

Ainsworth PTA Meeting - 12/14/17 1pm in the Library

Attendees

Natalie , Lynn Br, Kris, Anna, Marisa, Kara, Tonka, Jennifer, Jennifer Mills-Perov

1:05 pm - Approval of previous meeting's minutes

Skipped for now because we don't have enough people for quorum.

(1:46 pm Minutes are approved)

1:07 pm - PTA dates for January - June

Need to meet only once a month for the remainder of the year.

3rd Friday of the month at 1pm

1:10 pm - Friends of Seasonal and Service Workers - volunteer needs are in pretty good shape except for the "night of" event. Volunteers on the night of don't need have to work, it would be helpful to just come to the event and break bread with the service workers attending. (Anyone who wants to help out is welcome, though!)

Location: at a church in Hillsboro, 5pm.

1:12 pm Summary of Home Tour

Home Tour was great! There may have been pent up demand because the tour didn't happen last year. Made \$31k, which is more than the tour has made in previous years.

The timing of it was one week earlier than in previous years, which was helpful for the weather, but there was only 4 days after Thanksgiving to recruit volunteers.

Next week planning for Home Tour to, again, be the week after Thanksgiving. Nov 29th, 2018.

This year we sold, roughly, 450-500 tickets.

Some of the marketing material for selling the brochure ad space promises that 600-1000 brochures will be printed. We need to change that to make sure that we are being truthful about the ad circulation. It's still a good number of tickets!

No longer giving compensation to home owners for participating in the tour. Instead, we provided garlands and wreaths to 3 of the houses. We could offer this to all the homes in the future for \$250 or so. Want to avoid cash compensation in the future.

We did have a liability issue. There was a fall at one of the homes. In the future, we need to purchase some lights so that the walkways are all completely lit at night. Some discussion about how to minimize liability for this event.

1:28 pm Budget Approval

Expenses are currently on budget or even under budget in a lot of areas.

Fundraising is doing mostly well.

Family Dance made \$3600

Gift Cards did VERY WELL this year, probably due to lots of promotion

Wreath Sales were very low this year. The number of people who ordered was exactly the same as last year, but the prices were lower - so the gross \$\$ was lower. Also, fewer people ordered garlands because there was less choice among garlands this year with the new vendor. Next year, vendor said that custom garland might be possible. Do we want to go to a paper order form? NO. Why did we switch vendors? Because the cost was way less.

In future years, we'd like to figure out how to make this fundraising event more faith-inclusive. General sentiment that you can't just stick a dreidel on a garland, but we're not sure what the right thing to do is here.

<Aside - Peachjar is going away?!?>

Request: Tonka would like to cancel PayPal at the end of the year and just use Square. PayPal charges us \$30/month because we have an "upgraded" plan. Kara says that we can cancel the upgrade. Tonka would still like to cancel it because switching back and forth is a hassle.

PPS would like for us to use SchoolPay for more transactions. The limitation with it is that there is an item limit, so it can't replace Square/PayPal for all of our transactions. We couldn't sell gear, for instance, through SchoolPay. The advantage would be that parents would only have to go to one place to pay for field trips, pay PTA.

Hayhurst has not received funds from PTA. We had promised them \$1200, need to cut that check and send it.

1:52 pm Anti-Bullying Request

Student council made a request to have a speaker come in. Cost is \$1000 for the speaker to work with the students. \$1800 (total) includes an evening event for parents.

The bullying curriculum currently taught at Ainsworth is pulled from this author/speaker's works.

There is \$500 in the budget for speaking fees. Is there wiggle room to bump it to \$800?

Could charge parents to come to the evening session? "Suggested donation" for parents attending the evening session. Money from this donation could reimburse PTA for its expenditure. At most PTA would spend \$800, goal to reduce that spend to \$500 through donations.

Vote taken - approved. We will divert \$800 in PTA funds to help this event.

2:01 pm - Fall events review

Garden Tour - definitely considering moving that from Sept to June. There's just too much happening in the fall. It's still worthwhile, but its attendance has been low. Natalie thinks it should continue to happen every year. Switching off every year will wreak havoc with the budget.

Buckaroo - We don't have a chair. We don't have a team for next year.

Back to School Night - General consensus: We don't think this year's experiment worked. The passport thing was chaotic. Parents didn't get a chance to get information from the teachers. It turned into a trick-or-treat. We would like to go back to the old format with no children. Also, have a special tour just for new parents that includes the art room, library, technology room, etc. Plus, we should have a room with all of the volunteer opportunities sign up sheets on the walls. Provide treats/coffee and get people to sign up for something. That would provide an early volunteer committee for the major fundraisers.