

MINUTES

Spoede Elementary School Association General Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Jill Hunt.

In Attendance

SSA Executive Board Members: Jennifer Deutsch, Dr. Connie Brawley, Charlotte Kelley, Jill Hunt, Maureen McGinnis, Susan Kempainen, Kari Vincent, Melissa Pesce and Kristen Wild.

Other Members Who Signed In

Please see "04/27/10 SSA GMM Attachment A" for the sign-in sheet

Approval of the Minutes

Melissa Pesce made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting, February 2, 2010. Lisa Goebel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

I. Welcome

II. Principal's Report

- A. Dr. Brawley announced that the new Principal's Intern will be Ms. Trina Petty-Rice and the new Tech Coordinator will be Carol Kleisen.
- B. Playground update - The district will allocate up to \$40,000 (we must match) for us out of next year's budget. Spoede teacher Katie Fitzgerald will take over the planning committee and will work with Mike Noonan from the district.
- C. Dr. Brawley also thanked all of the SSA/parents for all they do for the school. She feels we give much more than the other schools where she has been and that the teachers and students notice.

III. PDC Report- Charlotte Kelley

- A. Next year the district is considering a late start snow day.
- B. Parent University held in March was a success with 250 people attending the event, which was more than expected.
- C. The Board instructed the district to cut \$1.5 million from the budget for the 2010-2011 school year due to the economy, loss of commercial assessments and rise in benefit costs to the district. Spoede will be directly affected by having less teacher assistants and cutting transportation costs by \$300,000 (district-wide).
- D. Dr. Chappelow's contract was renewed for three more years.

IV. Presidents' Report – Kristen Wild & Jill Hunt

- A. Grant Requests passed by the Exec Board:
 - 1. Flip Cameras (\$300) - Requested by Ms. Dolan and Ms. MacLean for the Gifted and Enrichment Lab students.
 - 2. 5th grade Water Cycle Kit (\$166) – Requested by the 5th grade team. Kits include cloud forming apparatus.
 - 3. 5th grade Magnetism Kits (\$84) - Requested by 5th grade team to support the science units on magnets.
 - 4. 5th grade Simple Machine Model Sets (\$90) – Requested by the 5th grade team. 5 sets of simple machines.
 - 5. iPod Nano (\$150) – Requested by the K-1 class for use in Centers.
 - 6. 1st & 2nd Grade Science Carnival Reptile Experience (\$475) - Requested by Ms. Johnson for two sessions during the Science Carnival for 1st and 2nd graders.

7. Deodorant Packs for boys (\$50) - Requested by Cindy Woodruff, R.N. for the 4th grade boys as part of a health education segment.

B. Grants requiring vote of general membership

1. Music Dept. ORF instruments - (\$2149 + \$150 shipping)
 - a. Yana Hotter motioned to approve the grant, Alissa Shoults seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Love and Logic Conference Expenses requested by Dr. Brawley (\$500 for transportation and \$75 per teacher for 8 teachers towards meal expenses)
 - a. Anne Gould motioned to approve the grant, Becci Goldman seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Initially the grant was for the teachers to receive \$50 per day per teacher during the conference. Conference fees and accommodations are being paid for by Title 1 funds and Dr. Brawley hates to make teachers pay out of pocket for meals since they are taking the time to attend. Jen Deutsch commented although she fully supports Love & Logic training, \$50/day for meals, which is what was originally requested seemed to be a lot. Kristen Wild explained how the Board came up with the proposed amount to offset some but not all of the meals be covered by the SSA.
 - c. Melissa Pesce suggested that the teachers that are attending the training put meal expenses as Wish Tree items on the website.
3. Biztown grant for next year's 5th grade class (\$1200)
 - a. Jen Deutsch motioned to approve the grant, Jill Hunt seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Playground

1. There is a need for a chair for the capital campaign for the playground.
2. Reed and Conway have offered to share their experiences with running a capital campaign.
3. Melissa Pesce asked about corporate sponsors to help fund the playground. Kristen agreed we should explore that option. Becci Goldman also suggested that at the very least maybe a corporate sponsor for a playground fundraiser.
4. Brian Kearns works with playground companies and started helping last year.
5. Yana Hotter suggested selling "bricks" and the kids could do handprints.

