

KerrPTO General Meeting
1/13/2021



Commence: 9:20 am

Attendance: Amy Cooper, Ann Sokalski, Kayla Portis, Paul Noro, Windy Neff,
Gwen Harcar, Roxanne Acquaro

Welcome—Amy Cooper, president

Introductions—everyone on the zoom

School News—Dr. Noro, principal

- Difficult to have events
- Student Change Committee is meeting (4th & 5th grade) – limited in what they can do
- Kerr Diversity and Equity Team – staff that meets to discuss what is done in arts, class, and professional development. This is an ongoing team and plan to have a focus each month such as disability awareness, black history, women’s history, etc..
- Parenting class - sent a survey out. Will be offered once a month, different topic each month. Working with social services, behavioral health and guidance counselor to develop this program
- Working on making sure masks are above student’s nose. Everyone being mindful and doing everything we can to keep safe.
- Valentine’s Day – what we can and cannot do as far as students distributing cards to each other. Waiting for information from Dan DiDesiderio
- Kayla Portis– Q - about teachers/planning and Black History Month – A - each week is a different theme
- Maybe an open house in the spring, will know in March

Upcoming (Ann Sokalski)

- Virtual Events this month – all free to register, option for donations
 - 1/16 Cook Along
 - 1/22 Winter Bird Watch
 - 1/27 Magic Class
- Events in planning
 - Amy Cooper
 - Read-a-thon
 - Jenn Cox-Seigel is co-chairing with Amy, it will be more virtual
 - Summer Send Off
 - Have to wait until closer to the time
 - Hopeful for an outside assembly
 - Ann Sokalski
 - Drum Circle – Valentine’s Party
 - PTO did order a craft that students can do at home or in class – 1/27 & 2/10 – material distribution days
 - Likely fruit by the foot

- That evening doing a live event for drum circle – take home song lyrics, how to create a drum at home
- Build a Mascot
 - Agreed on a design, kit with fox, stuffing, birth certificate, shirt, wishing star, have a live event to keep it engaging.
 - After orders completed, it takes 3 weeks to come in
- Kayla Portis
 - Bingo events – maybe in March/April
 - Cook a long in March – St. Patrick's theme
 - Looking into Earth Day event in April
 - Possible Virtual Talent Show
- Fundraisers - Ann
 - Current
 - Pepperoni Roll Sale – current, delivery in February.
 - Sarris Candy – open from now until April, can order for each holiday, free shipping in place
 - Dine and Donates
 - Melanie is working with Zoup and 2 Sisters 2 Sons
 - Later in the spring
 - Spirit Wear Sale – Windy Neff
 - Orders for proposed spring sale – ordered by 2/28, would come in before spring break. Kerr logo and FC logo on each shirt. A few new items – shorts, ¼ zip shirts
 - Can get the link live in the next day or so
 - Shipped to own homes, or free to ship to school
 - Raffle – working on platforms to sell the tickets
 - Looking for volunteers to help with ideas for prizes
 - Not legal to sell online – checked with small games of chance
 - Spring Flower Sale – p/u May 5/10
 - Possible mulch fundraiser

PTO Updates

- Fundraising Updates (Ann Sokalski, Dir of Fundraising)
 - Winter Plant Sale – did very well – above what expected
 - Sarris Chocolates – also did very well – over \$900
 - Square 1 – about \$2100
- Nomination Committee
 - Per bylaws need elect nominating committee to take board member nominations to assist with spring elections
 - Erin Berdik has volunteered for the committee.
 - Unanimously voted for Erin to chair -if she finds helpers, that sounds good
 - Any other volunteers? 3 person committee per bylaws.
- Spring Election of Board members—President, Director of Fundraising, and Secretary

- BYLAWS—Vote to suspend nominee criteria for the 2021 nominations
 - Nominee must be a member of the PTO in good standing for a minimum of 3 months and have participated in a minimum of two (2) activities within the school year.
 - The President shall have either been on the executive board or a committee chair for at least one (1) year within the past three (3) years preceding the year of her/his nomination for office.
- Vote to suspend criteria for this year – Windy Neff motioned, Kayla Portis seconded. No opposition
- If you know anyone you would like to nominate, let us know.
- Bylaws future vote – Vote on this in April
 - Changing board member titles:
 - Vice President of Programming (currently Vice President)
 - Vice President of Fundraising (currently Director of Fundraising)
 - Audit: Changing the audit to an annual audit (currently biannual) and adding language about setting up the quick books online to be viewed by president.
 - Concern if we go an entire year without someone else looking, something can go wrong
- Treasurer Reports— Amy Cooper on behalf of Nicole Kutzner, treasurer
 - Current budget report update – typically balance budget, but due to cancelled events, we carried over about \$20,000.
 - Realistically, we are not going to be spending/raising
 - Adding to staff appreciation
 - Virtual events – currently \$160, we are ahead but want to add if needed
 - Want to add to summer send off
 - Cut the raffle budget by half
 - Possible virtual field trips or having science center bring activities in
 - Hoping to still buy a book through Scholastic for each student
 - Windy Neff motioned to approve new budget, Roxanne Acquaro second, no opposition
 - Ann Sokalski asked about virtual events with virtual families to Roxanne Acquaro. She feels the virtual events are going well, the kids feel connected, really liked the terrarium, love bingo. Feels like kids are able to participate more independently.
 - Audit update

District Forum—Amy Cooper for Maureen Lynch, Kerr Representative

- No updates
- Unique group of families, school board, staff – looking for representatives

Motion to approve the minutes

- Windy noted appreciation for flag football
- Motion to approve – Windy Neff
- Ann Sokalski - Second

Motion to close

Windy Neff motioned, Dr. Noro seconded

Upcoming Dates:

1/15 Cook Along

1/22 Bird Watch

1/27 Magic