

NSPA Meeting June 15, 2005

Joan Bardee opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Attending the meeting were:

Joan Bardee, Muna Al haj, Ann Gates, Rich Delmar, Susan Bennett, Maril Levy, Rozanne Silverwood, Betsy DeMulder, Sarah Flanagan, Daphne Grosh, Nauecho Melton, Susan English, Lorie Nierenberg, Pam Liebig, John Daly, Peg Boyne, Kay Flanagan, and Todd Schneider. Brief Introductions were followed by opening the floor for discussion of any suggestion(s) of Agenda changes for the evening.

Minutes of 5-18-05: The minutes from the May 18, 2005 meeting were approved as amended. A copy of the amended minutes will be posted on the school's web site.

Treasurer's Report: Randy Rich (past Treasurer) and Rich Delmar reported that the NSPA checking account currently has over \$18,000.00 . This includes approximately \$5,200.00 to \$5,500.00 donated by parents towards the Scholarship Fund. The Treasury is in good shape. The report for the State Corporation Commission is due, within which the 2005-06 Officers of the Board need to be listed. Randy, Rich and Rick prepared for the IRS the form demonstrating that NSPA should qualify as a not for profit entity, and it was mailed to Cincinnati the beginning of June. A copy of the delivery order from D.C. Rental for the Teachers Appreciation Luncheon reflects the generous contribution of Allison DeWitt.

Noting for the Treasurer's Report, Susan repeated the continuing importance of saving receipts for NSPA expenditures and clipping to them your name, name and date of event, etc. to be passed on to Rich by putting them in his box at school or mailing them to his home address (Rich's suggestion) and concurrently alerting him by e-mail: delmarr@oig.treas.gov

Announcements: Muna then took the floor and suggested that the best date(s) for her to host the Al Fresco Party for parents at her home once again this upcoming year will be either September 25, 2005, the preferred date, or, as an alternative, October 2. Maril will check her calendar regarding these dates, and Muna will check with Matt to avoid any possible scheduling conflict with the Green Festival. Muna will keep the former time slot of 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. as it has worked well in the past. Joan will give a talk to the parents; it will be not only an enjoyable social get together but as before will be an opportunity for parents to learn about volunteering for NSPA activities. Peg and Amanda are organizing NSPA's part, and invitations will go out to all parents, not just new parents wishing to learn more about their child(ren)'s school. Mura introduced her son, Juma, who spoke next.

Juma spoke for the rising juniors who wish to hold a student fundraiser to move the Prom to either the Hyatt in Reston or the Courtyard at Tyson's spring of 2006. He estimates this would increase the Prom cost by about \$1000.00 to \$1500.00, so the students were offered the opportunity to hold a small bazaar coinciding with the Al Fresco Party, at his parent's' home. The bazaar would be on the other side of the lawn at a distance from the parent party, and would be student run. He will be going to the UAE this summer and would like to bring back products for the bazaar interesting the school students and parents.

6-15-05 Meeting, Cont.

Rozanne has had experience with 4-H students who were successful making and selling hemp jewelry and encouraged Jamal to present this idea to other students helping with the fundraising. Maril mentioned that it would be best to not add this activity to the Al Fresco to avoid sales pressure on the parents this early in the school year. She suggested that the student fundraiser might sell clothes, etc. with the NSNVA logo on it. Susan mentioned that there are New School t-shirts and a few mugs (left over from NSPA fundraisers in past years) that could be sold at the same time.

Old Business:

Vote on NSPA Funds for Scholarships School Year 2005-06

Joan reminded us that the scholarship funds are for current students having a change of circumstance rather than for new students. John Potter needs to know a minimum amount that can be counted on from the NSPA for the upcoming school year. This last year's donations were approximately \$10,900.00; Rudolph's Run partially funded this. The funds for scholarship were paid out in two amounts vs. one, Rich advised. Once he finishes the budget of proposed expenses and income for '05-'06, which he will do soon, he will e-mail it to all board members.

As a reasonable estimate and amount to vote on Susan proposed we offer \$7,000.00 from the NSPA towards the Scholarship Fund. John Daly said Rudolph's Run doesn't yet "have a home" except for the Fairfax County offer of use of a park, in which case renting a large tent(s) may increase expenses for the race fundraiser, and thereby lower the total available for the Scholarship Fund. He mentioned Danielson Run across from St. William's as a possible location for the race.

The motion was made and seconded, and passed, and the Board voted to tell John Potter that a minimum of \$7,000.00 would be available for scholarships for deserving students for the upcoming school year. The Board will revisit this in the future if additional funding is needed and possible for the second semester of the year.

New Business:

1. Introduction of the New Parent Volunteer Coordinator and Discussion of the Essential Tasks of Parent Volunteers

Daphne Grosh is the NSPA's new Parent Volunteer Coordinator. She will be assisting the Vice President Kay Flanagan, and also assisting the NSPA President's role. Coordinating the parents who work on Orientation Day, Al Fresco and Back-to-School Night will make the NSPA President's work less time consuming. .

2. The Tasks of the NSPA President/Recruiting For Position

To carry on the scope of work of Susan English, departing after two very full years of service as NSPA President, Joan Bardee has offered to serve through this summer until August 31st to get this year off the ground. She will:

6-15-05 Meeting, Cont.

1. Meet with the Teacher Rep, Maril Levy, to plan this upcoming year's calendar
2. Write the Welcome Letter to the parents
and
3. Prepare the Packet for both new and existing parents with information on the events mentioned in the above paragraph .

The President is also responsible for:

4. Attendance of events, making remarks/opening statements
5. Chairing NSPA Board meetings
6. Writing and copying the Agend for the the monthly Board meetings
7. Responding to any relevant teacher e-mail requests
8. Keeping abreast of New School events and in touch with the Parent Coordinator (Daphne Grosh), the Teacher Rep and event coordinators and
9. Keeping Val and/or Kathy current with what's going on with any upcoming NSPA events, particularly when they involve using school space.
10. Help parents understand how NSPA works and can help them.

3. After some discussion, the following NSPA members then volunteered to be Acting President(s):

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June, July, August 2005 -- Joan Bardee

September, October, November 2005 -- Rozanne Silverwood

December 2005, January and February 2006 -- Rich Delmar

March, April, May 2006 -- Peg Boyne

Kay Flanagan, our new vice president, will chair the October meeting for Rozanne, who will be out of town on that date. Joan will e-mail the school and parents about the above arrangement for President this year.

General Discussion:

Lorie Nierenberg asked about how the Board budgets for events; Rich requests that purchasers check with him first on the amount budgeted for a particular event before spending any money. Todd Schneider brought up the probability that at some point in the next 5 plus years down the road the New School (as a corporation) might be sold so that NSPA can now begin a thoughtful discussion of this subject . Susan clarified that although the Ski Trip 05-06 is on the event list, it is not necessarily an NSPA event; because weather and timing issues in the past have impaired planning, she advised that those interested in the trip will do better to work with each other vs. the NSPA as a whole. Ann Gates asked for more help with the Graduation upcoming on Saturday due to last minute changes in that event volunteer list. Rozanne, Ann and Todd attended the NSNV's Courtyard Concert, put together by Virginia, and Rozanne was enthusiastic about encouraging attendance next spring.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

