

# Fishers Island School PTO

## Meeting Minutes

December 3, 2010

- Meeting called to order at 5:45 at the New London terminal by Co-President, Sue Lusker
- Present were:

Gail Cypherd	Dan Gillan	Audrey Blackburn
Sue Lusker	Tawnya Eastman	Margaret Thompson
Ibby Sawyer	Laurie Finan	Charlie Meyers
- Treasurer's Report was submitted by Jamie Doucette and read by Tawnya E. The account total is \$4245.71. A motion was made by Laurie F. to accept the report and seconded by Charlie M.
- Old Business
  - Recycling ~ Since Sarah M. was not present, the issue has been tabled, but all agree that it is "doable"
  - Questionnaire ~ Although Sarah M. is needed to give more information and answer questions regarding the purpose of and feasibility of a questionnaire, Charlie Meyers offered a suggestion as discussed in *New Business*.
  - In response to a request for better communication regarding fundraising efforts, Charlie M. collected all of the fund raisers which have been complete, are currently in process, and are planned for the year. A list was passed out and discussed. No questions were raised.
- New Business:
  - Mini grants ~
    - Ibby Sawyer: A mini grant in the amount \$240 + tax to purchase a Cricut machine for use by the entire school was submitted. Laurie F. made a motion to accept the mini grant. Gail seconded the motion, and all were in favor
    - Audrey Blackburn: A mini grant in the amount \$200 or less was submitted to cover the costs of an after school science class that will be held in the 5/6 club. This will take place every couple of weeks, and there is currently no budget for these after school activities. Since many middle/high school students tend to join in the activities, it is becoming pricey. Gail C. made a motion to accept the mini grant. Sue L. seconded and all were in favor.
    - Audrey Blackburn: A mini grant in the amount of \$100 was submitted to help fund the cost for materials in upcoming "guest speaker" events in the 5/6 club. High school students have been invited to be guest speakers and share a special skill or talent with the younger students. It's been very successful and Audrey has been supplying the materials herself. She will use the grant to allow students who have already signed up to participate teach what they know. Charlie M. added that he would match the grant if we accept. Tawnya E. made a motion to accept the grant. Gail C. seconded and all were in favor.
    - Yaritza Gello: A mini grant in the amount of \$50 was submitted to cover the cost of supplies of a guest, Connell O'Keefe, who shared the making of tamales with

the elementary as a culminating activity to the study of the Chilean culture. Gail C. made a motion to accept the grant. Sue L. seconded the motion and all were in favor.

- Social Programs:
  - Charlie M. presented a plan to bring a social program to the school later this year. He is currently working with the Director of the outreach program at SE CT Womens' Center. They are organizing a program to be held in our school later in the year. It will address bullying, cyber bullying, safe dating, sex, among other topics. The program will include a parent component as well. It is being designed for students grades 3 - 12. Charlie explained that his goal is to have one parent session on the island and one in New London to accommodate the magnet parents.
- Dan personally thanked the PTO for providing the mini grant which purchased snacks and supplies for Solomon Schecter's visit. He recognized that these programs are often the first cut from a budget, and if the PTO is interested, there are other schools that would love to come. He will look into them, and get back to us.
- Dan Gillan joined the meeting to make himself available to any magnet parents that may have questions or concerns about the athletic department. No questions were raised.
- Margaret Thompson questioned ways PTO could spend their money. In the past, we spoke of large scale projects, and she was wondering what we could do. Discussion was held regarding a possible carnival, playground equipment, or musical event. Further discussion will follow.
- Charlie M. addressed parents' request for balances in class funds. Balances were read and discussion regarding the necessity for funds followed. Parents and faculty present were reminded that there does not need to be a huge push for funds until the Junior/Senior year as there are several large fundraisers earmarked for those classes.
- The next meeting of the FIPTO will be held on Fishers Island January 21st at 4:15.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:25 by Co-President, Sue Lusker

**Respectfully submitted by,  
Tawnya Eastman, Secretary**