

MINUTES
Shady Grove Elementary PTA Board Meeting
February 7, 2013

Present: Sue Manley, Stacey McKenna, Tracy Teal, Beth Clark, AnnMarie Lobred, Amy Foy, Anett Crumley, Melissa Taylor, Cheryl Bemis, Stephanie Marcus, Carrie Sweeney, Michelle Bone, Diana Tittermary, Kaje Stuckey, Justine Sherman, Andi Elliott, Debbie Armstrong, Regina Schwab, Crissy Rhyne, Debbie Taylor

Absent: Sally Raderer, Andrea Wright, Deana Collier, Lucille Lindamood, Brian Levitin, Karen Wakefield, Alison Crowder, Laura Girard, Kelly Plageman, Shannon Johnson, Mary Wilson, Amy Jessup, Sarah Westmoreland, Colleen Bohlman, Esther Black, Christine Shamus, Jenny Conklin, Susan Schools,

Call to Order (Time - 6:32 pm) – Sue Manley

Approval of Minutes-Sue Manley

Motion made by Tracy Teal to approve the minutes from the January 2013 meeting. Kaje Stuckey seconded the motion. No one opposed, motion carried.

Correspondence-Stacey McKenna

*Several thank you notes from students and teachers were circulated during the meeting.

President's Action Items/ Announcements-Sue Manley

*Thank all involved in the Rock-A-Thon. It was a huge success.

*Presented the members of the nominating committee (Carrie Sweeney, Cheryl Bemis, Deidre Belden, Megan Gemmill and Renee Kreiser - who is current PTA president at River's Edge but who is being redistricted to Shady Grove)

Motion made by Justine Sherman to approve the members of the nominating committee. Amy Foy seconded the motion. No one opposed, motion carried.

*Thanks to everyone for updating the volunteer job descriptions. Planning on creating an "about us" tab on the website to include this, bylaws, budget, etc.

*A KES "meet & greet" will be held on Feb. 26th and in talking with Nancy Chazen (CTES PTA pres.) and Greg Selesky, KES parent, they are working on ways to get a PTA started and parents involved.

*A draft 3 proposed calendars is up on the HCPS website and is open for comments until Feb. 20th (they eliminated a half day in Dec. but made Thanksgiving a three day holiday). There will be a link in the next blast.

*We have \$2,000 of our educational enhancements budget that we have not been able to spend this year (in the past it went to Science Place but we felt the money would be better spent this year directed to our STEM lab). In the interim, HCPS has turned the focus for our teachers on 21st century learning and if you were able to come to the SOL waiver coffee you were able to learn more about the incredible things our teachers are doing. We have chosen to support our teachers and the county's objectives and will use those funds to provide our teachers planning time. Our teachers at Shady Grove are phenomenal, several having furthered their own education with masters classes in children's engineering, and we think they will be able to create amazing lessons that will challenge our children and will give them opportunities to use the STEM lab.

*Another way the PTA can support 21st Century Learning is technology and I believe we can take advantage of the Promethean matching program this year. They match up to \$3800 – BOGO.

* Virginia Lottery's Super Teacher Award nominations are due February 15th.

Principal's Update-Dr. Regina Schwab

*Dr. Schwab provided an update on some upcoming events during the next several weeks.

Treasurer's Report- Tracy Teal

*The monthly financial report was distributed.

*We expect to have an excess at the end of the year and will start making a proposed list of how to spend the extra money.

Executive Committees:

1st VP Programs- Sally Raderer/Andrea Wright (absent, report given by Sue Manley)

*Our next program will be a Magic Show on February 21st.

*Considering moving the Fun Run up from May.

2nd VP Finance- Beth Clark/AnnMarie Lobred/Deana Collier

Finance Report:

*The date for our Silver Diner fundraiser has been set for Thursday, April 18th. We will again be getting \$10 coupons off of the food. We hope to have lots of teachers working our booths again this year and a huge turnout. We just received a check for \$271.17 for purchases made throughout the fall on The Eat Well Do Well Cards from Silver Diner. We will be eligible for another check this August.

*This Tuesday-Thursday was our Papa John's Massanutten contest. In this contest, if SGES makes the most purchases, we get to send our teachers, some administrators and PTA members to Massanutten for a two-night stay. We have won this contest the last two years. Last year we had 91 participants. This year we were guaranteed that all vacation certificates will last until July or August so hopefully everyone can use them. Let's hope we had lots of participation! In January we received a check for \$99.

*February 19th deadline for all Box Tops. This deadline will give us the last check for this calendar school year. We urge everyone to get in their Box Tops as soon as possible. All other Box Tops brought in after February 19th will not be accounted for by box tops until Fall 2013. Current results are online and accessible from the homepage link to Box Tops results. Remember there are 2 extra recess periods to be earned for the spring deadline and we are still in competition for the end of year parents- students kickball game for the class that has the most overall box tops brought into school.

3rd VP Volunteers- Amy Foy/Anett Crumley

*Things will pick up this spring with Teacher Appreciation Week (May 6-10) and Field Day. We will also have spring pictures.

*Erika Arnason is doing a fantastic job as morning drop off coordinator. She has agreed to stay on board next year! If you see Erika, please thank her!

*Melissa Taylor has again done a fabulous job managing the welcome desk! We are so grateful for her hard work over the past two years. We are looking to fill this coordinator role next year so if you have any interest or know someone who wouldn't mind managing the nList for the job, we welcome any suggestions.

