

DRAFT
Notes of the Mantua PTA
February 6, 2008
Mantua Elementary School

The president called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Present at the meeting were:

Executive Board: *Bob Greene, Donna McGrath, Terry Murphy, Virginia Fisher*

School Representatives: *Tina Tingler; Janet Sottolano*

Board Members: *Monica Cameron; Trish Williams; MaryJo Kavjian; Kathy Phillips*

General Membership: *Jason Gloege, Jeri Gloege, Shannon Murphy; Bonhee Ku; Maggie Weddell; Peggy Einhorn*

Minutes were distributed for the January 2008 meeting electronically and in print. Bob Greene made a motion to adopt the minutes from the January 2008 PTA meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

Peggy Einhorn, the Science Coordinator, spoke about the following issues:

- Mad Science, while popular, was very difficult to coordinate. On at least six occasions, teachers either did not show at all, or were late to class. Teachers complained that their classrooms were not cleaned properly after a session. She recommends that the PTA not sponsor Mad Science again.
- Peggy also introduced Invention Camp, and broached the idea of having it hosted at Mantua this summer. She volunteered to coordinate the camp, and will speak to Cheryl Thompson about the possibility. It must be PTA sponsored, and the PTA could earn \$1,000 from the activity.
- She is looking at the week of July 28 – August 1. \$240 for the week, 9 – 3, there would be 140 spots.

Terry Murphy made the following **Treasurer's Report**:

- Profit though January 08 is \$1,024.59. Many of the large expense only budgeted items have been fully paid. These include staff development, field trips, principal's fund and the 6th grade Hemlock field trip. The book fair proceeds that will go to the school have not been finalized yet at part of the proceeds have gone to an author's conference.
- Cash balance is \$29, 783.39 which includes \$3,500 of auction proceeds that were deposited on 2/6/08.
- Basketball playoffs start the week of 2/25 with the finals being played the following week.

Donna McGrath made the following **Membership Report**:

- To date 722 people have signed up and paid for membership to the PTA.
- She proposed increasing the PTA membership dues from \$7 to \$10 for an individual membership. The motion was seconded and carried.

Bob Greene made the following **Announcement(s)**:

- The First Vice President position is open due to a resignation by Erin Spillman. The PTA thanks her for all of her hard work this year.

- Regarding the Lido Place sidewalk issue – there is a hearing scheduled in March, but for now it is a moot point for the PTA. At least one homeowner is still protesting the plan.
- The PTA will have a Hospitality Table at the Talent Show this Saturday. There will be PTA literature as well as community outreach information.
- Korean Community Spirit Night has been scheduled for February 26th at Cho's Garden on Lee Highway. Mantua families can go between 5:30 – 9:30pm.
- Literacy / Heritage Night is scheduled for March 13.
- Bob would like to identify a project that the PTA can sponsor during the course of the year, rather than simply allocating money at the end of the year. Maggie Weddell and he have talked about sponsoring capital improvements to the playground. The proposal was moved and seconded. The next step will be to meet with Jan-Marie Fernandez and a landscaper to determine needs and to find out about the cost.
- The Parenting Workshops are now being coordinated by Allison Bendus.
- Katie Graap is coordinating an SCA fundraiser – temporary tattoos – big M and raccoon. .50 cents per tattoo.
- Matt Urbanek, a former Mantua student, is earning his Eagle Scout award. One of the projects he identified and has carried out is the tightening and/or replacement of ALL the hooks in the school. He replaced over 300 hooks. Thank you Matt!
- 4 boys from Troop 1533 have recently earned their Eagle Scout Award: Logan Richlak, Evan Wilson; Kevin Canty; and Ben Newman. Congratulations scouts!

Tina Tingler made the **Principal's Report:**

- The BART testing is completed.
- The Winter Choral concert on January 15 was lovely.
- Colonial Day was a big success – despite the 2 hour school delay.
- There is a new club – American Sign Language Club.
- 2 upcoming concerts: Winter Orchestra Concert – 2/12 and Winter Band - 2/13
- The After School Program for the deaf and hard of hearing will be starting on February 20 and will meet every Wednesday after school. Dessert donations for this program are needed. Please contact Lorri Fowlkes in the office.
- Mantua needs substitute teachers. Both on a day to day basis, or a more regular basis.

Janet Sottolano made the **Teacher's Report:**

- She offered a big thank you to the PTA for funding the bus for the 5th grade trip.
- She reported that the money given to the teachers each year by the PTA is greatly appreciated and this year is being used for things like purchasing Translation dictionaries for the classrooms – Italian and Korean to name a few. She also noted that some of the teachers donate some of their money to new teachers in the school to help them to build their own libraries in the classroom.
- There will be a Mock Primary at Mantua next week – check with your kids to find out if they voted the way you will vote!

The following **Committee** announcements were made:

Mary Jo reported on the **Auction**

- The auction earned \$8,000! \$2,500 of it from sponsors, \$2,400 from the Faculty Fun section. The Family 1 Chuck E Cheese outing garnered \$551!

Loan Pham who has managed the **PTA website** is retiring from that position. Thank you Loan for all of your hard work!

Jason Gloege has volunteered to take over for her. His email is ujgloege@gmail.com

Jeri Gloege reported that the **Share to Care Talent Show** is scheduled for this Saturday, February 9. Jeri has also volunteered to coordinate the **Drama Club** next year and plans to send out a questionnaire in March or April in order to gather information and levels of interest.

Old Business

Bob asked for a status of the families who have had fires in their homes. It was reported that one family is renting a house on Tovito while repairs are being made.

New Business

- The new Coordinator for the Koren Community is **Bonhee Ku**. Almost ¼ of the Mantua population is Korean. Many parents of these students do not speak English. In addition to translating the Mantua Alerts etc, Bonhee will try to bring this community together to help each other, and to help incorporate them into the larger Mantua community. She is coordinating the start of conversational English classes in the Cafeteria on Tues and Thurs from 9:30 – 10:30.
- Candidates for a Nominating Committee were put forward and have been approved. They are: Monica Cameron, Trish Williams, and Kathy Phillips. They will be seeking candidates to fill the following positions: 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, and Treasurer.

Maggie Weddell had the following to report:

- There was an article in the Jan 30 Washington Post stating that the Senate was backing the phase out of trans fats in school food.
- She broached the idea of having a person who is the central repository for all PTA information, that she could then make sure gets in to the Alert News and the MCA newsletter. She nominated Deb Schwartz for the position of PTA Copyright Person.
- She has spoken to the people at Sun and Moon Yoga about having a Parent/Child Mantua Night. They could do a 14 week session for \$210 for parent and child, or individual classes for \$15 adult, \$7 child.

Motions Carried

- Adoption of Minutes for January 2008 PTA meeting.
- Motion to increase individual PTA membership from \$7 to \$10

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Virginia Fisher and Mary Rollins
Co-Secretaries