

Albert Einstein Elementary
PTSA General Membership Meeting
January 28, 2010

Attendance: (See attached attendance sheets.)

Meeting called to order by Michelle Sullivan at 7:20 pm.

Minutes from the October 6, 2009 General Membership Meeting were approved as written.

Guest Speaker: John Marchione, *Mayor of Redmond*

- Highest priorities in Redmond planning are:
(1) Downtown Redmond (2) Overlake area (3) NE 116th Street
- Spoke about plans for North Redmond in particular as the fastest growing area.
Plans include:
 - Usable sidewalk on 116th – 4 to 5 years out
 - Fire station on 116th – Summer 2010
 - Roundabout at corner of 172nd & 116th – 6 to 8 years out
 - New Elementary school on 172nd – if money available, will begin in 2014
Sees “elementary schools as building blocks of community”
- Redmond imports more people (primarily working at Microsoft) than any other area aside from Seattle so goal is to create/accommodate more “livable” spaces. Dependent on funding—city’s funds are doing well compared to rest of country but Redmond has still been hit by economic downturn.

Financial Report: Kari presented our current Financial Report. (See attached.)

Einstein received Silver Award in PTSA Membership – 5% above membership from last year.

Otter Grants: Michelle explained a grant proposal process as a possible solution to the problem of earmarking/using extra funds currently held by the PTSA (which if left unused, could ultimately affect our non-profit status).

- Beck Boa money would be put into a fund for Otter Grants. Over next 2 years, put out call for proposals to consider.
- Systematic way to ask for money.
- Not vague ideas but firm proposals including actual cost figures.
- Committee would review proposals & present them to PTSA board for vote.

MOTION: Kari Haegele made a motion to put the Beck Boa money into a fund for Otter Grants as described by Michelle. Deva seconded. All in favor.

- Launch Otter Grant program in February with information on website—including process to follow & Grant Proposal paperwork.
- Donna will chair committee to review & present proposals.

Student Council: Student Council President, Olivia Lang, proposed selling popcorn to raise funds for different causes (chosen on a weekly basis). Would entail buying popcorn machine & organizing volunteer students, parents, and/or teachers to sell it. Melanie suggested Olivia think about submitting an Otter Grant proposal for the purchase of the popcorn maker & popcorn.

Otter Mail:

- Launched on 1/8/2010 to replace Friday packets. So far number of paper Friday packets has been reduced from 340 to 70 copies.
- Kitty could use volunteer help:
 - Teacher help in obtaining more email addresses from students.
 - Help updating website, updating email addresses & getting newsletter out.

School Clubs:

- Kari presented new Spelling Club for 4th, 5th, 6th graders beginning Wednesday, 2/17, during lunch. Seven openings left.
- Club start-up fees could be considered as Otter Grant proposals.

Levies & Bond: Info about the levies & bond on lwsc.org. Election to be held on 2/9. Michelle & Mrs Wartenbe are the Einstein point-people.

Bingo Night: To be held on 2/19. Bike raffle to replace silent auction. Pizza dinner.

International Night (4/16):

- Tara Van Niman is Chair.
- Families to set up tables showcasing their particular cultural background.
- Hoping for performances (i.e, cultural dances, martial arts, singing) in addition to choir singing & perhaps costume parade.
- Committee in place trying to personally invite people to participate.
- Teachers asked to help in getting students excited/inspired to participate.

Last General Membership Meetings for the year: April 22, 2010 @ 9:00 am.

Meeting adjourned by Michelle at 8:54 pm.

The above minutes were submitted by Margie Segress, Secretary.