 16 report Financial Report approved as written.
2. Parent question/recommendation: Recommended that the \$1,000 set aside for the school sign be listed under the commitments. The next treasure's report will reflect the \$1,000 set aside for the school sign as a commitment.

Old Business:

1. School Sign – Mr. Otis is working. Installation was planned for this past weekend, but postponed due to the weather.

2. Walkathon – PTO President, Ms. Thornton announced the Walkathon was postponed and would be held sometime in the Spring after International Night.
3. Holiday Wishes Gram sales went well; raised \$136.
4. Beautification Team - Seeking volunteers to assist with small school projects.

New Business:

1. Zumba fundraiser will be rescheduled sometime the Spring. \$5 per person.
2. MLK Community Service, 26 Jan 17; Multipurpose room and kitchen: PTO sponsored family community service event in support of the DC Central Kitchen. Lunches consisting of sandwiches and trail mix will be assembled the Friday prior to MLK Monday at NHA. Cost to PTO \$120 (110-120 sandwiches / trail mix. Motion proposed to fund the MLK community service at the cost of \$150 funding put to a vote. Motion accepted, seconded, and approved by PTO vote fund the event at \$150.
3. International Night will be held on Friday, 17 March 17
 - a) Volunteers for food, entertainment, setup/tear down
 - b) Various international foods and entertainment
 - c) Mrs. Omoike gave the PTO an overview of International Night to include how successful the event was last year. She also informed the PTO that volunteers were needed for food donations, entertainment or setup/teardown.
 - d) One free ticket if you cook, donate or sponsor.
4. Teacher Appreciation Week (1-5 May 17) Funds (\$1200). Motion proposed, moved, seconded and voted to approve the allotment \$1200 to fund teacher appreciation in May by the PTO.
5. Parents Night Out sponsored by PTO on Feb 14 (6-10:30pm) will be held in lieu of the February PTO meeting. \$30 for first child; \$20 for second child; \$5 per child discount for all International Night sponsors, donors, and cooks. Prepaid after-care will be picked up by the PTO. Ms. Annemarie expressed an interest in supporting the event.
6. The March PTO meeting will be moved to the March 7th.

Open Floor

1. Ms. Beverly gave Gambia Project update. The political climate has change in Gambia since the president was voted out. There is fear and anxiety that violence may erupt. The U.S. Embassy has asked all U.S. citizens to leave. Gambia Project sending money to contacts in Gambia with community outreach to assist citizens with buying necessary staples – formula, milk, rice oil, tomato paste, candles. Additionally, fundraising has reached the \$13,000 mark. The Gambia Project has attained its first corporate sponsor for the school, providing scholarships to students.
2. PTO Vice President informed the PTO that the Open Letter was sent to the teachers in December to get feedback from them on their educational needs and initiatives that the PTO may be able to assist with. Principal Joy stated that she would discuss during the next teacher’s meeting.

3. Ms. Beverly asked about PTO support of the Science Fair: proposed date 23 Mar 17. Homework pass to the students that present a project. Principal Joy will speak with the staff during the next teachers' meeting.
4. PTO will donate a gift less than \$100 to Ms. Wright's memorial service.

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.