

Lancaster PTO Minutes

April 10, 2008

I. Call to Order: 6:50 p.m.

II. Welcome and Introductions: Tracey Atkins, Vicky Bearce, Lynn Burke, Tracey Camilleri, Paula Castner, Julie Fay, Tonia Hicks, Sheila Milioto, Susan Munyon, Lori Newton, Raksha Patel, Melanie Spallone, Rachel Vanasse, Lynn White.

III. Treasurer's Report-Lori Newton
Available funds: 25,042.71

IV. Program Updates:

Lip Sync-Raksha Patel for Annie Chagnon
The show was a great success both nights. Made about \$2400 after expenses.

Spring Scholastic Book Fair-Melanie Spallone
The library will get \$250 worth of books. Sales totaled \$1479.25.

Mother/Son Bingo-Raksha Patel
To be held Friday, April 11th in the MRE gym at 6:30 p.m.

Elections: Lynn Burke
The elections will be held during the May 8th meeting. We are still looking for candidates. Distributed list with job descriptions.

Brewer's Offering: We do have the Eagle's Club in Leominster booked. But they do not allow outside food unless it is packaged. We may look into other venues such as JCC club on Spec. Pond. Also, Lynn Burke suggested that we can hire an acoustic guitar band that charges about \$225 for 5 hours.

V. New Business/Programs

Cultural Enrichments-The committee is working on the schedule for next year. Suggestions have been made to perhaps approach more local talents and groups to keep down the cost and still get quality performers.

VI. Fund Requests:

Boston Freedom Trail trip-5th Grade-Tracey Camilleri
Requested \$660 for the 2 buses. The students to pay \$15 each.

New England Aquarium Trip-1st Grade-Raksha for Jen Begley
Requested \$900 towards admission. Approved.

Museum of Science Trip-2nd Grade-Raksha for Susan Dalton
Requested \$600 for buses. Approved.

Old North Church-7th Grade-Raksha for David Dillon
Requested \$815 for 2 buses. Approved.

There was a question as to why there is such a difference in prices between 5th grade and 7th grade trips. 5th grade reduced request to \$660 based on student charge of \$15.

VII. Miscellaneous

There was debate as to why Middle School is covered under our PTO when so little participation and volunteerism is obtained from there. It was suggested that perhaps middle school can have a separate PTO. The argument was that the middle school parents have gone through the volunteering for number of years in the elementary school and now are exhausted.

Also, there was a suggestion of perhaps reorganizing PTO into committees to encourage volunteers and participation. Also, we can introduce more clubs such as math, chess, investment etc. It was argued that reorganization would prove to be a big project and it would be a lengthy process and costly. Also, no guarantee that it would increase the interest.

VIII. Next Meeting: May 8, 2008 at 6:45 p.m.

IX. Adjournment: Adjourned at 8:07 p.m.