*Given the timely school security concerns, we are looking at ways to improve the volunteer application process next year. Because there were two forms that went home in our back to school folders, one for SGES and one for HCPS, we have found that some parents only filled out one and not both. The info was rather redundant and I think parents completed only one not realizing both needed to be completed. According to the County, parents are not able to volunteer at the school until the HCPS application has been approved so this has created a problem for parents who only filled out the SGES form. We are working with Mrs. Ford to come up with a way to have one volunteer packet for completion that includes the county and school forms.

4th VP Communications – Melissa Taylor

*Remember to get information to Melissa for blasts.

Lay Advisory- Lucille Lindamood/Cheryl Bemis

*The Lay Advisory meeting was held on January 14th. Reviewed the December Meeting with Dr. Christopher Corallo, Assistant Superintendent of HCPS, on December 17, 2012 reported by Ann Slough and Hank Chambers.

*Highlights included:

-Math Readiness Update: HB 1350 was passed in the House Education Committee in the VA General Assembly. Now it will go to the Senate for their review. The bill prohibits calculator use on seventh and eighth grade math assessments.

-Henrico County needs to cut \$1 million from the budget. Considering imposing a meal tax.

County Council- Brian Levitin/Karen Wakefield

*County Council meeting was held on January 29, 2012.

*The 2012-2013 Budget was approved.

*There was a motion by the board to remove the Treasurer which was seconded. She was removed due to inaccuracies and never attending meetings.

*Dr. Russo discussed how the budget was reduced by 14%. This was accomplished with no layoffs, however, there are now larger class sizes and no more classes of 10 or less. They have lost some specialty classes. They were also still able to give a 2.5% salary increase to staff.

*There was a 3% reduction on the operating budget (\$11M). Approximately 82% of the budget should be staff/fringe benefits, but Henrico's is 92% this year. Fixed costs are 8-10%

*There is nothing left to reduce from the budget so if they are required to have more reductions, the next step would be to have layoffs.

*We will not increase matching funds for Year 4 of Teacher Incentive Fund Grant and a 3% reduction to Math & Science & the Governor's school.

*With all the reductions, we are now working on a 2006-2007 budget.

*There is a \$33M liability for VA retirement system that needs to be paid, of which \$22M is from the school system.

*Senate passed a meals tax for Henrico / Chesterfield County. We are hoping the House will pass as well. This would provide a dedicated revenue stream, which might be able to prevent layoffs.

*Henrico County has consistently been one of the best fiscally managed counties in the country.

Standing Committees:

After School Programs- Alison Crowder/Stephanie Marcus/Laura Girard

*No report.

College Scholarship Fund- Kelly Plageman/Shannon Johnson

*We are thrilled with our Rock A Thon results. Over 300 Shady Grove cardinals rocked out on January 24th for the 2nd annual fundraiser. We saw so many smiling faces on both children and parents/faculty faces. The night had visits from Nutsy the squirrel and our "own the stage" kids giving outstanding performances as well as photo booths, basketball, football and a great D.J.!

*Kids earned fun prizes for best costume, raffles and most \$\$ raised.

*The class with the most participation will be getting a free pizza party.

*The tie-dye t-shirts were a hit and the teachers have ordered more.

*We are so excited to announce that our SGES kids raised close to \$10,000!

*After expenses we will have approximately \$6,777 to give to deserving kids as scholarship money.

*Our spirit sock sales earned us \$200.00 towards Ga-Ga-pit flooring and we will continue to sell the remaining socks as the opportunities present themselves.

*Thank you to all the wonderful board members who supported this great event with their time and effort!

*Planning to reduce the time for K-2 to 1 ½ hours next year.

Cultural Arts/ Education Enhancements- Mary Wilson (absent, report given by Crissy Rhyne)

*Kindergarteners had the Rivanna Music program today.

Hospitality-Carrie Sweeney/Michelle Bone

*Our January Chili fest was great!! Teachers/staff seemed to really enjoy all the different chili recipes. Thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers!

*Our next event is scheduled for Feb 20th. Theme and nList will be forthcoming!

*Because Michelle Bone is slated to move to the new school next year, we will be looking for 2 new volunteers to take over the Hospitality Committee next year. I'm planning to send an email to our committee members to see if anyone is interested. It's typically an easy position to fill.

Legislative-Diana Tittermary

*No report.

Membership- Amy Jessup

*No report.

Outdoor Classroom-Sarah Westmoreland

*No report.

Parliamentarian-Kaje Stuckey

*The Application for the SGEN College Scholarship is out. It is posted on the SGEN PTA website and has been emailed to both the Principal and the Counseling Office of all Henrico County High Schools.

*The applications are due back March 29. The Evaluation Committee will have until the end of April to rate the applications. Sue Manley will be the contact person from here on out.

Reflections- Colleen Bohlman/Mary Wilson

*We expect to hear within the next week about how our SGEN entries did at the County level.

Room Parents-Esther Black (absent, report given by Sue Manley)

*Working on planning 5th grade graduation.

*Will begin working on planning Teacher Appreciation Week.

School Store- Christine Shamus

*The store is busy in the mornings however we are having a hard time getting parent volunteers. Mrs. Taylor has just notified the 4th grade helpers for the 2nd half of the year. We are asking the parents of the new 4th grade helpers to volunteer at least 2 times while their children are working. Without a parent present, the store cannot open.

Spirit Wear-Jenny Conklin

*No report.

STEM Lab Coordinator-Susan Schools

*No report.

Yearbook- Justine Sherman/Andi Elliott/Debbie Armstrong

*Have sold approximately 70% of our yearbooks.

*Will send out a flyer soon indicating price increase to \$30 in March.

*The cover has been approved by Dr. Schwab.

Teacher Reps- Ms. Rhyne/ Ms. Taylor

*No report.

Time ended: 7:21 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Stacey McKenna, Secretary**

**Next Meeting:
Thursday, March 14, 2013
6:30pm**