

**Minutes of the Mantua PTA
April 2, 2003
Mantua Elementary School**

The president called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Present at the meeting were:

Executive Board: *Laura Mead, Carole Thomas, Pam Promisel, Beth McKeown, Rob Luftglass*

School Representatives: *Jan-Marie Fernandez, Tina Tingler, Elaine Wellner, Ann Baum*

Board Members: *Allen Clark, Barb Suidikas, Beth Whitehead, Bev Baughman, Cheryl May, Chris Love, Dee Ann Jeremiah, Jennifer Cooper, Loren Brandman, Randi Kirkland, Laura Samotshozo*

General Membership: *Danilo Torres, Donna Cipicchio*

Pam Promisel made a motion that the minutes of the March 5, 2003 meeting be approved. Barb Suidikas seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Beth McKeown presented the **Treasurer's Report**. She provided an Income Statement for the seven months ending March 31, 2003. Money is coming in for Hands on Science and Kids Care Club. Everything is within budget. We have included \$75 towards the Woodson Cavalier Cruise.

Laura Mead presented the **Announcements**:

- We need to nominate the Nominating Committee. Allen Clarke made a motion to nominate Monica Romig, Cheryl May and Jane Love for the Nominating Committee. Pam Promisel seconded the motion and it carried. The Nominating Committee will start the search for next year's Executive Board positions and present the nominations at the next PTA meeting. In June, we will vote for the Executive Board.
- Since the April issue of Newsletter was scheduled for distribution during Spring Break, the Newsletter will not be produced in April. The Alert news will be used to announce important information. Any articles that cannot wait until the May Newsletter will be included in the Alert. Allen Clarke also mentioned that the Website is available for as a source for informational announcements.

Mrs. Fernandez made the **Principals' Report**:

- Mrs. Fernandez thanked the PTA for all the hard work at the carnival. It went very well, especially the separate auction and the new prize system.
- Many teachers were at a recent conference on how to integrate technology into teaching.

- Last Monday, executives from Microsoft, including their Vice President of Education visited the school and were very impressed. We will be keeping in touch with these key individuals.
- On April 3, a K¹²NECTS partner breakfast at Woodson will be held, after which there will be visitors to Mantua (along with other partner schools). This is a full day event – with partners, school officials/leadership teams, DOE, and other companies participating.
- In regards to the Facilities Walk-through discussed at last meeting – no other spaces for classrooms were found. We are happy to report that we will not be converting the PODs to classrooms and that we will be receiving Quads in place of two of trailers. A team of teachers will likely be in a Quad, which have the advantage of doors opening internally between classrooms. Facilities also agreed to expand the sidewalk in front of the school.
- Esmerelda our Cafeteria Manager received a well-deserved performance award from county.
- The Crisis Management Team has had many meetings to discuss procedures. This team will continue to work towards ensuring the safety of students and staff in various crisis scenarios.
- There are several families in the Mantua community that have sons/relatives/parents at War. Ms. Fernandez requested that the school be informed if the war affects your family. As a school, we are not expressing personal opinions about the war; we are trying to present a supporting/safe message to the children. Mrs. Fernandez suggests reducing TV exposure. We are seeing more “playing war” on the playground and need to be careful how much information the children are presented with.
- Spring Break is the week of April 13. After Spring Break (though May 16), there will be an extra thirty minutes at the end of each day. We are maintaining standard schedule and will use the extra thirty minutes for extra enrichment with all teachers and staff participating with children.
- Literacy Night is April 10.
- We are working on the teacher wish list. So far, this includes money to be used towards field trips and various technology requirements (still determining needs). A suggestion regarding providing gifts (Borders gift certificates) to several volunteers to the after school TC program.
- Allen Clarke made a motion to provide gift certificates of up to \$50 per teacher who volunteered their time. This will be from TC event and speakers expense line item. Chris Love seconded the motion and it carried.
- Allen Clarke also made a motion to allocate up to \$300 for the King Tut field trip in Alexandria. DeeAnn Jeremiah seconded the motion and it carried.
- Ann Baum is researching the ability to fund a Gazebo in the garden area through the Humanities budget.

Mrs. Wellner discussed additional instructional time for SOL exercises. SOLs for grades three through five will primarily be during the second half of May. Field Day is June 11-13.

Ms. Tingler is writing a grant for the after-school TC program. TC Literacy Night is April 9. We are looking for a parent liaisons: Spanish/English and Korean/English, which will require approximately ten hours per week.

Teacher Representative Report: Ann Baum reported that the garden is ready for “next big phase.” Ann has separated the garden into nine plots with the idea being that families, classes, etc. could adopt a plot every year. Ann also displayed a Gazebo she is hoping to have installed in the garden.

The following **Committee Reports** were filed:

Carnival: The new prize method went well as did the separation of the auction. Pam thanked everyone for all the help for what turned out to be a very fun/successful day. It looks like the Carnival will result in a total positive cash flow of between \$10,000 and \$11,000. Pam will hold a wrap up meeting later in the month – what went well – what changes might be made for next year.

Kid’s Care Club: Jennifer Cooper announced that over \$13,000 was raised by the Hoops and Jump for the Heart event. The Raccoon Run will be May 10 and we are still looking for sponsors and volunteers. KCC would like to have next meeting in Memorial Garden – to do some planting. They may purchase flowers through the Woodson flower sale.

Hospitality: DeeAnn Jeremiah announced that the Teacher Appreciation Lunch is being scheduled and that she is looking for volunteers.

Drama: Beth Whitehead announced that the sound system has been significantly improved through the hard work of Gary Cooper. Beth is researching the purchase of new headsets. Beth made a motion that we spend up to \$250 for new headsets for the backstage. Donna Cipicchio seconded the motion and it carried.

Community Spirit – Laura Mead announced Mantua Nights at Chevys and Glory Days.

New Business – Beth Whitehead requested that we organize a cleanup of the parking lot and path near the SACC door. There is still a lot of sand and gravel there from the winter. Jan Marie will get custodians working on it.

Beth also asked if there is a way to spread out the cost for Parent Chaperones for field trips. This is being researched.

Motions Carried

A motion carried to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2002.

A motion was carried to nominate Monica Romig, Cheryl May and Jane Love for the Nominating Committee.

A motion carried to provide gift certificates of up to \$50 per teacher who volunteered their time

A motion carried to allocate up to \$300 for the King Tut field trip in Alexandria.

A motion carried that we spend up to \$250 for new headsets for the backstage.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm. The next meeting is May 7, 2003.

Robert Luftglass
Secretary