

Minutes of the Carson Elementary PTA General Membership Meeting
23 January 2007, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm at Stahl Junior High

Notice was given to all members through a PTA newsletter, and a mailing from the Carson Administrators. Notices were also placed in the Zeiger and Brouillet January newsletters. (Firgrove did not publish their newsletter this month.)

In attendance were Justin Hunt-President, Sutra Borgeson- VP, Amy Gerber- Secretary, Megan Hernandez and Michelle Lutz from the PTA Council. Karin Catey, the President of the Zeiger Elementary PTA was also in attendance. Other members are listed on the attached sign-in sheets. A quorum was present.

The meeting began at 6:41 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Amy Gerber gave an inspirational thought about how each child needs hours of love to become a masterpiece.

Justin Hunt read two letters: one a welcome letter from the Washington State PTA, and a second from Dori Tate, current Region 5 Director, informing us that Cheryl Child had been elected as the new Region 5 Director.

The minutes were distributed and read. Miles Erdly motioned that we accept the minutes from 7 November as written, Lana Kay seconded. We voted and approved the minutes.

The current Standing Rules were distributed as well as a proposed amendment to Article 25 which states:

Article 25 Committees

A. Standing Committees

1. Committee Chair
2. Legislative
3. Budget
4. Newsletter/ Web-site
5. Fundraising
6. Membership
7. Art Docent

The standing committee chairs shall be appointed by the President with approval of the Executive Committee, for the term of one (1) year.

B. Ad Hoc Committee: TBA

Birgit Miller motioned that we accept the amendment to the standing rules as presented. TJ Navilio seconded the motion. We voted and it was approved.

Justin Hunt reminded all present that the Treasurer had resigned, and Sutra Borgeson gave the budget report.

\$875.00 Membership dues collected from 11/7/06 Meeting
-20.00 Charitable donation fee
-30.00 Articles of Incorporation Fee
+5.00 Donation to start Bank Account
-255.00 State of Washington PTA Membership Fee
-212.00 Post Office Box Fee

Totaling a current balance of: \$363.00

Arturo Gonzalez, the principal of Carson Elementary, presented “Big Toy” information. The allocation for the Big Toy in the budget was \$75,000. The current plan is to purchase two separate toys, one for the lower grades and one for the upper grades. These can be viewed on-line at www.kompan.com and are called the “Talus” and the “Arcturus”. He also mentioned three pieces of stand alone equipment. The total cost will be offset by a group of volunteers who will prepare the area, dig and put in posts.

Arturo then moved on to the rock wall presentation. The Everlast Climbing Industries rock wall information can be found at www.traversewall.com . Arturo explained that the benefits of the rock wall are global, and encompass these skill areas: physical, social, emotional, and cognitive. He is hoping for a Relief Feature Wall that is 10 feet high by 40 feet wide. There will be 3 inch mats that will cover the wall and lock into place with a wrench when it is not in use. The cost of materials, installations, and mats will be \$10,201. If we are used as a “showroom” it may reduce the cost to as low as \$8,944. Arturo asked if the PTA would be willing to fund this project.

There was some discussion involving the cost of the project versus the use of the money for other programs, such as the AR program.

TJ Navilio suggested that he may be able to get a discount on the cost of the rock wall since his school in Federal Way is in the process of installation.

Noelle Lammers suggested using the wall itself as a fund raiser, perhaps allowing families to “purchase time” to climb.

Lana Kay moved that we support the idea of the climbing wall, and Jodie Miller seconded it. We voted and the motion was carried.

Arturo then suggested that the PTA also help to fund “social/ activity areas” which would consist of two benches (costing \$1,000) and two picnic tables (costing \$2,000) for a

total of \$3,000 for all four items. We also discussed the idea that the Silver Creek Home Owners Association might help to cover some of the costs.

Jodie Miller motioned that the PTA fund the benches and picnic tables. Birgit Miller seconded the motion. We voted and the motion was approved.

Miles Erdly, Vice Principal of Carson Elementary, presented the goal for the AR Program. He explained that the program assigns point values to books according to reading levels. After reading the books, children will take a test on that book to earn points. This program helps children reach the national standards for reading. Optimally we would begin the school year with at least 3,000 tests available. The cost is \$4 per test. There will be 1,000 titles available, but he would like the PTA to help fund the remaining 2,000 tests, which will cost \$8,000. Please note that once an AR test is purchased by the school it is licensed to that school and can be used limitlessly for any or all students of that school.

Desiree Molver motioned that we allocate funds for this program, putting it ahead of the rock wall and social areas in our fundraising priorities. Amber Petersen seconded the motion. We voted and it was approved.

The guest speaker from Dinners Ready was unable to attend, but Justin explained that for everyone who enters the code, **D015 010CE**, when paying for their meals, Dinners Ready will donate 5% of the purchase to the Carson Elementary PTA. See www.dinnerready.com to find out further information about the business.

Justin also reminded everyone of the Carson PTA website, www.carsonpta.org or www.carsonpta.com, and mentioned the up-coming Family Night Event, and the Focus Day. The Supersonics are playing the Chicago Bulls on February 2nd. There are reduced rate tickets available, see the website for more information. There is also information about the February 15th Focus Day on the website.

Karin Catey, President of the Zeiger PTA, presented the Carson Elementary PTA with a check for \$3,073.50, which was money that was raised by Carson students at Zeiger Elementary in their fall fundraiser.

Megan Hernandez and Michelle Lutz presented the Carson Elementary PTA with the Charter Plaque.

We were excited to welcome at least 10 new members this evening.

Justin announced that he would be leaving for Iraq in May, and that Sutra would take over for him.

Justin appointed Lisa Robinson, TJ Navilio, and Lana Kay as balloteers for our election of new officers.

The floor was then opened for nominations for Vice President of Membership. Jodie Miller nominated Jean Shelton. No one else was nominated. We voted and Jean was elected as VP of Membership.

The floor was then opened for nominations for Treasurer. Sutra Borgeson nominated Birgit Miller and Lisa Robbins seconded. No one else was nominated. We voted and Birgit was elected as Treasurer.

The floor was then opened for volunteers to be appointed as committee chairs. The outcome is as follows:

Legislative Chair: Kathryn Gardiner
Budget Chair: Noelle Lammers
Newsletter/Website: TJ Navilio
Fundraising Chair: Lana Kay
Membership Chair: Desiree Molver
Committee Chair: Sutra Borgeson
Art Docent Chair: Lori Cameron

Justin mentioned that we are hoping to have T-shirts for the entire Board.

We discussed the idea of a neighborhood picnic or party to help spread the word about the PTA.

Justin also mentioned that we could also have an information table at Fred Meyer on Meridian.

Our next meeting was scheduled for 20 February 2007 from 6:30pm-9:00pm at Stahl Junior High.

We also mentioned that we would table the discussion about kindergarten registration until the next meeting.

Justin then explained that we needed to elect a minimum of three members to a nominating committee, and described what a nominating committee does. Lana Kay, Amy Gerber and Desiree Molver volunteered to be on the nominating committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Gerber