

Minutes of the Mantua PTA
June 4, 2003
Mantua Elementary School

The president called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m. Present at the meeting were:

Executive Board: *Laura Mead, Carole Thomas, Pam Promisel, Beth McKeown, Rob Luftglass*

School Representatives: *Jan-Marie Fernandez, Tina Tingler, Elaine Wellner, Janet Sottolano, Ann Baum*

Board Members: *Allen Clark, Barb Suidikas, Bev Baughman, Cheryl May, DeeAnn Jeremiah, Jennifer Cooper, Kristin Lahiff, Laura Samotshozo, Loren Brandman, Randi Kirkland*

General Membership: *Jane Love, Martha Parsons*

Beth McKeown made a **motion** that the minutes of the May 7, 2003 meeting be approved. Allen Clarke seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Beth McKeown presented the **Treasurer's Report**. She provided two Income Statements – one for the twelve months ending June 30, 2003 (actual information though June 4, 2003). Beth noted that the PTA will not receive revenue from Giant next year due to changes in their program. She also noted that:

- The 6th grade Bike-a-thon is going through the PTA budget, but is not funded by or benefiting the PTA,
- The Drama Club did purchase headsets (voted on last meeting), and
- The PTA reimbursed the school for copy paper.

Loren Brandman asked Beth whether we are able to encumber any excess budget for Math Happenings for next year. Beth replied that a motion would have to carry to this effect. Loren made a **motion** that we encumber the balance of the Math Happenings line item to next year's budget. Randi Kirkland seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Laura Mead presented the **Announcements**:

- Many notes of appreciation were made regarding the 6th grade Hemlock trip, support of the Odyssey of the Mind team (which placed 3rd place in Worlds).
- There were several successful activities generated from the CIPA project including the 6th grade bike-a thon and the book drive
- The Ice cream social has been cancelled.

Mrs. Fernandez made the **Principals' Report**:

- The Career Fair went very well and support from the many parents who participated was appreciated.
- Field Day is next week (Wed-Fri).
- There are many end of years activities – e.g., parties and assemblies (including a visit from the Plateau School Governor)
- Some staff members will be leaving (for new opportunities or family obligations) – Judy Spengler, Angela Wilkinson, Felicia Law Davenport, Carol Danberg, Pat Small, Sara Skerker, Susan Watson, Sara Mills. We have already hired 2 people and many others possible.
- Thanks to PTA for all the work that has been done – especially Laura for her leadership.

Ms. Tingler announced that ESOL parents were instructed in their native language how to sign up for summer school (via the new parent liaisons). She also announced that Jackie Mahler, the audiologist who was a substitute has been hired full time for next year.

Mrs. Wellner thanked for all the support/on time for SOLs. Next year, there will be many changes to the SOLs, including Social Studies in 6,7,8th grades. Changes are generally made every year based on teacher input.

Teacher Representative Report: Janet Sottolano stressed that volunteers are wonderful, but we need more volunteers for the younger grades. She asked if the PTA would be able to create a general volunteer corps that would help any grade level? Ann Baum agreed that this need exists.

The following **Committee Reports** were filed:

Field Day – Volunteers Needed

Cheryl Dickison

Field Day – Pam Promisel reported for Cheryl. Field Day is June 11-13. Parents are still encouraged to sign up. Need at least two per class for both morning and afternoon.

Parent Education

Pam Promisel

Lists of books are being put together for parents. Please let Pam know of any recommended books or other resources.

Pam made a **motion** to encumber the remaining funds under Parent Education for next year's budget. Allen Clarke seconded. The motion carried.

Auction

Carole Thomas

Next year's auction date will be October 19 at Kena Temple. We will need volunteers for both large and small jobs. We will be breaking jobs down into manageable sizes. An objective this year is to increase the involvement of teachers and staff. We also plan to set

a goal to use much of the money raised in next year's auction to fund a mobile PC Lab and a field trip to the National Aquarium.

