

Point Loma High School PTSA Minutes
October 6, 2007
Library

In Attendance: Kris Barry, Leslie Rose, Cheryl Louie, Elisa Cusato, Laurie Hurl, Robin DeRykere, Lucy DeVito, Anna Vermazen, Ann Tamura, Beth Coyne, Marilyn Thoman, Leslie Hanna, Linda Jaros, Susan Blair, Tim Hanna, Maureen McGrath, Chris Brown (Pen. YMCA), Robin Bergen, Karen Lamont.

Call to Order 6:08 p.m.

Welcome/Approval of Minutes: Kris B. welcomed us all to the second PTSA meeting of the year. The minutes had been sent out via email. The minutes were accepted as written.

ASB Report: Tim Hanna

The first ASB dance of the year was a huge success. Approximately 330 tickets were sold, over which was required to “break even.”

Homecoming weekend is November 2-3. Dance planning is well under way. The dance will be held in Liberty Station at the “Matrix Club.” Parent Volunteers are requested to help with security. The theme is “Music through the Decades.” The seniors will dress in 90's clothing, Juniors in 70's clothing, and Sophomores in 80's clothing. The Freshman class has just elected a class president, so they will pick their theme in the next week or so. Tickets for the dance go on sale October 16, and are sold through November 1st. Price to be announced.

There was a discussion concerning the difference between ASB class accounts and the class accounts (from selling merchandise, etc.)

Administration Report: Laurie Hurl for Bobbi Samilson

Laurie announced the following upcoming events at the school:

College Night - 10.11.07

PSAT (juniors) /PLAN (sophomores) - 10.20.07

Senior Presentation Information - 10.10.07
End of Grading Period - 10.19.07
Minimum Day - 10.24.07
Grades Mailed Home/Viewable on Parent Connect - 10.26.07
Homecoming Game - 11.02.07 - night game vs. La Jolla
Homecoming Dance - 11.03.07

Claire Johns is competing as a semi-finalist for the National Merit Scholarship Award.

Testing scores were better last year than in years past. The school changed the AP schedules to make it easier for the juniors to take the state tests without too much stress.

The flow of the school seems nicer and more peaceful this year.

Treasurer's Report: Cheryl Louie

Cheryl reported that the audit of last year's books had been done and the books were found to be correct.

As for the monthly report, the Kick-off expenses and income, as well as income from membership, is still coming in. To date, there are 533 members of the PTSA, 125 students and 60 teachers. \$3285 goes to the National PTA.

A motion was made to approve the expenses as listed (see attachment) and seconded. Motion carried.

Announcements:

YMCA's Youth & Government Program: Chris Brown. Chris from the Peninsula YMCA reported about the above program, which targets high school students in the 9th through 11th grades. It is a state-wide program involving more than 2,000 young leaders in a nine-month "hands on" experience. The spring conference is a casual setting. He encouraged participation from our kids! Also, the Y has some college tours set up for the spring. There is a Northern California campus tour over spring break, and a shorter Southern California tour in February. Contact the Y for more information.

Special Ed Needs: Robin Bergen & Karen Lamont. Robin & Karen are special ed teachers who team-teach a non-diploma bound special ed class. They teach an applied learning class involving 4 subject areas: math, English, science and history. Their class has about 20 students, ranging from 9th through 12th grade. It is a new niche within the School District - going “back to the basics” type of teaching style. The books for this type of class are written at a 4th - 5th grade level, but with a high content. They have only one text book for all of these subjects, and have been using the same book for the past 4 years. A new text is being adopted by the School District, but not until next year. Teachers only receive about \$100 to \$150 per year for “other material,” which can be used to supplement what is provided by the District.

The teachers are trying to improve the text book situation. They have searched for other materials to supplement the one text book. Some of these kids are mainstreamed for history and science classes, but all remain for the math and English classes. The class has grown over the past 3-4 years. They also use field trips for learning purposes. They have requested \$5,000 for their class. (See Gifts & Grants discussion, infra.)

College Night/Dollars for Scholars/NACAC: Laurie Hurl

College Night is Thursday, October 11. Speakers from the Naviance program will present the program at 6:00 p.m. Naviance is a program for counselors, students and parents to assist in the college application process. Counselors will be trained in Naviance on Friday, October 12. At 7:00 p.m., the College Reps will be in the gym. Approximately 60 colleges are going to be represented that evening, along with ACT, PTSA, Youth and Government, Barrio Station, the Classes, Super Camp (summer camp programs at colleges and universities), and the San Diego Credit Union. We have plenty of volunteers.

