

FINAL
Notes of the Mantua PTA
March 11, 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, Mary Rollins*

School Representatives: *Jan-Marie Fernandez, Cheryl Thompson*

Board Members: *Trish Williams*

General Membership: *Carrie Clawson, Lauren Terry, Melissa Morgan, Missy Greene, Maggie Weddell, Wendy Kitmacher, Marybeth Abell, Dena Gudahl, Teresa LeMair, Amie Ivey*

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

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

- The Fairfax County Board approved the Lido Sidewalk project, a conversation that has been going on for 20 years. The new sidewalk will give neighborhood kids a safe walkway to school.
- Bob recognized Mantua Carnival Chair Missy Greene and the chair persons and committed volunteers for making this year's carnival a great success. Financials will be shared at the April meeting.
- The nominating committee (Monica Cameron, Kathy Philips, Trish Williams) presented its slate of officers for the 2008-09 school year. The executive committee approved the slate.

Principal's Report:

- Jan-Marie Fernandez noted several recent successful school events: the Mantua basketball championships, the Mantua carnival, and the winter band and orchestra concerts. Ms. Fernandez commended all the students and parents who participated and volunteered to make these annual events a success.
- The 6th grade Lego team has been busy working on projects that help conserve energy at the school. They organized a sale of compact fluorescent light bulbs during recent events at the school. In a presentation to FCPS facilities staff, they team persuaded the district to install motion sensors throughout the school. These sensors automatically turn lights off in schools locations not in use. Kudos to this talented group of students.
- Cheryl Thompson reported that a large number of students who took the Iowa Test of Basic Skills scored in the highest percentiles. This is an improvement over past years.

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

- P/L statement is through 03/10/08 to include preliminary results from the carnival
- YTD profit is \$16,168.98
- Carnival income is \$22,022.50 with another \$1,000 expected from auction baskets still to be paid for. Last year's income was \$20,877.65. Final expenses still to be determined.

- Paypal was used for only \$470 for raffle and carnival ticket purchases. Again there were complications with people trying to pay via Paypal. Recommend closing Paypal account whenever the Treasurer position changes. That's what is done at Frost and then setting it up again at the beginning of the year.
- Cash balance is \$41,536.58
- Donations include \$750 from Rob Luftglas' employer Verizon that has a program to provide funds to organizations based on the hours that they volunteer
- Remaining expenses
Encumbered PC's - \$2,098.
ASL - \$1,400 encumbered, \$1,855 collected this year.
Field day, safety patrols, insurance, 6th grade party ~\$2,500
- If all these expenses are realized then the PTA can probably fund \$10,000 towards the principal's wish list and carry about \$23K of cash into next year. Expect to be able to provide a better figure at April's meeting.

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

- To date 731 people have signed up and paid for membership to the PTA.

The following **Committee** announcements were made:

New Business

- The dates for **Field Day** have been announced:
 - June 10: k-2
 - June 11: 5-6
 - June 12: 3-4

Donna McGrath will be soliciting volunteers for these great school events.
- The Virginia Lottery is awarding "**Super Teacher**" awards. Further information will be shared in the online newsletter. Mary Jo Kavjian is organizing nominations on behalf of the PTA.
- **Secretary Appreciation Day** is April 23. Volunteers are needed to staff the front office while the administrative staff is treated to lunch.
- Teresa Lemair reported that she is coordinating a fundraising night at Dogfish Head Ale House in Falls Church, VA for her pre-school. The restaurant offers compelling revenue sharing opportunities for such events. Teresa is going to report back on the success of the event, and work with Mary Jo to consider scheduling a Mantua **fundraising event for next school year**.
- Jennifer Cooper announced the date for the **Raccoon Run**: Saturday, May 10 at 8:00 am. The annual event, which raises money for Inova Fairfax Hospital Life with Cancer, includes both a 5K run and a one-mile walk and run. The race is run in honor of beloved Mantua teacher Roberta Romano.

Students received sign up information on pledge forms in their Tuesday folders.
- Kay Donnelly in Mantua's PE department has started an after-school **running club** to encourage students to train for the run.
- The board and members discussed the possibility of the PTA funding a **capital improvement projects**. Those discussed included a grounds improvement/renovation project and a new floor for the gymnasium. The decision at the end of the meeting was to table to discussion until the April meeting, and to discuss at that point funding a feasibility study or other planning document.

Motions Carried

- Adoption of Minutes for January 2008 PTA meeting.
- Acceptance of slate of candidates for 2008-09 PTA executive board.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Virginia Fisher and Mary Rollins
Co-Secretaries