

**Minutes of the Mantua PTA**  
**January 8, 2003**  
**Mantua Elementary School**

The president called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Present at the meeting were:

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

**School Representatives:** *Elaine Wellner, Jan Pry*

**Board Members:** *Allen Clark, Loren Brandman, Randi Kirkland, Jennifer Cooper, Barbara Suidikas, Laura Samotshozo, Bev Baugham, Deirdre Mayes, Kristen Lahiff, Leanne Stynchula*

**General Membership:** *Donna Cipicchio, Danilo Torres, Martha Parsons, Susan Jedrey, Pam Pavord, Marie Romais, Rene Pana-Cryan*

Pam Promisel moved that the minutes of the December 4, 2002 meeting be approved. Beth McKeown seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Beth McKeown presented the **Treasurer's Report**. She provided an Income Statement for the seven months ending January 31, 2003. Highlights include additional revenue/costs from the Silent Auction, the Book Fair, Box Tops, Memberships, and Staff Development.

Beth also reviewed the difference between a self-supporting activity and a non-self supporting activity. This is a classification for tax reporting purposes. Also, Beth reminded the Board that there should be no volunteer gift purchases out of PTA funds.

Laura Mead presented the **Announcements**. The basketball scoreboard is up and functioning. She commented that the recycling of printer cartridges has already yielded \$258 for the PTA. Cartridges can be sent directly using FEDEX labels or they may be dropped off at school.

Fairfax County Council of PTAs is compiling a database of members. This information will not be provided outside of the FCCPTA. Members will have option to opt out if they do not want to be in this database.

Laura announced that there will be a meeting on January 15 at the school with the results of the study of the three groups that want a boundary change between Fairhill and Mantua. All PTA members are requested to attend. If you have a personal opinion, please send email to school board members – links are at the [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu) web-site. The PTA may take a position after the meeting.

Laura also discussed the lice issue. We are researching magnifying lights that could be purchased to help identify lice. Pam Promisel made a motion to allocate up to \$200 to purchase one or two of these lights to help identify lice, with this amount added to Health Clinic budget. Allen Clarke seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Principals' Report:** Elaine Wellner spoke in Jan-Marie Fernandez's absence. She discussed the lice issue. While concerted efforts were made over the Winter Holidays to eliminate the lice problem, it is still an issue. Several individuals are researching what can be done and Elaine will compile the information to help educate parents. It was stressed that parents should check their children for lice and if lice are found, to let the school know so the whole class can be checked. Also, parents should let the school know if siblings have lice, especially if they go to another school.

Ms. Wellner made several additional announcements:

- Jan-Marie Fernandez is presenting at an international conference with a professor from Gallaudet.
- An Instructional Team from Oxfordshire, England will be visiting the school on February 6 to observe Mantua's use of technology.
- Deaf students are teaching all students to sign seasons on Good Morning Mantua.
- Snow day replacement information can be found on the [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu) web-site.

Ms. Wellner mentioned that despite rumors that she had heard, there are no plans to move the GT Center. There is a proposal to open a GT Center at Mosby Woods. This center will initially only be for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade.

**Teacher Representative Report:** Jan Pry has nothing to report.

The following **Committee Reports** were filed:

**Auction:** Carole Thomas reminded everyone that it was discussed last year to separate out the auction from carnival. There were three objectives – raising money, making the auction more of a community event, and to not have the two events distract from each other. By all indications, these objectives were met. Most significantly, the money raised doubled previous years (over \$30,000). We hope to do it again next year.

**Carnival:** Pam Promisel announced that things are moving forward. The first planning meeting was held in December and an international theme (Global Connections) was selected. A chairperson for Setup and Cleanup and a co-Chair for the Raffle and General Store are needed. The committee is looking at a possible change in prize distribution. Upcoming meetings include a booth coordinator meeting in late January and a planning meeting in early February. The carnival will be on March 15.

**Principal's Coffee:** Barb Suidikas announced that the schedule for the Principal Coffees includes the following dates: January 23, March 13 and May 8.

**Kid's Care Club:** Jennifer Cooper expressed thanks for the donations for the holiday basket. The family was very appreciative. The Talent Show is scheduled for February 8, with 56 acts to perform. There is a plan to provide (at a cost) a Pizza dinner before the show. The Raccoon Run will be held on May 10, with a planning meeting scheduled for the end of January. In Gym classes, a program called Jump for the Heart is scheduled on February 20-21. Information on this program will be coming home shortly.

**Woodson Coalition:** Leanne Stynchula announced that the Coalition is looking for events and programs to fund and to let her know of any worthy activity. Proposals are due by end of month. Without proposals, any excess money goes into the general fund.

**Spirit Committee:** Beth McKeown reported for Gretchen Martens that Gretchen is still working on adding new restaurant donation programs. The arrangement with Glory Days is on and will be in the Alert News. Forms for Mantua Spirit-wear (clothing) will be sent home shortly.

**Yearbook** – Ordering forms coming out shortly. Responses are requested so we may order the appropriate number of Yearbooks.

#### Motions Carried

A motion carried to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2002.

A motion carried to allocate up to \$200 to purchase one or two of these lights to help identify lice, with this amount added to Health Clinic budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm. The next meeting is February 5, 2003.

Robert Luftglass  
Secretary