

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF PS 11 PTA**

**Minutes**

**General Meeting**

**April 17, 2015**

Meeting called to order at 9:10. March minutes approved.

Larry—GALA:

You can buy tickets at $100 each. Havana Nights is the theme. We have salsa dancers and cigar rollers, live music, Cuban food. We have VIP tickets for $250.

We’re getting there with donations--the online auction and the charity buzz. But we need more small items. Pick items on the Google doc or take donation forms into restaurants or local businesses.

Last year we had 600 items; this year we’re at 300, so we need people to get more stuff. We need your help to sell raffle tickets outside, and also on the day of the event and the day after the event.

Mr. Bender:

We have 125 zoned studentsfor kindergarten. Non-zoned siblings were put on a wait list. I will be able to open up seats. If your child got a 90 or higher you’re pretty much guaranteed a kindergarten G&T seat. Please email me and let me know if that’s the case with your child.

I’ll be hiring five or six teachers, and we are opening a new third grade and a new fifth grade. And I would like to reduce class size for second grade if the PTA can help.

It’s the end of the year--head down, move forward. It’s the busiest time of the year. We’re planning for this year and for next year.

Nominations committee:

The nomination committee is made up of Lisa Hershfield, David Friedman, Mike Farrah, and Jessica Brothers.

Mike: We need new people to serve. Please let us know if you are interested. We will be outside at drop off.

Rachel Glube--volunteers:

I have nine clipboards for volunteers to sign up for the auction and gala. And more for the spring festival, which is only four days later.

The book fair is May 19-22. It will be open for poetry night and family Friday.

Colby Trane--volunteers:

This gala is our last chance to round out our budget. You have to sign up to help us!

Robin--SLT report:

You saw surveys come home in backpacks, for students to rate their teachers. You can fill it in or opt out.

Cycle 3 of the parent book club begins April 27 at 9 am. It is open to all. We’re going to review what parents have uncovered so far in the first two cycles. The books are going to be *The Marshmallow Test*, about self-control in children, and also *How Children Succeed*, the book that we did in the first cycle. We will come together on May 27 to discuss.

There will be a meeting for parents and teachers to come together and share what we’ve discovered.

SLT elections will be different this year. Nominations will close in May. You can give your statement in June and elections will be held.

Michael Walsh:

We have a list of district projects we can vote on, for support from the city council.

Michael Goldsman--treasurer’s report:

Overall we are on target to meet our goals, and we will be about even with last year.

Sarah Frankfurt—annual fund:

We made the 85% match! The annual fund is at more than $300,000. We will have the $30,000 match, and we have $33,000 in corporate matches. The total is about $364,000 for the annual fund.

Please support the auction--that’s one of our three biggest fund-raising items.

Jay--Paddle8 Auction:

We netted $30,500. Items sold as far away as Hungary and elsewhere overseas. This is the second year of PS 11’s participation. Last year we netted $10,000.

Corrine, Heather—community programs:

We plan Mother’s Day-focused crafts at the spring festival.We really need people, even if you can come for a couple hours. We are looking for performers; we have a little stage area. And we need people who are more crafts-oriented than we are.

We will also have a bake sale; please send us items we can sell.

Chess reports that the team won multiple trophies in Saratoga. There will be a tournament this Saturday at PS 11. One of the coaches was featured in The Washington Post. We will be sending a team to the nationals on May 8th.

The farm market will open June 10.

Alex Levi—community events:

If you work for a company that might be able to donate to the school, let me know, and I can help or give you whatever you need. We’re trying to build this program.

Debbie—PS11 programs:

Make your reservations for summer camp. This might be the first year we have to turn people away.