D. Kristen announced that in honor of all of Sharon Buchanan's hard work we will be naming the woodlands at Spoede the "Buchanan Woods", pending approval from the district. The SSA Board has submitted the paperwork to start this process.

V. Upcoming Events

A. Spoede Plant Sale, Bake Sale & Marketplace this weekend

1. Martina Stern has great green thumb - bring your pots and she can make suggestions and help you plant them.
2. Kari Vincent said that bake sale will have lots of treats and students will be able to send "teacher cookie grams"
3. Marketplace will be held from 9:00-1:30. Jamie Omahen did a lot of work to make this happen for Spoede. A list of vendors will be coming home in Friday folders.
4. Volunteers are still needed.

B. Wednesday May 12th – CPK Fundraiser

1. Last Fundraiser at CPK made \$443
2. Other totals: Sweet Tomatoes (\$106), Chevy's (\$180), Bandanas (\$175), Buffalo Wild Wings (\$205)
3. A summer Restaurant Fundraiser is being planned and Nena Achilefu suggested tying it into the summer play date for incoming families.

C. Spoede Picnic- Alissa Shoults

1. Mike Hampton said that the Dads would be willing to do the cooking like last year and they are going to ask about borrowing the grill from the Ladue Dad's club. She is also talking to Hardees about getting food donated.
2. Kids have told her they would like to have relay type races.

3. Lisa Goebel commented that she did not like the inflatables.
4. Alissa will be sending out a request for help and ideas.
5. It was also suggested that we add a cakewalk.

VI. Past President's Report – Kari Vincent

- A. Electronic Voting was a success. 54 eligible votes were submitted which is the most ever.
- B. 4 positions were open and filled by late March/early April
- C. Kristen Wild thanked Kari for her service as this is her last year at Spoede.

VII. Vice President's Report – Susan Kempainen

- A. Many chairs are staying on, but there are some that need to be filled (ex. Ice Cream Social). Open chair positions will be posted in the Gazette sometime in May.
- B. Blues Hockey night was successful and raised \$800 which will go towards funding the grade level Spoede spirit t-shirts that are worn by students.
- C. Passport Night was also successful and fun. A big thanks to the Passport Night chairs.
- D. School Store - Lisa Goebel is going to be the new School Store chair. The store will be getting a makeover this summer and will reopen as the "Rock Shop." It will be open during lunch every Friday from mid-September through mid-May. Watch for new Spoede water bottles. Becci Goldman suggested having the store open during a SSA meeting. Alissa Shoultz asked if teachers could possibly give "gift certificates" as incentives to students.

VIII. Treasurer's Report –Maureen McGinnis

- A. Credit Card fees (higher than expected) were incurred from the Spoede Spring Soiree. Other options will be looked at next year to keep the express check out option without incurring so many credit card fees.
- B. Maureen McGinnis went over the SSA interim/summer budget.
 1. Yana Hotter made a motion to approve the Interim/Summer budget, Lisa Fister seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

IX. Corresponding Secretary – Jennifer Deutsch

- A. Grade Level Parties were successful with anywhere from 28 to 72 attendees. Suggestions were made to hold them earlier in the year and have them more spread out. If you are interested in hosting please let her know.
- B. Thank you Notes will be posted on the SSA Bulletin Board
- C. Turtle Tribute Fund has collected \$605 to date, and there is still time to do an end of the year gift.
- D. Showdown winner is Ms. Fisher's class.

X. Webmaster's Report – Melissa Pesce

- A. Wish Tree Store is up and running online. \$4,359 for 102 items have been granted from the fundraiser and the online Wish Tree Store.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 by Kristen Wild.

Next Meeting: Fall, 2010.