

Miscoe Hill PTO General Meeting Minutes

Date: 12/06/2023

Location: Miscoe Library

Meeting Called by: Victoria

Time: 6:33pm

Attendance: Kelly Lucier, Joe Bonapace, Melissa Morse, Robin Benoit, Meg Halfpenny, Rachel Linnehan, Camille Merusi, Diane Duncan

Call to Order

1. Approved 11/01/2023 general meeting minutes by email.

Opening Reports

- Treasurer, Kelly Lucier
 - Money for Miscoe is up to \$2517.
 - We've raised \$4800 so far this year.
 - Our bank balance is over \$10,000 right now, but this is expected as we have not had to pay for some of our larger anticipated expenses such as cultural arts programming.
 - Book fair sales were lower than last year, which could be in part due to the poorly timed schedule with the half days. Sales totalled \$3740. We have Scholastic Dollars to spend so Kelly sent out wish list requests to 10-12 teachers, but only 3 replied. Kelly is also looking into new vendors for future book fairs.
- Principal, Robin Benoit
 - The Night at the Wax Museum play was a success, and there are concerts coming up. The student council sponsored winter carnival for 5th and 6th grades will be December 15.
 - The library project is taking shape. We've held 2 meetings, one with We Care Miscoe regarding a new design plan and another with parents and school staff to work on the vision for the use of the space.
 - Justin Williams was selected as middle school art educator of the year and was recognized at a recent school committee meeting.

Old Business:

- Fundraising (Joe)
 - Joe has met with Diane regarding the potential to build the giving tree project. As a reminder, this will be a furniture grade, permanent installation

with individual leaves for sponsors who make donations to the PTO. The leaves can be replaced and updated on a regular basis.

- We need to consider how we can reach corporate sponsors and what benefit we can provide them for their donations.
- Before anything can move forward, we need to work with district administration to make sure the project is feasible.
- We can try to explore hosting events that would encourage corporate sponsors, like Clough does with their annual Turkey Trot. If we move forward with a spring family social and host a cornhole tournament, this could be a good opportunity.
- Cultural Arts (Jess)
 - We will be sponsoring an author visit for the 5th grade.
 - Sheryl Faye is booked for grades 5 and 8. Jess has a lead on a program for 7th grade. The 6th grade program is still TBD.
- Recess equipment (Kelly)
 - No need to purchase any new equipment until we figure out a way to manage the current supply.
 - It is a challenge to get the kids to take care of the equipment and make sure the items get brought back in and put away correctly. The school staff is working on a new organization/management system. The PTO is willing to support by providing storage materials as needs arise.

New Business:

- Holiday staff appreciation event (Deb)
 - Deb is organizing a cookie swap for staff on December 19. She will send out a sign up genius later this week.
- Winter calendar of PTO/social events (Kelly)
 - Urban Air is booked for January 11 (half day of school). The PTO will receive a portion of admission proceeds.
 - There will be a Worcester Railers game on January 5th that we have been promoting. The Miscoe band has a performance, and Miscoe families will have a section of seats together. The PTO will earn a small portion of every ticket sold.
 - Student council is hosting a Winter Carnival for 5th and 6th graders on December 15th.
 - Providence Bruins has offered us a seat section on February 9th, and we could increase ticket prices \$1/ticket to have it be a small fundraiser.
 - The MUEF Wizards event is January 27th.

- Brenda is working on booking a roller skating social at Roller Kingdom for February or March. The PTO will pay to rent out the facility.
- Open to members or guests to share an idea or make a motion
 - Diane Duncan's son will be working on an outdoor classroom project for Miscoe. We Care Miscoe can help fund this effort.
 - We Care Miscoe is actively involved in the library renovation and has plans to update some of the bathroom facilities at the school. More committee members are always welcome, but occasional volunteers willing to spend an hour or two are what keeps the program running! Any level of support is greatly appreciated. Reach out to the PTO if you'd like to be kept informed of volunteer opportunities.

Announcements

- Remember to check for updates on our Facebook Page (Miscoe Hill PTO - Current), Twitter (@miscoept), Instagram (#miscoehillpto), and our website (www.MiscoePTO.org).
- Sign up to receive communications by sending us an email: PTOMiscoeHill@gmail.com.
- Our next general meeting will be January 3 at 6:30pm in the Miscoe Library.

Adjournment