Old Business

Executive Board Election: The Nominating Board presented following slate:

- President – Carole Thomas
- 1st VP – Pam Promisel
- 2nd VP – Kandy Barham
- Secretary – Robert Luftglass
- Treasurer – Beth McKeown

There were no nominations from the floor. A voice vote on the slate was made. The slate passed.

Motions were made on two outstanding items. Allen Clarke made a **motion** to move excess from the Marvelous Monday encumbered funds (\$692.96) to cover overage in the cost for 6th grade Gettysburg field trip. Carole Thomas seconded the motion and it carried.

Allen Clarke also made a **motion** to move \$300 from encumbered funds for the basketball scoreboard to cover overage in costs associated with the King Tut field trip. Jane Love seconded the motion. Beth announced that here is an additional \$360 overage that we will request is covered in the Wish List. The motion carried.

Teacher Wish List:

Ms. Fernandez presented the PTA with a school wish list for potential items to be supported by PTA funds. Beth McKeown gathered additional information from Band and Strings and Art. Ms. Fernandez announced that the school would cover art items.

The PTA has \$28,451 available to spend on the wish list items.

The Executive Board recommendation for the funds is:

- \$14,391 for computers for the classrooms
- \$4,200 for staff development funds
- \$3,000 for read naturally program materials
- \$3,000 for portable sound field systems
- \$3,000 for musical instruments
- \$500 for Strings
- \$360 for King Tut field trip overage
- Total \$28,451

Allen Clarke made a **motion** to accept the Executive Board recommendations to fund these items for \$28,451. Jane Love seconded the motion.

Loren Brandman expressed the following concerns:

- \$15/hour for staff development is a small amount. Can't the PTA do more?
- Teacher workstations – is this too much for technology when money could be better spent on staff development?

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Ms. Fernandez explained that the \$15 is actually a stipend - a county defined number for staff development funds. In regards to computer workstations, the school is working on the equitable use of computers as well as the Apple to PC conversion

Loren made a **motion** to amend the motion to change staff development to \$5,600 (\$20/hour) and subtract \$1,400 from musical instruments to make it \$1,600 instead of \$3,000 (3 instead of 6 Xylophones). The additional teacher development pay would be considered a stipend. Laura Samotshozo seconded the motion. Beth McKeown called to question. Allen Clarke requested a point of information: When would staff development be paid? The answer was August. Therefore, it was decided that we would need to encumber funds if this motion is approved. The amendment carried.

Discussion on the original motion, as amended, ensued. Barb Suidikas asked about the instruments? Ms Fernandez indicated that the instruments are shared among the classrooms. Ms. Fernandez stated that the school would fund the remaining \$1,400 for instrument purchase from instructional funds. The amended motion carried.

Carole Thomas made a **motion** to earmark the mini PC lab as the primary funding objective for the money raised by the auction, with additional objectives including field trips and other educational needs. Martha Parsons seconded the motion.

During discussion, Allen Clarke expressed concern that this will be ongoing. Jane mentioned that it helps in fundraising for specific goal. There could be many funding objectives to enrich the education experience for our students. The motion carried.

New business

Beth announced that the Audit Committee would begin work on July 12, so she will need all documentation by end of June.

Motions Carried

A motion carried to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2003.

A motion carried that we encumber the balance of the Math Happenings line item to next year's budget

A motion carried to encumber the remaining funds under Parent Education for next year's budget.

A motion carried to move excess from the Marvelous Monday encumbered funds (\$692.96) to cover overage in the cost for 6th grade Gettysburg field trip.

A motion carried to move \$300 from encumbered funds for the basketball scoreboard to cover overage in costs associated with the King Tut field trip.

A motion carried, with a modification through an amendment, to accept the Executive Board recommendations regarding the funding of items of the wish list.

A motion carried to earmark the mini PC lab as the primary funding objective for the money raised by the auction, with additional objectives including field trips and other educational needs.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm. The next meeting will be September 10, 2003.

Robert Luftglass
Secretary