

**City High/Middle PTSA**  
**Tues. May 26, 2009 6:30 PM**  
1400 Fuller NE • G.R., MI



## MINUTES

**Present:** Ted Bonarski, Sara & Joe Potyraj, Nick Duesbery, Gayle Schaub, Kate McCrindle, Anne Marie Bessette, Elise Tripp, Mary Ver Duin, Sue Brown, Belinda Jimenez, Dale Hovenkamp, Terri Spaulding, Rose & Andy Bowman, Wayne, Lisa, Ethan, & Natalie Glatz

Andy called the meeting to order. April minutes were approved. (Rose<sup>1st</sup>/Kate & Wayne<sup>2nd</sup>)

**Member Matters-** None

**President's Report-** No report

**Vice President's Report-** Kate reported that she met with Wayne to discuss carrying on with the PULSE, hopefully with the help of a student intern.

**Treasurer's Report-** Nick suggested that we look at getting rid of the small business account that is not utilized. We earned more from auction than we budgeted. Nick expressed concern that the PTSA (a non-profit) is accumulating money and not spending what is budgeted. Kate moved that we give any remaining balance of the \$3000 allocated for teachers (@ \$100/teacher) to Dale to use at his discretion. Nick supported this and it was unanimously approved. Sara will email a reminder to teachers and Lisa will make a print reminder to go in the teachers' mailboxes with a request deadline of June 4, 2009. Nick put the Lowe's \$5000 grant as a category in the budget so that we can keep track of how it is spent. Kate made a motion that we...Anne Marie seconded it and it passed unanimously. Nick proposed that the position of Audit Chairperson assume additional duties including reporting annual budget details to the MPTSA, collecting monthly treasurer reports and maintaining a real-time audit, and acting as liaison with a CPA to ensure correct filing with IRS. This was well received. Nick volunteered to take on this position after completing his term as Treasurer and suggested that subsequent treasurers assume the position after their terms as well.

**Secretary's Report-** No report

**Principal's Report-** There is a substance abuse problem that seems to be mostly among 5-7 ninth grade females. Water bottles have been banned until the end of the school year due to alcohol being found in some. The students have been suspended, a couple ended up in Pine Rest, and parents have been asked to have their child in counseling during the summer. This is a serious issue and Dale says that there is not a complete solution now but they are working on intervention for next fall. Dale is hoping for Title I monies to provide extra supports next school possibly through a nurse and/or social worker. Andy mentioned information on educational programs available through the National PTSA and will look into this. Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup> there will be a race to end racism @ City sponsored by a group of students. It will be a 5K walk/run for \$10 from 3-6. Hopefully this can be an ongoing race for years to come, starting out small and growing each year.

### **Committee Reports**

**Student Group(s)-** Dale will get with Kathy VandeGevel about the sustainability of the E Club.

**Teacher-** None present and no report.

**GRPS Advisory Council-** Wayne reported that they discussed the best means of communication to parents about time sensitive issues such as the swine flu. Dr. Taylor wondered whether parents are interested in seeing teacher evaluations become public. The DAC will reconvene sometime this summer to continue this discussion.

**Class Enhancement-** No report

**Communications-** Kate suggested that the PULSE Webmaster attend the PTSA meetings to keep abreast of things.

**Education Advocacy Committee-** Anne Marie is looking to the future when many groups such as EAC unite and work on a few important issues together.

**City High/Middle Coordinating Council-** Andy reported that Eric Hill did a fine job as the student representative. We might want to look into having a Student Council representative or Class Officer be on the council next year. Mrs. Jacquays suggested that teachers elect a representative from among themselves. The next meeting will be September 14, 2009 @ 2pm. Wayne will be there as the PTSA president.

**MPTSA-** City PTSA was not in “good standing” when Mike McCrindle applied for a PTSA scholarship through MPTSA. There have been administrative changes and City did not realize that the PTSA needed to submit our audit and budget by a particular date as well as report monthly due even if they are zero. Nick has already electronically sent these items as well as through snail mail.

**Fundraising-** Gayle mentioned that she may have a parent that might be interested in this position. We definitely need to look at bigger fundraising events and grant money to maintain our programs.

**Membership-** Ted is resigning as the chair and has some ideas of who can replace him. Wayne will check with Ted soon to get this settled as soon as possible.

**School Competitions-** No report.

**School Building, Grounds, & Site-** Elise announced that we have the \$5000 in our account already from the Lowe’s grant that will be utilized to work on the Art courtyard and others as well. She is looking into a Student Conservation Association grant that may be able to help fund the Gym Lighting replacement. It needs to be student initiated so Dale will work with E Club, Dan Anderson, Kathy VandeGevel to use some of the background information that has already been gathered. The dead line for this grant is Oct. 9, 2009 with the announcement of winners on November 15, 2009. Elise will get this going right away with Dale.

**School Life-** Terri O’Driscoll will take this over from Denise Blair. Terri has already gathered some ideas from the picnic brainstorming session last week. Terri Spaulding inquired as to how much she has to spend on the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon for June 4, 2009. She has \$94.28 to work with.

#### **Affiliated Groups**

**CBOP-** Wendy requested that PTSA discuss SCRIP be only for CBOP rather than PTSA general fund and Forensics as well. This was discussed and denied at this point until further information can be obtained. We need to look into writing a policy in regards to this so that the benefiting entities pay a stipend or provide help with the administrative time that is involved with managing SCRIP.

**New Business** The budget for schools from the stimulus package will provide a buffer for a couple years to supplement the \$265 per student shortfall this year, decreasing enrollment, and the tax-base funding that is not working.

**Homework** Look through the City Vision document to see how we can spend some of our \$7-8000 that we budgeted to spend in the 2008-2009 school year.

**Next Meeting-** Tuesday, June 9, 2009 @ 6:30 in the Media Center.