

Levittown Council of PTA's
General Membership Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2009

Meeting called to order at 7:35 by Esta Lachow.
Pledge, Quorum

President's Report: Esta Lachow – Welcome to another school year. Please note that starting tonight and going forward meetings will be recorded. Minutes in draft form will be on the PTA website. Thank you for all your support during my surgeries. Introductions around the room were made. Thank you to M. Pappas, Bd. Of Ed., for attending tonight's meeting. Thank you Lee Rd. for hosting, Northside is hosting next month. Parliamentary Procedure handout on the table for your resource. Although all meetings are open for all to attend; there are restrictions on who is allowed to speak and participate. Procedural changes were discussed. Nassau Region Area Director (AD) for Levittown is Gloria Parlato. Share binder has been revamped and updated. Please take a look. Committee chairs & liaison positions still needed: Council Budget, District Budget, Health-Safety-Environment, Procedures and Meet the Candidates. Lee Rd. Co-Presidents will chair Health, Safety & Environment. Building use forms and insurance certificates must be submitted annually, they are available in your main office. If purchases need to be made for your committee, contact our Council Treasurer (Pat Genco) for a tax exempt form, as well as an expense form. Receipts must be attached or you will not be reimbursed. Reminder that IRS Tax Time is approaching. Be sure to get your taxes filed on time. Instructions are available online at the IRS website. Your unit may be eligible to file a 990 EZ form or have to file the longer 990 form. Failure to properly file can result in the IRS following up with you. Dollars for Scholars Golf Outing is Columbus Day weekend. Each unit is asked to provide a "themed" gift basket to be raffled off. Please have basket to Debbie Rifkin's office by October 1st. Emma Burkett, a longtime PTA and Council member is in the hospital recovering from hip surgery and pneumonia. Wishes for a speedy recovery. Esta read letter of resignation from Historian, Arlene Mege. The Executive Board discussed possible candidates. If anyone is interested or know of anyone who would be interested, please let Esta know. Thank you for your patience. Report on file.

Executive Committee Reports

1st VP – Cindy Mulz- Committee folders are available – please sign for them.

2nd VP – Diane McPartland – Directory is being worked on. It is being passed around, please check for accuracy.

Recording Secretary – Sue Giuliano – Please have reports in writing. Can be emailed prior (suevg@aol.com) to meeting. **Minutes:** Approved with corrections

Corresponding Secretary – Ali Harris – Thank you notes from recipients of Council Scholarship.

Treasurer's Report: 2009-2010 Budget presented. Carry-over is money left over from last year's committees. Carryover gives flexibility. Dues envelope will be given to each Unit at next month's meeting. Dues are 40¢ per member (last year's final count) minus \$20 deposit. (05/25/09-07/31/09) General Fund: Opening \$9,002.17, Closing \$9,122.68. Scholarship: Opening, \$6,437.37, Closing \$6,459.37. **Motion:** To accept the 2009-2010 Council budget as presented. All in favor, ***motion passed.***

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Sirois – Good luck to Esta. Beginning of school was smooth, transportation went well. All schools were visited by members of Administration and the Board of Education. Dr. Sirois announced Administration changes. The assistant principal position at Division Ave. H.S. will be posted. District will be receiving \$3 million in stimulus aid – there are many restrictions on money use – it cannot be spent on permanent positions – would prefer to use the money on capital improvements which will save the district money in the future. Grant application due Monday. Dr. Sirois distributed "2009-2010 Board of Education Goals". Input is very important, be involved in committees, the Board of Ed. and administration appreciate it. Dr. Sirois discussed "Levittown 2020" project, suggested Council form ad hoc committee. Curriculum committees will be working on goals/standards. Teacher Conference Day, Election Day, teachers will be attending presentation "How do we get new standards?". Announcement that Joe Ewald, Supervisor of Maintenance, is retiring by the end of September. Position will be posted, and Civil Service list will be looked at. Question: Full day kindergarten? Waiting for additional classrooms to be built; and for state aid to be restored. When it comes parts of extended day program will be lost. Earliest date for Full Day would be 2011-2012. School district needs 2 years to plan for it. Question: East Broadway construction, construction part of 5-year plan? Money has not been re-allocated, project is on hold. Question: Why are words in quote in #2 of Education Goals? Terms not being used in usual manner, wanted to be clear with meaning. Dr. Sirois discussed Swine Flu, H1N1, and discussed new CDC guidelines. Schools will not close, children will be sent home if they have a fever, notices will not be sent home, anti-bacterial not being re-ordered – students being encouraged/reminded to wash hands twice a day, keyboards will be sanitized.

