

## 5/2/22 PTO Executive Committee Virtual Meeting

### Minutes

**Present:** Isabel Pipolo, Rachel Kimber, Halle Chizmadia, Marisa O’Leary, Jen Carbaugh, Eric Rekedda, Margery Rossi, Randi Alberino, Meghan Sheldon-Brungard, Branwen MacDonald, Mia Shervington, David Mauricio

#### I. Welcome/Introductions

- A. Margery motioned and Randi seconded approval of the 3/7/22 and 3/28/22 minutes. Motion passes.

#### II. President’s Report

- A. Thank you to folks working out on our teams. Jamie and SE had a great activity and turnout. Com Team has been busy too (Thank you!). Advocacy Team have put together the candidate forum and Safe Streets. Halle has coordinated purchase for outdoor equipment donations. Rachel keeping us organized and on track. Marisa, thanks for continued mentorship.
- B. Book Fair is currently underway. Online bookfair: [books.peekskill.pto.org](https://books.peekskill.pto.org) to SHOP at Main Street Books. Running through May 8th. Pick up at May Saturday Academy OR Family Resource Center after that date.
  - Book Fair Pop-Up: May 21st, Saturday Academy Pop Up Book Fair during the event (small)
- C. Teacher appreciation gift: we voted and landed on custom water bottles. Distribution: **Rachel and Margery High School, Tricia Middle School, Randi Woodside, Halle Oakside, Mia Hillcrest. Heather Uriah Hill. Isabel Parent Center and Admin Building.**
- D. Teacher appreciation: **Jen will send an email and Heather will post to social** (teacher and staff list filters in MailChimp)
- E. Candidate Forum - Monday May 9th, in person at admin building, 7-8:30pm.
- F. Officer Elections: Nominations will be accepted for Pres, VP and Treasurer. Officers will be voted in at our last general meeting of the year on June 9th.
- G. Last Executive Meeting of the Year will be June 6th; **committee chairs are requested to submit [year-end evaluation reports](#)**, including tentative budget for next year; ideally next year’s committee chairs will be identified by the end of June, so we can begin planning over the summer for next year
- H. Budget Vote: Tuesday May 17th at Peekskill H.S.

### III. Treasurer's Report - [May Budget Report](#)

- A. League of Women's Voters funds will be returned.
- B. Mail Chimp Expenses
- C. Outdoor Equipment for schools
  - \$3906 Students at \$1 per student.
  - Need pictures for social. Dr. M will send a few pics.
- D. Flowers for Admin Appreciation Day: all 6 schools, Lily of the Valley Florist
- E. Water bottles for Staff Appreciation week
- F. School Allotments: Multicultural Poetry Event for Woodside (snacks).
- G. Fundraising Report: fiscal agent for Realtor Forum at Fin and Brew, \$560 donation from Lanza Foundation.

**Margery /Marisa / Rachel MOTION: Designate up to \$200 for end of year allotments at each elementary school and \$300 HS and MS. Randi seconds the motion and all were in favor. Motion passes.**

**Allocation could come with the expectation of a picture posted to social as funding thanks. Isabel will do a table sign (The Case of the Missing Banner).**

(Spring events happening in buildings that might be candidates for PTO support: Woodside Ball - dress up event outdoors in the spring, Uriah is having graduation, Oakside and Hillcrest are doing a moving up ceremony, various events at MS and HS.)

### IV. Superintendent's Report

- A. District Wide Emergency Response Team (Safety, Lock Down Drills)
  - Parent representative on Operations Side. Would a PTO member be interested in joining the team? Police, Fire, Health and Safety at the schools.
  - Current Examples: Should schools return to lockdown drills put on hold during pandemic. Middle School - should we keep Washington Street as an entry for students. Police Chief is concerned. Overlaps with Peekskill Safe Routes to Schools initiative.
- B. Movie Nights for Families as a Fundraiser. Outdoor space at the HS to sit and watch. Licensing is needed if showing in a public setting and charging to see the movie. Charging for concessions vs. the movie. Partner with the City-Parks and Rec they show movies at riverfront already. Move around to different schools and neighborhoods. Geography and where we show up matters.

- C. Dr. M will inform staff/teachers in his weekly report regarding the spending allocation and pictures of the outdoor equipment.
- D. Jenna Ferris - being appointed as new principal of PHS

## V. Committee Reports

### A. Advocacy - lawn signs for budget vote? Jen will send a notice out - PUT THEM OUT notice on social media. May 17th is the date - Tuesday at the High School.

#### ➤ School Board:

- i. 2 people running for 3 seats, Eric going on the ballot as a write-in.
- ii. Candidate Board Forum is no longer a forum. Changing to a Q&A.
- iii. Margery and Meghan will manage the forum Q&A and timers on answers.
- iv. Dr. M will schedule meeting to discuss logistics with Doug and Laura

#### ➤ Safe Routes:

- i. Updates in Google Drive, Matt Alexander = city manager now. He is on board with priorities we presented and wants to make this initiative work. Chris Gross from DPW joined last meeting.
- ii. Colin Smith to make Washington street safer for crossing.
- iii. May Saturday Academy: walking school bus project, pedestrian safety. Lessons without risk. Work with Police Dept. Labor intensive - will need volunteers.
- iv. Safety Projects need to be done: DPW Union negotiations are completed. They have a contract!! Now hopefully work will get done on needed safety improvements. Walking bus is in the works.

#### v. SEND PICS of unsafe behavior in school zones.

### B. Communications

- Jen will share reminder for the Budget signs, Notice about Staff Appreciation, School Board Q&A.
- Isabel will send a picture of a budget sign to Jen, so she can add to email
- Nominating committee, Septo, Book Fair mailings going out.
- [District Budget Newsletter here](#)
- Jen is stepping down as Chair of communications. Heather not sure. 6 people actively involved.

C. Special Events/Enrichment

- Successful & popular craft activity held at April 23rd Saturday Academy (friendship bracelets & cards)

D. Parent & Community Engagement (no new updates)

- E. Nominations - Marisa chairing (4 on the committee, Jen, Mirna, Natalia), nominations should be sent by May 25th and submitted to Rachel at secretary@peekskillpto.org address.

**VI. Old Business**

- A. New designs for spirit gear - Isabel has no capacity this month. Recommend waiting and relaunching in the fall. Isabel is happy to help next year on ordering. Keep selling what we have.
- B. Laura Perkins - Woodside Garden fundraiser (\$167), May 14th Plant sale at Woodside. She would like to come to a future meeting to share her work. Possibly start a PTO Garden Committee next year to collaborate. Gardens at each school to build community around.

**VII. Other Updates**

- A. BOE update - plans to announce incumbent decision, More funding received possibly connected to advocating for additional funds for ENL teachers.
- B. PEF update - public fundraiser launched STEAM funding for Ozzo bots, \$14,000 raised from corporate funders. May - putting up fliers to find new community partners. **Share with Heather to put on PTO social.**
- C. SEPTO update - May 18 virtual meeting on the OPWDD (Office for People with Developmental Disabilities) - services after kids age out of school. Self-Advocacy in the fall.

**VIII. Adjournment 8:45pm**

**Next Meetings:**

**May 9 - BOE forum**

**June 6 - last board meeting**

**Jun 9 - last general meeting**