The Dollars for Scholars Walk is on November 3, 2007 at UCSD. Laurie needs help in getting the word out - this is a no-brainer fundraiser. You can donate online, without having to walk. The money donated to the Ocean Beach Chapter all goes to PLHS for scholarship awards.

NACAC: Laurie thanked the PTSA for sending her to the NACAC

conference. At the conference, she was given a certificate for one student to receive the Kaplan Review Course for the SAT. It was decided that the Junior class could auction it off for a fundraiser. In the spring, Laurie has arranged to have a parent night workshop with a speaker on “Why Don’t Good Kids Get into Good Colleges.”

Gifts & Grants: Marilyn Thoman & Beth Coyne

Currently we have approximately \$3450 to disperse as a Gift/Grant. The following requests were made:

1.) \$300 from the Dramatic Arts department for material costs for a wardrobe storage unit.

2.) \$200 from the Counseling department for incentives to encourage at-risk students to raise their GPAs, and to apply for college financial aide.

3.) \$879 from the 9th Grade Wheel instructor for the purchase of 3 Sony DVD recorders/cameras so the kids can put on podcasts.

4.) \$600 from the Spanish Department to underwrite cost of busses for the Spanish Film Festival (\$100 per bus, probably 6 busses needed).

5.) \$5,000 - Special Ed Department (see discussion, supra.) Robin and Karen request \$5000 to supplement their learning materials, broken down as follows: \$2,000 for community based learning and training (field trips, conferences, etc.), \$500 for applied math instructional materials, \$500 for applied English instructional materials, \$500 for applied history instructional materials, and \$500 for applied science instructional materials.

6.) \$1,500 for after school tutoring snacks.

The Gifts/Grant Committee made the following recommendations:

Supply on DVD camera to the 9th Grade Wheel - \$280

Underwrite Spanish Film Festival Field trip - \$400

Gift to Special Ed for instructional materials - \$500

This would total \$1180 to disperse, and would leave \$1700 for future gift/grant requests.

Motion was made to disperse \$280 for one DVD camera to the 9th Grade Wheel class, and was seconded. Motion carried.

Motion was made to approve \$400 to the Spanish Department to underwrite the busses, seconded and motion carried.

Motion was made to approve the gift of \$500 to the Special Ed teachers, and was seconded. Further discussion was requested. After discussion, a motion was made to increase the gift/grant amount to \$750. Motion was seconded and carried.

With regards to the request from the Counseling center for \$200 for incentives, the incentives usually took the form of food and for a give-away prize. A motion was made to table this request to see if more curriculum-based requests are received by the GG committee. Motion seconded and carried.

The \$1,500 request for after school tutoring snacks was a phone request and it was unsure if the amount was truly \$1500, or if the person meant \$150 which was requested last year. Request was also tabled. Kris Spathas will be asked to send an e-blast asking for cases of water and granola bars for the after school tutoring program.

The Drama department's request for materials for a wardrobe was also tabled, as it was not a curriculum based request.

Class Reports:

2008 - Kris Barry showed us the cute new hat with the Class of 2008 logo (in purple, the class color). The seniors and parents met before the PTSA meeting to begin working on the senior activities. The Disneyland date has been set for Thursday, June 12th. The senior class has approximately \$26,292 in their account.

2009 - Susan Blair reported for Linda Jaros. The Juniors have \$11, 462 in their account, and are doing well selling license plates.

2010 - Maureen McGrath reported the sophomores spent a good portion of their money on merchandise. The sweatshirts are selling fast. They set up a table during Thursday lunch time and did well, and plan to have two more Thursday Sale dates in October.

2011 - Anna Vermazen reported that the freshmen will be selling a drawstring backpack in school colors. Hopefully, they will be there by Homecoming game. A rummage sale is planned for November 3, 2007, at the school.

Miscellaneous: Maureen McGrath stated that some businesses had promised to pay this year, but still had not sent in their checks. Since we have banners for these businesses (past donors), she asked if she could call these businesses and offer them a discounted rate to hang the banners for the remaining home games. It was decided she could request \$150 from these businesses.

Meeting Adjourned 7:52.