Procedures – Ali Harris – Executive Board approved procedural change to Budget Committee. Committee was given a "charge". By-laws and procedures now online.

Standing Committees:

Arts in Ed – Pat Genco – please provide Cultural Arts reps on sheet going around. BOCES website is up, start registering programs. Be sure to share presentations. Report on file.

Audit – Lisa Vanderburg - Books were found to be in order.

Council Budget – vacant – need chair.

Curriculum – Elementary – Ali Harris – no report

Secondary – Kathleen Vaughn-Ware – no report

Health, Safety, Environment – no report

Legislation – Jill Stevens - Nassau Region Resolutions workshop 9/24/09 – Garden City BOCES Convention 11/13-11/15 - Saratoga. Need a unit to give her a credential card – will present post-Convention report to unit. Angela List will ask at General Membership meeting. October 15 is deadline to pre-register for Convention.

Special Committees

Annual Budget – Pat Genco - the Budget was accepted.

Blood Drive – on hold. Each unit looking into hosting individual Drive. Abbey Lane Blood Drive is 12/2.

Bylaws – Kim Smith – coming due this year.

Honorary Life – Esta Lachow – if anyone would like to nominate someone on behalf of Council please submit letter.

Meet the Candidates – needs a chairperson.

Nominating – Sue Pou will be forming a committee.

Levittown Council of PTA Mem. Scholarship – Kim Smith – no report.

Reflections – Cindy Mulz – make sure all chairs follow “12 Steps to Check” before submitting entries.

Scholarship Dinner/Dance – Debbie Howe – Dinner is on March 4, 2010 at Crest Hollow Country Club. Cost is \$55.

Please fill-in contact information on sheet going around. Emails will be sent as deadlines approach. Checks will be collected to cover cost of corsages. Report on file.

Liaisons

Bond Watcher/Capital Improvements – Jill Rovenger - No report.

District Budget – need a rep

Dollars for Scholars – Golf Outing 10/13/09 – each unit is asked to donate a basket for the Golf Outing. Meetings not listed on calendar. Generally last Monday of the month at 7:00.

Enrichment – Joan Fusco – no report

Food Service – Marjorie Young – meetings on school calendar.

GC Tech – Maria Emeric - at LMEC, offers 11th & 12th grade students opportunity to learn skills in a variety of career and industry trades. Courses offered: Culinary Arts, Architectural Drafting, Automotive, Medical Assisting, Police Science, Computer Animation, Electrical Technology, Carpentry, Graphic Communication, Cosmetology, & Sports, Fitness & Health. Courses include Technical Math & English as “push in” subjects. Students have competed at all levels - at Nationals placed 2nd in Medical Assisting. Overall have won over 60 Regional, 25 State & 1 National Award. If anyone is interested call 520-8330 ext 651 for an appointment. Course Catalogs are available tonight. Please note update to catalog: STEPS Program is no longer. Currently several students have been placed within the Automotive, Culinary & Graphics Program with the Special Ed teacher, aide, & regular classroom teacher. Report on file. Question: Is STEPS at Division? Dr. Sirois will check. M. Pappas: congratulations to staff and program. Although the tuition increased, enrollment went up. Question: Are special needs students being properly supported? Dr. Sirois will get more information.

LEADD – Lisa Curran – no report

Senior Citizens Prom – Maria Emeric - Prom will be held on Friday, May 14, 2010 6:30-9:30 pm. at LMEC. Entertainment provided by Ron James Orchestra, food prepared & served by GC Tech Culinary students, Middle & High School students assist that evening. Volunteers will be needed for that evening. More info to follow.

Teacher's Center – Sue Giuliano - No report.

Presidential Appointed Liaisons

RTI – Sue Pou – no report

SEPTA – Susan McCormick & Scott Haas – First meeting is 9/21- Dr. Don Sturs, new Director of Special Education, will be speaking. If any unit would like SEPTA to make a presentation at their General Meeting, just contact Sue or Scott.

Wellness – Angela List – no report

New Business

Question: Are pre-paid lunch cards amount wiped out or carried over? Balances were carried over. Any questions, contact Chartwell's representative, Jennifer, at Salk.

Question: is the one free lunch with pre-paid lunch plan still available at elementary schools? No