

MINUTES

New York Harbor School PTA Minutes

Tuesday, November 20, 2018, @ 6:00 pm | *Meeting called to order by* Lissa Wolfe

In Attendance

Board Members: Nan Richardson Co-President; Lissa Wolfe, Co-President; Theresa Jordan, Vice-President; Marge Richards, Recording Secretary; Georgia Stefanidis, Co-Fundraising Chairperson; Susan Tobias, Aquaculture; Bill Seery, Marine Biology; Lisa Edstrom, MST; Susan Bailey, Ocean Engineering; Liana Huth & Marjike Briggs, Professional Diving; Sunita Woodcheke & Sabita Arjune, Vessel Operations; Emma Acker, Freshman Parent; Schanequa Knight, Senior Parent

Absent Board Members: Michele Lardou, Treasurer; Nikita Huggins, Co-Fundraising Chair; Kelly Vilar, Aquaculture; Penelope Clarke-May, Marine Biology; Ellen Dobbryn-Blackmore, Marine Policy; Raquel Morales, MST; Nancy Usiatynsk, Ocean Engineering; Kathleen Daniel, Freshman Parent; Pam Bailey, Senior Parent;

Harbor Leadership: Dr. Jeff Chetirko, Principal; Aneal Helms, Assistant Principal; Ronni Ettinger, Parent Coordinator

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were read from the October meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes. Minutes approved by a unanimous vote.

Board

Lissa W. Welcomed parents and NYHS staff.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report (read by Lissa Wolfe)

- \$5,145 in All-Hands-on-Deck donations. Last year at this time we were already at \$6,300.
- Made \$500 in NY Harbor PTA merchandise sales. Spent a total of \$1,376 on the merchandise to be sold.
- Expenditures thus far this year: \$10,575 for the college trip, \$140 for food for PTA meetings, \$500 for the Harvest fest, \$100 on Custodial Appreciation Week, \$40 for storage shelves.
- We have over \$21,000 in our Wells Fargo account and \$1,742 in our PayPal account.
- We are considering changing banks.
- Treasurer's report approved

SLT Committee Report

SLT meeting was cancelled because the new Assistant Principals had to go through C30 interview process, which took the place of SLT.

Committee Reports

Fundraising – Georgia Stephanides expounded on a few fundraising ideas:

- **GotSneakers.com** –The company gives sneakers that are in wearable condition to less fortunate people around the world. Worn sneakers are donated by us and those that are not wearable are recycled. The school will get \$1 per sneaker.

- **Carnival** at the end of the year
- **Night at the School**
- **Rubber Ducky Race**
- **Scratch Off** – maximum donation amount \$5. It would come with a coupon book.
- **Scavenger Hunt**
- **Modells coupons**
- **Special Tees** – The company’s workforce made up almost exclusively of people with mental health problems. CTEs can sell shirts made by this company.

Senior Committee – applied for permit for the Oyster Classic

Communications – Emma and Lissa are working on getting communications out thru Ronni, PTA website, and PTA Facebook

The School Expansion Committee – Theresa Jordan reported. Our long-term plan is the Aquatic Center. Short term plan is the container pool. It will cost \$1.1 million to put container on Governors Island. We are going to contact Governors Island Trust to get permission for the container pool, then a contractor will make the pool to our specifications. We expect to have the container pool on the Island by spring.

- **Nan says** NYHS parents have to be present at the Community Board 1 meetings to keep reminding them of our wants/needs for the school. Meeting dates will be posted on the PTA’s website and Facebook page.

The Garden, Sustainability and Wellness Committee –

- **Water bottle filling** station grant is written for \$5000 (which will get us a single fountain). D.O.E. has to send in plumbers and electricians to hook it up. It is our hope that the electricians can hook up the monitors that have been there inoperative for 18 months at the same time.
- **Vending machines** –We want to fill machines with healthy snacks. If snacks are sold for \$1.50 or less then they’re not taxable. D.O.E. has a contract with Nestle for the current machines (that have been dead for 6 months in the Mess hall- we are removing those). These brand-new machines are made by a 90 year old reputable firm in the USA and come with service support-that allows our maintenance people to be trained to maintain them. Need to meet with Jeff to work out details. Willing to share profits with the Student Council so they can stock them.
- Starting **Campaign Zero Waste**. Will kick-off in December with a poster campaign and I did a powerpoint that will go around to all classrooms for re-education for students. Will post results of compost collection weekly with a thermometer in Mess Hall and via weekly announcements from December – February. A new strategy will begin in February running until Earth Day.
- L.A. found plates and cutlery, and there is a dishwasher. Switching to these items will cut school expenses since paper plates and plastic cutlery will no longer be needed/used. It will also cut down on manpower and reduce garbage bulk (for the Compost team, it means plates will no longer have to be ripped before they are thrown out and reduces the waste volume by 2/3). Must discuss with Jeff.

Grants - Nan is looking for help writing grants. She is happy to train. We need to get more of them. She wrote a grant for a pump for the tank in the main building. If awarded we could also purchase 45 PFDs and life jackets, 15 fishing rods and gear with it. Plus the front hall pump for \$700. A motion was made by Theresa Jordan that the PTA allocate the funds to purchase the pump and that the grant money (if we get it) then be used to purchase a backup pump. The motion passed with one 1 nay vote.

Alumni -Starting a Profiles Bank and Image Bank for all needs- need writers! Please send photos to Lissa and Nan to be used for brochures and the Alumni Association

Community Chair – needs volunteers for future events

CTE Reports – No reports. There will be one big fundraiser. Lissa suggested that it be directed toward fundraising for Freshmen Harbor class for trips and events.

Freshman – Emma Acker reported that there will be a social event in January or February. More information to come.

Principal's Report

- There was a Celebration of Life for Hussein. Laura will teach 3 math classes. Jeff will teach 1 math class. Will look for a new Math teacher before the end of the school year.
- December 4th is the end of marking period 2
- Parent/Teachers Conference on Thursday evening, November 29th from 5:45-7:45pm, and Friday afternoon, November 30th from 1:15-3:15pm. Friday, November 30th will be a ½ day.
- The Open Houses have been a huge success. Somewhere between 500-600 prospective students have visited.
- The documentary about NY Harbor School, *Take Back the Harbor* has been released.
- There will be a 9th grade field day for students to experience the CTEs. There will be several events throughout the year for freshman to experience all of the CTEs.

Break-out Sessions

IEP Breakout - enjoyed the Holiday pot luck, not much discussion on IEPs.

Freshmen CTE Breakout - The Freshman CTE breakout session was a helpful discussion with parents of upperclassmen who clearly described the way the Harbor class is structured as well as the application process by which students choose the top three CTE fields of study in ranked order. We Freshmen parents became aware of the guidance available to students, from various teachers and staff, in this decision-making process.

Junior Class SAT breakout - The SAT breakout ended in a resolution that we hold a meeting in the early spring with ONLY Junior and Senior parents and kids sharing experiences freely and offering guidance on best ways to handle the college process.

Parent Coordinator Report

N/A

Next Meeting

Tuesday, December 18, 2018.

Location: 81 New St. 5th-floor Cafeteria @ 6:00 pm

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:00 pm and passed unanimously.