

Agenda with Minutes

Hardy Elementary PTO Board Meeting : Tuesday, October 18, 2016

Attendees: Principle Cook, Ansley Martin, Claire Brockelman, Amy Baugh, Rebecca Crane, Sabreena Kropp, Rebecca Burstein, Meredith Murphy, Lauren Lin, Jolie Helmbrecht and Elizabeth McDonough

Board Meeting

Wellesley League of Women Voters/ Overview of Wellesley Town Government- KC Kato

- The League is Not just for women
- Oct. 19th is the last day to register to vote
- Oct. 20th sponsoring Growing Concern about Substance Abuse 7-9pm
- Oct. 28th Forum on question #2 on Charter Schools- will have someone from Yes and No side
- You can Start voting as of Monday the 24th from 8-8 at Warren Center or Town Hall, Saturday hours as well 8-5
- Review/Highlights of our Town Government and Budget Process
- Lots of opportunities to get involved
- It is a decentralized system
- Looking to hire a new Executive Director
- Board of Selectman oversees the budget process
- 240 Town Meeting Members
- Advisory committee 15 members
- Financial planning starts planning in March for the following year
- We can not raise tax levy 2.5% without going to a town vote
- Override is only passed by Board of Selectman
- Fall budgets are put together by committees, December it is presented (this is where community input is valuable), Then there is a public hearing in February, March budget is finalized and Town Meeting weighs in- Town Meeting only votes yes of no

- We have free cash which are reserves to fill the gaps
- Anyone can join any of the committees
- To run to be on a board or committee, you have to pull papers in December and get 10- 50 signatures depending on what you run for

Budget (Meredith) and Annual Appeal (Elizabeth)

2017 changes

- Increased Teacher Discretionary Fund
- Added Dreambox
- increased METCO program to support Marathon Runners
- Looking into grants for Cultural Night and if not then our surplus can cover some of it

Called for a Vote on the Budget- 2017 Budget Approved

76% participation for Annual Budget and we hit the budget and participation was up although amounts were lower

Questions of when the Annual Appeal form should be sent out in the future- with class list vs. first day of school

Central council update, upcoming HHU meeting/ Ansley

- introducing new Assistant Superintendent, stressing the 4 C's
- 50th year of METCO and the importance and History and all of the events to be aware of this year
- HHU, the focus last week was on enrollment they were honing in on two reports that averaged roughly the same, the conclusion they want 116 sections, 110 being used right now- that would be appropriate with whatever scenario happens. Comes down to is the town willing to spend extra money to keep the 3 schools
- Oct. 27th there is going to be an Open Forum at Sprague 7pm (same night as Hardy Book Fair)

Community Service - upcoming and proposed activities (Lauren)

- Turkey Trot and Cradles To Crayons are upcoming
- Two events with Council on Aging- Concert of winter songs

- Food Pantry, stocking shelves- waiting to hear back from 3 locations
- Syrian Refugee packages
- Hurricane relief for an orphanage in Haiti
- Beautification project
- UNICEF
- Walk Away Homelessness
- To think about for the future is to reconsider revitalizing the Beach Party or an event that is unique to Hardy but invites the community to join in (Hardy Spartan Race)

Updates from other committees

Ways and Means

- Photo Fundraiser is sold out
- Family Book Fair is same night as HHU Open Forum
- 5th Grade Mixed Bags are wrapped up
- Working with TR Miller to have a flyer to have Hardy Gear/Apparel and there will be samples at the Book Fair
- After winter break the push is all Auction

Auction- built a website

- Phyllis Hill is helping and encouraging the on-line bidding
- Live Band will be there

General Meeting

Principal's Update

- Excited about starting coding class today
- Hot topics, Homework and technology (Twitter, Cell Phones)- Parent Talk about how children are using cell phones also an opportunity to gather information about what Parents think

about teachers using technology and Homework. Will be working with Maura to schedule these and update the parents.

- Speaker coming to Wellesley to talk to all of the teachers and possible parent piece about Technology and social emotional learning

- Used to do a coffee and potential of doing this again or some more round tables for discussion on various topics

Meeting Date Change - November 15th is the next PTO Board Meeting at 7pm

Meeting adjourns

Upcoming events

o Fall photo fundraiser – October

o Book Fair – week of October 24

o Babson Skating Party – February 8

o Science Night – March 1

o Movie Night – April 7

o Auction – May 13

o Review schedule of PTO Board and General meetings

▪October 18

Board Meeting – 6:30-7:30pm

General Meeting – 7:30 – 8:30pm

▪November 15 – Board Meeting – 7pm

▪December 13 – Board Meeting – 7pm

▪January 17

Board Meeting – 6:30-7:30pm

General Meeting – 7:30 – 8:30pm

▪February 7 – Board Meeting – 7pm

▪March 7 – Board Meeting – 7pm

▪April 11 – Board Meeting – 7pm

▪May 9

Board Meeting – 6:30-7:30pm

General Meeting – 7:30-8:30pm

▪June 13 – Board Meeting – 7pm