

<u>UTS PTA General Meeting Notes</u> 1/23/17 @ 10 am--UTES Library

- 1. Meeting Called to Order
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance
- 3. Meeting notes from November 2016 approved
- 4. Overview of Finances
 - a. Treasurer's Report:
 - i. PTA's bank balance is short of outstanding expenses by \$753.72
 - ii. In December, a generous gift of \$1,000 from UTEA/Teachers was received, as well as donations of \$800 from several families (\$1,800 total).
 - iii. Received a \$300 check from Box Tops.
 - iv. PTA still owes Tiger Club vendor (\$2,160), NJ PTA Dues (on hold), and a few other families who are willing to wait for reimbursement.

5. Assemblies/Mini-Grants

- a. Julie met with BOE in December 2016. Dr. Hoffman will reach out to teachers who should submit mini-grant requests to BOE until further notice.
- b. No assemblies being scheduled for foreseeable future until PTA has funds to cover them.

6. Open Board Positions/Miscellaneous

- a. VP at UTES filled by AnnMarie Lodese; she was voted in by PTA Board on 12/2/16.
- b. VP UTMS position remains open and will not be refilled for remainder of 2016-2017 school year.
- c. Question raised about if an odd number of Board members is required. *Casie Fariello is actively serving as Honorary PTA Board member so there are still five members to vote on issues should a tie breaker be needed.
- d. Membership Chair & Wufoo (Online payments) Chair open for 2017-2018 school year (Cathy Masiello stepping down)
- e. PTA Board to post positions and responsibilities on PTA Website for those interested to view.

7. Legal Matters

a. 2016 Case

- i. December court appearance adjourned due to inclement weather.
- ii. Court appearance occurred on January 3, 2017.
- iii. Application for PTI has been made (Pre-Trial Intervention for first time offenders). If agreed to, it includes full and complete restitution as well as successfully serving probationary term at which time the crime will be removed from the defendant's record.
- iv. If PTI does not work out, the case goes to the Grand Jury. They would rule in approximately 4 weeks if the case should go to trial (if yes, Defendant to appear in court two weeks later).

b. 2015 Case

- i. Board has contacted Probation Office regarding status of case as no restitution payments have been received yet--waiting to hear back.
- ii. Five year probation was reset in October 2016.
- iii. TD Bank had the wrong signature on the forgery paperwork for \$4,000 check:
 - 1. Former PTA Treasurer, Michelle Young, had to re-sign the form
 - 2. The process can take up to 90 days from the new signature date of 1/19/17
- iv. Question asked about garnishing the paycheck of the Defendant (this is up to the courts to decide)

8. Tiger Clubs

- a. Tiger Club Committee reluctant to run Spring clubs without \$ coming in to cover vendors
- b. PTA Board needs to identify financial obligations between January and June to determine how money available should best be spent (i.e, T-shirts for Split Rock trip, DJ for 8th grade graduation, NHHS scholarships, etc)

9. GoodWill Fund

- a. PTA will continue to donate flowers for concerts, baby gifts, retirements, and other staff/teacher gifts as necessary.
- b. Individual donations by PTA members have allowed this to continue uninterrupted.
- c. Many people are unaware of all the things the PTA does for the school community so we need to advertise more what is happening and by whom
- d. Looking into reinstituting the PTA Newsletter each month

10. Events/Fundraising

- a. Tara Trego has agreed to step in as Fundraising Chair. Plan is to focus on smaller school and community-based events.
- b. Fundraising committee met in early January-Ideas being explored include:

- i. Mother's Day/Father's Day photo opportunities
- ii. Plant Sales for Easter & Mother's Day
- iii. Bingo Night-Need to determine if best for adults only or kids to be included
- iv. Fitness/Exercise Classes-organize weekly yoga, Zumba or other type exercise class at UTES gym for moms to exercise and reconnect (dates TBD)
- v. Laser Tag at Branchburg Sports Complex-potential date of Feb. 16th (\$20/pp for laser tag, a fun card, and play maze)
- vi. Tiger Clubs (plan is to reinstitute upon determination if space is available at UTESI)
 - Need to go back to more classes led by parent volunteers/Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts/Middle School students
 - 2. Some vendors will do a free assembly if brought in to do a 6-week club (i.e., Mad Science)
 - 3. Low cost clubs include:
 - a. Yoga Club
 - b. Manners Club
 - c. Running Club/Girls on the Run
 - d. Tae Kwon Do
 - e. Soccer Club- PTA paid vendor by the hour, not per student so it's not dependent on # of sign ups
- vii. Pencil gram from PTA during President's Week
- viii. Small after-school events such as Earth Day and Pottery Day
- ix. Sell flowers/small bouquets at UTS concerts/talent show/graduation-ShopRite to provide
- x. Ladies Night Out-venue & date TBD
- xi. Discount Cards for local businesses
- xii. Decorating/Baking/Cooking Class-will reach out to Sweet Melissa's or bakery in Milford, NJ.

11. Run Like A Tiger (June 2017)

- a. Melissa Hoffman remains fundraising chair for Run Like A Tiger.
- b. This is an event that has always covered its expenses with turnout (not a huge fundraiser--profit typically ranges from \$1,500-3,000)
- c. PTA makes money based on various sponsorships (Melissa to send out new email/letter to potential new sponsors--ie, St. Luke's clinic)
- d. 5K numbers generally consistent year to year, while 1 Mile Walk/Run goes up each year
- e. Talk about moving race from a Trail Run to a Road Race to bring larger draw of participants.
 - Decision made to keep it at Finn Park to avoid needing police assistance (for road closures) and to offer a fun, family filled community day for UT residents.
- f. NJ.com will publicize the event one week prior.

- g. Dunk Tank and Rock Wall are big hits; Photobooth to be added this year
- h. Medals and ribbons left over from 2016 race to offset costs
- i. Upfront costs include money for posters/signs and other advertising
- j. Anyone interested in volunteering should reach out to Melissa Hoffman.

12. PTA Elections for 2017-2018 Board Positions

- a. Will be done according to PTA ByLaws:
 - i. A nominating committee will be in place by March to come up with a list of names; individuals on Nominating committee may also run for a position
 - i. PTA/Nominating Committee will reach out to Class moms for suggestions
- b. PTA Nominations held in April
- c. PTA positions voted on in May
- d. We encourage anyone who wants to make a difference in their school community to volunteer. Fresh ideas are needed and most welcome!

13. Improved School Ratings

- a. Rating by GreatSchools.org for Union Township School in Hunterdon County:
 - i. UTES increased to 8/10
 - ii. UTMS rating is now 10/10
 - iii. NHHS rating 9/10
- 14. Motion to end meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:12 AM.