



MINUTES

EMES GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Date / time 1/6/2016 9:00 AM | Meeting called to order by Maureen Kirk, President

In Attendance

Maureen Kirk called the meeting to order at 9:05 am. Mike Pellegrino, Dan Lani, Maureen Kirk, Mike Taylor, Kathy Jackson, Karen Giurintano, Kirsten Shabanowitz, Kate Akers, Jennifer Azzolina, Kevin Arcano, Kim Noel, Julie Sprinkle, and Caroline Sar attended the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the December General Membership Meeting were reviewed. Kevin Arcano moved that they be approved. Karen Giurintano seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Principal's Report – Michael Pellegrino

Mr. Pellegrino wished everyone a happy new year. He's looking forward to the pasta night on Friday. Family Fitness Night on January 28th will be a One to the World activity. Golds Gym might be there, and Cross Fit may also be involved. One to the World will be showing up in lots of different activities as well, such as Multi Cultural Night (A Global Road Trip, which will be on February 25th). Mr. Pellegrino wants to continue coffee talks, but the attendance hasn't been great. The members discussed the idea of providing the option to dial-in to allow people to listen in without driving over. Maureen Kirk suggested posting the presentations on the school web site.

President's Report – Maureen Kirk

Maureen Kirk discussed Skate Night and thanked the organizers. Attendance was marginal, about 80 kids. Going forward the PTA might want to discuss whether to keep doing it. Members who attended said it was fun. Thank you to Kirsten Shabanowitz for organizing the Cookie Exchange. There are lots of things coming up, which will be discussed during the Report of Standing Committees.

Treasurer's Report – Mike Taylor

Mike Taylor gave highlights of the budget. The one item that requires a vote is the removal of the STEM Activities item from the receipts column since we have no forecasted receipts. Kevin Arcano moved to approve the move, and Kate Akers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Pellegrino mentioned that he wants to form a STEM committee to look into establishing a classroom devoted to STEM activities. This will remain on hold until the upcoming school boundary changes are complete.

Mike Taylor is working on preparing a more realistic budget forecast. He will have it ready in February.

Membership dues remain low, so Maureen Kirk says we will send out another call for members, probably in the planned Python Post It informing the membership about the grants that have been awarded.

Mike Taylor asked when the 5th Grade Activities Committee will get started. The chair, Sharon Yarborough, and Maureen Kirk have started discussing plans.

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.

After School Enrichment Program: Maureen Kirk gave an update. The plea for activity teachers will be coming out on January 11th. Classes start March 7th. We need to decide when to hold the classes. They can't be on Tuesdays or Wednesdays because of SOL club. Thursdays are tough for teachers to make. Mondays are better than Fridays, so Monday will be the day. Registration will be online only. We will provide scholarships again.

Python Pasta Party: Kevin Arcano gave an update. The event is free. There are 150 RSVPs. Mike Pellegrino and Kevin Arcano will coordinate on Thursday regarding the last-minute details. The teacher raffle will take place that night as well.

Special Project Funding/Grants: Karen Giurintano provided an update, including a description of the committee's activities and details of the funding that was approved at our last meeting.

Old Business

Need to Establish a Nominating Committee: Maureen Kirk provided an update. We got one response to the Python Post It from someone interested in joining the committee. We need to fill this committee soon! It would be great to have people who know different groups of people they can tap into for officer and committee chairs. The boundary line changes pose a challenge for this endeavor. For now, we will plan with our current population in mind, and handle any changes that come when they happen.

New Business

No new business.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 10th, at 7:00 pm in the School Library.

Kate Akers moved that we adjourn the meeting, and Kirsten Shabanowitz provided a second. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.