

Levittown Council of PTAs
General Membership Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2010

President Esta Lachow called Meeting to order at 7:38. Secretary Susan Giuliano present.

Minutes of the March 22, 2010 meeting approved.

President - Esta Lachow –Thank you to East Broadway for hospitality. Gave reminders and announcements: meetings are being recorded, please come to podium or use microphone when addressing the group. If a member is unwilling to use microphone he/she will not have an opportunity to speak. Last month's meeting minutes are on the website. Keep in mind that others have the right to speak also, and may be called on to do so before you get a second opportunity. First President's Get Together went well, another is scheduled. Esta complimented the Units on their website – another great way to stay in touch. Reminder that Nassau Region Officer's Roundtable is in June. BOE asking for feedback on Cell Phone Policy. Units are being asked set up phone banks to call and inform on school budget – guidelines/information was discussed. Discussion regarding incentive distribution at elementary schools for students who bring voters. **Motion:** Give Esta Lachow, President Levittown Council of PTAs, a vote of confidence to continue working with LUT to come up with ideas/project for "Budget Day". *All in favor, motion passed.* Reminder: Nassau Spring Conference May 12, Drug Awareness Forum April 29 at LMEC, 7:00-9:00pm. Suggestion made to put Drug Awareness Forum information in the Levittown Tribune. Report on file. Welcome Mr. Pappas, from the BOE.

Executive Committee Reports

1st VP: Please return folders.

2nd VP: change to Directory – Angela List has a new email (angnalex@verizon.net)

Treasurer's Report: General Fund: Opening (03/22/10-04/15/10) \$ 8,760.50, Closing (03/22/10-04/15/10)\$8,760.50
Scholarship: Opening (03/22/10-04/15/10)\$11,768.71, Closing (02/25/10-03/22/10)\$11,768.71. *No changes to the Treasurer's Report it is filed for audit.* Note: There was a typographical error on last month's report; closing amount on Scholarship Fund should have read \$11,768.71. Report on file.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. H. Sirois, Superintendent. Police have taken action with regards to the Division Ave. fire; some 6th graders from Wisdom Lane were responsible. Dr. Sirois discussed the budget: budget flyers are not being mailed out – hard copies are available at various locations around town, information can be found on District website. 2010-2011 Proposed budget has a proper fund balance, average is below 4% for the 6th year in a row, state aide shortfalls continue to be concern however reserves/fund balance enable District to monitor and keep tax levy low. Contingency budget would mean 0% increase but would require reduction of \$11 million and then 23% increase in 2011-2012 to restore programs. Discussion of 2010-2011 reductions: Special Education: while all IEPs would be followed related services and out of district students would be curtailed. Enrichment: restructuring across the grades. Page 7 of Budget has list of items that would be cut totaling \$12million. They are ranked from largest to smallest amount of money. Discussion and questions about budget. Mr. Pappas spoke of the importance of budget passing – a lot of misinformation in the community – important we are all on the "same page". **Motion:** We, as a Council, support the school district budget. *1 abstention, Remainder in favor, Motion passes.*

Standing Committees:

Arts in Education – Pat Genco – Discussed programs going on at Abbey Lane. They have started planning 2010-2011. Presidents/Co-Presidents please share programs you have hosted in your final report. Programs are expensive and important to know whether or not they are worth it. If you have not received your BOCES check please contact Tonie McDonald. Report on file.

Audit – Lisa Vanderburg – Books ending 3/31/10 audited – books found to be in order.

Health, Safety, Environment – Working towards having Pre-Prom Workshop mandated for next year. Table cleaning procedures being worked on. Social Host Law will be posted on website. Garbage trucks driving backwards, please let HS&E know if you see any. Need specific time and place.

Legislation – Jill Stevens – Thank you for sending me to NYS PTA Legislation/Education Conference. Summary of Leg/Ed Conference shared. Report on file.

Curriculum – Elementary – New report cards will not be ready until 2011-2012 school year.

Special Committees

Meet the Candidates – Angela List – May 6, 2010 at 7:00pm, LMEC. Please copy and post flyers. Report on file.

Scholarship Dinner/Dance – Debe Howe – Proposals from different venues were discussed. Size, location and money charged were evaluated. **Motion:** To continue using the Crest Hollow Country Club for the Scholarship Dinner Dance. *All in favor, motion passes.* **Motion:** To increase the price of the Honorary Life dinner from \$55. to \$60. *All in favor, motion passes.* Thank you to Debe Howe for tackling this project.

Council Scholarship Committee – scholarship applications have been collected. Need a representative from each building.

Liaisons

Bond Watcher/Capital Improvements – Jill Rovenger –Report on file.

Dollars for Scholars – Looking for a new venue for Golf Outing.

Food Service – Ongoing discussion about new food items, flavored water, water

Senior Citizen Prom –5/14 6:30-9:30pm, LMEC, Volunteers needed. Sign-up sheet being circulated. Contact Marie Emeric for more information.

Transportation –Handbook is being updated for September; suggested that parents sign bus pass to acknowledge they have read the handbook. Work has begun at Wander Lane. Next meeting 5/10 10:00am at Hunt Rd. facility. Report on file.

Wellness – Last meeting 3/8. Grading policy for Physical Education, snack in vending machines, subcommittees formed.

New Business

Clarification: Cell phone discussion at BOE meeting. Esta shared preliminary discussion. Each unit should start having the conversation with their membership. Comments: Electromagnetic waves research regarding cell phone usage; 2020- embrace the technology; remember both sides; get feedback to BOE.

Dates to Remember:

4/20	9:30 am	Elementary Curriculum Meeting
4/20	7:30 pm	Board of Education Meeting, BOCES vote
4/22	10 am	Secondary Curriculum Meeting
4/27	7:30 pm	SEPTA Meeting
4/28	7:30pm	Board of Education Planning Session
4/29	7:30pm	Food Service Meeting
5/3	9:30 am	Presidents/Superintendent's Meeting
5/6	7:00pm	Meet the Candidates Night
5/10	10:00m	Transportation Meeting
5/11	7:30pm	Board of Education 2 nd Budget Hearing: Regular Meeting
5/12		Nassau Region Spring Conference
5/14	6:30pm	Senior Citizens Prom
5/18		Budget Vote
5/20	7:30pm	COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

Susan Giuliano, Secretary

Approved May 20, 2010