

January 6, 2022

Meeting Start: 6:02 pm

November minutes were approved. Dana motioned, Trisha seconded.

In attendance: Aimee Magovern; President, Dana Pustinger; Vice President, Jennifer Catolane; Treasurer, Linda Curtiss; Secretary, Jennifer Hibbins Salzano, Phil Magovern, Trisha Tetreault, Zach Haynes, Amy Maxton, Cecily Goulange, Brittany Mackbach, Meaghan Martin, Michelle Obrien Ransom, and Diane Provenz.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

- Ski Program update: 51 students and 3 adults from FRES enrolled. There are a few from Becket/Washington. There were more that wanted to sign up, but the Ridge had to cut off the sign up due to the class sizes and a lack of instructors. Some groups are very large this year. It wasn't as organized to start this year. A lot of kids were standing around unsure of where they should be for about 15 minutes. Not enough direction was given to parents and students.
- Diane – Co chair of the Otis Historical Commission: The Otis Historical Commission and the Otis Preservation Trust (their nonprofit fundraising entity) is a group of people, mostly retired, some not, who are interested in helping and doing things for the town. Projects on their list so far: St. Paul's Church, the East Otis school house, The Knox Trail and a few others. She would like to invite parents to enroll their children in the Otis Junior Historical Society, started by Judy Maybe. The mission is to form a club for ages 7-12, to do fun things and learn about the history of the town: Take hikes on the Knox Trail, explore the cemeteries, do photography. It is funded by the Historical Society. There are only 2 children enrolled now and they would like to see more children get involved. Google Otis junior historical website to find out more information and to be contacted. Diane also wanted to bring attention to the efforts of Save St. Paul's church. Find info at Otispreservationtrust.org. They have raised almost \$470,000 for the church and other projects. Part of that is a grant from the Massachusetts Historical for the East Otis school house. The vision is to create an interactive one room school house, set up like a museum discovery room, for the kids to experience what school was like from that time. The Historical Commission meets once a month, usually on Tuesday mornings at 11:00 on Zoom, and the Otis Preservation Trusts meets monthly on Thursdays at 4:00. They are writing grants to raise more money to complete the projects. Cecily will add a little spot in the PTA newsletter about the Historical Society.
- Assembly update: Dana has scheduled the Anti-bully show on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. The cost is \$695, but we will be reimbursed \$597 from the OCC for the grant Dana wrote from 2 years ago. Bubble Mania with Casey Carle is scheduled for Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00. The cost is \$650. The grant from Sandisfield Cultural Council is for \$350. We can reschedule, if needed due to CoVid, with no fee. We will need to cover the \$300 balance. Aimee made a motion to approve to pay the \$300. Brittany seconded. All approved.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- Financial Update: Our checking account is at \$39,482. The student accounts are at \$11,305 and teachers' balance is at \$1,255. Our balance after the classroom accounts is just over \$24,418. Holiday shop: we spent less and sold more this year. We got rid of a lot of old inventory. The students spent \$2,675 on

gifts for family members, and we spent just under \$1,800 on supplies. So we will have about \$900 toward next year's inventory. The kids were very excited and the whole event went very well.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Cash Calendar update: Calendars will be distributed next week, many thanks to Dawn!
- Thunderbirds update: 9 families signed up covering 42 participants. Tickets will be distributed electronically. Masks will be worn with the Springfield mandate.
- Staff Holiday: Brittany decorated the staff room and brought muffins, donuts, and a coffee basket with teas, coffee, hot chocolate and flavors to add. The staff really appreciated it. She spent around \$45 on muffins and she will be reimbursed by the PTA.
- Butternut Tubing: Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-6:00. The PTA will pay for students and families to join. Dawn was able to get the price of \$5 per person again this year! Staff and families are included.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- PTA Membership: We are at 49 members, but a few people will send their dues to Jenn and Aimee will send it in to the state.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 6:00 pm via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned: 6:49 pm. Aimee motioned, Zach seconded.