



Whitin Middle School PTO
120 Granite Street
Uxbridge, MA 01569

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday December 7, 2011

Attendance:

Amanda Ayers, Sue Bell, Michelle Simpson, Kay Klos, Karen Mages, Karen Maguire, Lisa Rooney, Maureen Blake, Angela McCarty, Nancy Lemire, Heather Makynen and Wendy Walker.

Review of Meeting Minutes:

Minutes from November 2, 2011 were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer's Report was accepted with a balance of \$23,571.21.
- Balance reflects amounts that still need to be paid to Town Loop groups that benefit from this fundraiser- Uxbridge Elementary PTO and Parents for Safe Graduation.
- PTO table at conferences made \$129 dollars selling T Shirts and Smencils.
- Book fair made \$ 1458.57 profit.
- Check came in to us for Uxbridge Friends of Music fundraiser made out to us by mistake. We cashed the check and issued a check to the UFM.

Community of Caring

- Michelle Simpson updated the PTO about the field days planning. She reported that there was one planning meeting so far and another one on December 8th. Activities are being brainstormed and the 8th grade student activity committee is in charge of coming up with a theme. They will also make signs. Each grade will have one day for a field day. They are planning on 10 activities with 15 minutes per activity. Picnic lunch at 11 am. They will need volunteers to run the activities. They like the idea of frozen lemonades- suggestion came up about contacting a Del's lemonade truck. They might do T shirts for each child. Event will take place two weeks before the end of school.
- PTO's role would be to help recruit volunteers and donations of perhaps food or popsicles.

Principal's Report/ Whitin School News/ Upcoming Events:

- Gretchen Roche and her robotics club won two awards in a competition they entered recently.
- Lisa Mistler and her art students entered five Christmas Carol works and three of the works won Villancort awards. They were Trevor Benoit, Jaycee Garrigan and Sasha Cassie.
- The 7th and 8th Grade Dance held on Dec 2nd and was very successful. Kids had a nice time. Mr. Catalano was the DJ he has a fog machine. Snowflake decorations made by the activity committee complimented a winter theme. There are plans in the works for a Valentine's Day dance. The 7th graders wrote Mrs. Maguire a letter indicating they like these events and want more events like this.
- Principal for the day was 5th grader Kaylee Sanders – she had her name drawn from participating in the magazine drive. She chose her assistant principal by drawing names of her friends in front of them. She drew Abby Cohen's name. Superintendent George Zini and Ernie Esposito from the school committee met with them. They learned about the budget which was a math tie in. They also did the pledge and moment of silence.

Calendar of Events:

Dec 7th Whitin PTO meeting 6:30pm
 Dec 9th Curriculum Inservice - 1/2 day
 Dec 23rd 1/2 day for students and staff
 Dec 23rd Winter Recess
 Jan 3rd Classes Resume form Winter Break
 Jan 16th Martin Luther King Day No School
 Jan 17th Professional Development Day No School
 Feb 1st Whitin PTO meeting 6:30pm

Box Tops:

- Nancy Lemire reporting that the monthly drawing winner for October was Madison Blake and the winner for November was Cassie Snay.
- \$89 dollars worth of Box Tops were turned in November. The PTO should expect a check mid December for the October submission
- December monthly winner still needs to be picked.

Spring Fundraiser:

- Adrienne Mc Donald from Otis Spunkmeyer Cookies came to the EB meeting and met with us. The PTO will be selling Otis cookie dough this year. Otis is intent on making it a smooth sale for the PTO. They are willing to send a rep to help with delivery. Sales will start in February and delivery will be in March.

Town Loop:

- Event was held Sunday November 20th and the weather was excellent.
- 300 pre registered racers. 149 Walkers and 151 runners were pre registered.
- On race day we had 41 more walkers and 92 more runners register
- A timing service was used this year and there are some issues to be worked out. We ran out of bibs and participants were waiting around for the results. May use a different company next year. Needs to run smoother on that end.
- Volunteers were very good and registrations were very smooth.
- All but three sponsors have paid for a total of \$1,900 – three more sponsors to pay for an additional \$300 to collect.
- Each group Whitin PTO, Uxbridge Elementary PTO and Parents for Safe Graduation are looking at receiving \$1,300 each (\$1,400 each if we get the additional sponsor money). This is \$500 more than last year.

Old Business:

- The survey that went home in report cards regarding the donation versus fundraiser idea for the fall had 175 surveys returned. 138 people said they prefer to make a donation. The 6th grade had the best response. The PTO did not put a spot on the survey to indicate homeroom so we are going to have Nancy Lemire send an email to the people that responded to see if we can get the homeroom info for the pizza party. There was some discussion about if the donation should be an option with the fundraiser versus not having a fall fundraiser. Some were concerned that if the donations were the only option and if the donations were low, would the PTO have trouble funding events next year? Would we have to run a fundraiser if donations were low? Still more to discuss on this topic.
- The Whitin PTO may make a gesture to update the school sign. We will discuss further as we get more information about the moves and what the name of the school will be. Karen Mages will check with sign company JM Stuart to see what costs would be and what a change entails.

New Business:

- A homework club is up and running after school. Amy Puliafico overseeing this – started with the 8th graders. Monday through Thursday 2-3 pm. See her for volunteer opportunity.

Meeting Adjourned 7:33pm

Next Meeting is Wednesday January 4th at 6:30pm in the Whitin Library.

Respectfully Submitted by,
 Wendy Walker
 Whitin PTO Secretary