

CGS PTO Meeting

July 8, 2024

**** Draft ****

The meeting began at 7:02 pm via Zoom.

Members present: Tracie Omohundro, Alexea Ringo Juliano, Richard Redman, Britt Arrieta, Amanda Armentani, Amie Nester, Emily Fletcher, Vernessa Minnifield

Introductions:

- We started the meeting off with introductions
- Welcome Dr. Omohundro!

Treasurer Discussion:

- Alexea, Richard, Emily, and Christina will discuss responsibilities and expectations offline; will also check with other sites to benchmark roles, specifically regarding reviewing the books and filing taxes
- Meeting to be scheduled with Christina to set up Square store and change names on the checks

Membership Drive:

- Membership link is now active; \$43 per family per year
- Britt gave great ideas on how to recruit (mass email, table at orientation)
- Important to mention there are NO fundraisers
- Membership drive will include opportunity for businesses to donate additional funds or sponsor scholarships

New Student/Parent Orientation (Wednesday, July 31):

- Britt volunteered to take the lead on organizing our efforts for orientation
- A recommendation was made to have alumni parents at table for Q&A
- We will sell march and advertise that electronic payments are preferred, but we will take exact cash
- Suggestion was made to have cookies to lure people over to get program information
- QR codes will be available for:
 - Membership link to join the PTO, donate, sponsor, etc
 - Sign Up sheet for the CGS Picnic (pending further discussion)
 - CGS official FB Page (to like/follow)
 - CGS PTO FB Page (to like/follow)

Family Picnic (Friday, August 9):

- Pratt Park, Pavilion G, 120 River Road, Fredericksburg, VA, 4p-8p
- Alexa will post to our FaceBook page to see if anyone is interested in being the picnic chair
- We will continue with discussions regarding food

First General Meeting:

- Meetings will be held the 2nd Thursday of every month; will be open to everyone (but only members can vote)
- To do:
 - Approve Budget
 - Fill remaining positions
 - Fall Social Chairperson
 - Membership
 - Merchandise Chair
 - Snowball Chair
 - Senior Scholarship
 - Teacher Appreciation for each of the sites
- We will provide information, directions and link on CGS website to let CGS teachers know about PTO teacher grants

Quick Overview of Past CGS PTO Events:

- Fall Social
 - Previously held at Belvedere Plantation, Sunday Oct 22, 2p-6pm, \$30 pp
 - Need to reserve location early; will discuss at general meeting in August
- Snow Ball
 - Previous theme was Masquerade Ball, Feb 24, 7p-11pm
 - Started looking for venues in August; discussed at September PTO meeting
- Spring Fling (2022 instead of Snowball due to COVID)
 - We will discuss possibly doing this as a stand alone event in addition to the Snow Ball (e.g., Fred Nats game); consider earlier in Spring to avoid prom
- Senior CGS PTO Scholarships (\$1000 1st place, \$500 2nd place, \$250 3rd place)

Discussion of New CGS Events / Improvements:

- Alexea would like to revisit the new logo T-Shirt design contest previously proposed; Tracie is interested in moving forward with that effort
- We would like to look into additional scholarship opportunities; previous scholarships awarded included:
 - CGS Northrop Grumman STEM Scholarship -- \$1,000 (1 student); \$500 (6 students)

- CGS Michael Everitt Isenberg Memorial Scholarship -- \$2,000 (2 students)
- Improve Social Media presence:
 - Link Instagram
 - Create FB "Group"
 - Share summer internship & program opportunities & important deadlines
- Tracie recommended we move towards making our general meetings more educational for parents by incorporating various things such as mindfulness matters, expertise sharing from those with connections within networks that others could benefit from, etc.
 - Finding money for College
 - FAFSA (Federal Student Aid for seniors and senior parents)

Other Ideas / Concerns?

- Emily recommended we explore the Google calendar feature
 - We will create an email address with an associated calendar; the calendar can be added to the CGS website
 - The "add to my calendar" feature allows CGS events to export to individual calendars
 - Emily and Vernessa will discuss further

The meeting adjourned at 8:18pm. The next meeting will be August 8 at 7pm via Zoom.

Minutes prepared by Vernessa Minnifield