



# MINUTES

## EMES GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

*Date / time 2/10/2016 7:00 PM | Meeting called to order by Maureen Kirk, President*

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### **In Attendance**

Maureen Kirk called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. Mike Pellegrino, Chris Rawls, Janie Stockton, Maureen Kirk, Mike Taylor, Kathy Jackson, Rebecca Eagan, Deirdre Rommelmeyer, Michelle Taliaferro, Diane Peratt, Kirsten Shabanowitz, Kevin Arcano, Caroline Geidl, Kathleen Kunitz, Polly Hughes, Rebecca Takemoto, and Susan Crouse attended the meeting.

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### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the January General Membership Meeting were reviewed. Michelle Taliaferro moved that they be approved. Kevin Arcano seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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### **Principal's Report – Michael Pellegrino**

Mr. Pellegrino thanked the PTA for the grants that were awarded in December. The Global Road Trip (formerly known as Multicultural Night) will be on February 25<sup>th</sup>. It's a One to the World activity and promises to be very fun. Forms went home about bringing in food and participating in the event in other ways. Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, will be a two-hour delay because of the Presidential Primary.

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### **President's Report – Maureen Kirk**

Maureen Kirk discussed the Python Pasta Night and thanked Kevin Arcano and Patrick Campbell for their work on the event, which was a huge success. The Teacher Raffle, which was also held that night, made about \$400. Bedtime Stories has been moved to Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. This Thursday night is the Pump-It-Up spirit night. Mrs. Kirk also shared thank you notes that were written by Mr. Wittman's class to thank the PTA for playground equipment that he purchased with his Teacher Allotment.

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### **Treasurer's Report – Mike Taylor**

Mike Taylor gave highlights of the budget. Seven things needed to be voted on. In order to have a budget that truly reflects current projected income and expenses, he recommends the following: 1) Boxtops receipts be lowered by \$500; 2) Business Outreach objective should be removed from the budget because the idea has come to nothing; 3) Community Outreach expenses should be lowered by \$1,000; 4) Membership receipts should be lowered by \$500; 5) Non-Fundraiser Donations income should be lowered by \$500; 6) Python Pacers expenses should be increased by \$1,000 and receipts should increase by \$2,000 to reflect that there will be 50 participants this spring; 7) Teacher Allotment should be lowered by \$2,500. The members discussed the seventh item and why changing it will more accurately reflect the amount of money set aside for Teacher Allotments. Kevin Arcano moved to approve all seven line item changes. Kirsten Shabanowitz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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### **Report of Standing Committees**

Maureen pointed out the back of the agenda where there are updates from committee chairs who could not attend or chose not to speak at the meeting.

Pythons on the Town – Kathleen Kunitz reported that we made \$100 at the first Tuesday Spirit Night this month at Not Your Average Joe's. Gail from Shoes Cup & Cork reached out to us with the idea of doing a beer night or wine night

there, the two price points being \$60 or \$40. Mike Pellegrino is not comfortable advertising such an event at our school. Other members agreed with Mr. Pellegrino and also opined that the cost is too high. Maureen Kirk suggested that it would be better to do a more traditional spirit night there, rather than the type of event proposed.

Bedtime Stories – Rebecca Takemoto discussed the event. It has been moved to February 19<sup>th</sup>. There will be nine readers in three time slots, and each reader will read twice. Jessica McKay will be there, but Rebecca Takemoto will not be available, so if someone can help out Mrs. McKay, it would be appreciated.

Teacher Appreciation – Kirsten Shabanowitz provided an update. Valentine gifts will be a Red Box rental and microwave popcorn, which will go out to the staff on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. One day next month there will be a coffee bar.

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## **Old Business**

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Need to Establish a Nominating Committee: Maureen Kirk provided an update. We still need one more person for the committee. Michelle Taliaferro mentioned that Courtney Gatlin or Julie Graham would be good choices. She will try to get one of them to sign up in addition to the two people we already have.

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## **New Business**

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Ideas to welcome new students and their families – Maureen Kirk discussed that the Board is looking for ideas for welcoming new students and their families that may be coming to EMES as a result of the upcoming boundary line changes being discussed by the School Board. There is already a plan in the works to invite the new families to Movie Night. Maureen will sell spirit wear that night. In what other ways can we make the Movie Night more fun or make them feel welcomed? Email ideas to Maureen Kirk.

Members discussed the boundary line changes. The PTA does not have any official position regarding what the School Board should do.

Rebecca Takemoto asked what's happening with Fifth Grade Activities. Maureen Kirk says that within the next month or so, things should be starting up. She will touch base with the chair, Sharon Yarborough.

Kathleen Kunitz asked whether there are any thoughts or plans regarding classroom improvements such as standing desks or something similar. Some discussion followed. Mike Pellegrino shared that the school system has no plans to make any such changes, so they would have to come from the PTA.

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## **Next Meeting**

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The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 am in the teacher's lounge.

Rebecca Takemoto moved that we adjourn the meeting, and Susan Crouse provided a second. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.