

NEW SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION (NSPA)

NSPA MEETING MINUTES, 11/15/07

1. Call to Order: NSPA President Lorie Nierenberg called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and distributed a prepared agenda, copy below.

Other Board Attendees: Melissa Dana, Maril Levy, Betsy Sue Scott, and Nancy Vibert

Board Members Absent: Robin Boniface, Richard Delmar, Janet Dopsovic, Sarah Flanagan, Kathy Ginsburg, Dave Inglefield, Patti Oehmke, and George Richard

Other Attendees: Lisa Doyle, Joan Bardee, Caitlin Lhommedieu, and Donnalynn Adams.

2. Approval of October Meeting Minutes: The President introduced the October meeting minutes prepared by Board Secretary Betsy Sue Scott. After a motion that was seconded, the Board approved the minutes. The Secretary stated she would forward the approved minutes to George Richard for posting on the website.

3. Treasurer's Report: As Treasurer Dave Inglefield was not present, no Treasurer's Report was heard.

4. Old Business:

a) Hallowe'en Party: Sophomore Class Representative Nancy Vibert reported that the Hallowe'en Party on October 31 proved to be a great success. Faculty Representative Maril Levy addressed the timing of the event after lunch for the younger students. In view of the success of the event, discussion followed about continuing the party next year. Suggestions were made for the 2008 event, including Ms. Levy's that next year the event begin with an NSPA hosted lunch.

b) Rudolph Red Nose Run: Race Chair Lisa Doyle provided an update on the preparations for the 10K race scheduled for December 15. She also requested that the subject of the Run be placed on the agenda for the January 2008 NSPA meeting in order to start the planning process early. She reported that Patti Oehmke's husband will serve as Water Station Chair. She will distribute flyers at various race events in the Metro area in the coming weeks. She also showed the design for this year's race tee-shirt and related that race tee-shirts are much prized in the runner community. The Board discussed student involvement in the race-day activities. The Race Chair will make an announcement at a school assembly in order to encourage large-scale student participation.

c) Contact with Counsel on Scholarships: The President reported that she, the Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary held a teleconference on November 9th with outside legal counsel at Gammon & Grange on the subject of NSPA scholarships. She explained that counsel considered the long-standing NSPA procedures to raise issues that could adversely affect the organization's tax-exempt status. She and the Secretary viewed it as unlikely that the legal issues could be resolved by mid-December when the next school tuition payment will become due. Parent attendee Donnalynn Adams volunteered her observations from service on the scholarship committee at another school. She recommended guidelines for the scholarship and a committee structure for the decision-making. The Board requested that she assist in this project and asked that she consider serving on the NSPA Scholarship Committee.

d) Newsletter: The President complimented Joan Bardee on the first NSPA Newsletter that recently came out. The Board also thanked Ms. Bardee for her efforts. Ms. Bardee reported her publication plans for future editions and asked for articles on school news to be submitted to her by mid-December.

e) Odyssey of the Mind: Melissa Dana reported on the status of the Odyssey of the Mind program at the New School. Three students came forward to participate in the program. As this did not constitute a sufficient number for a team, the students participate in "OM" through a local public school.

5. New Business:

a) Pros and Cons of becoming a for-profit organization: Ms. Dana initiated a discussion of the pros and cons of the NSPA's becoming a for-profit organization. This arose in the context of the legal advice received on scholarships. She expressed an interest in the NSPA's ability to utilize the association's funds to support the school without the restrictions faced as a tax-exempt organization. She asked the Secretary to seek input from other member schools in the Parents Council of Washington on whether there are other tax-exempt PTAs in for-profit schools.

b) The Faculty Question & Answer program will take place this evening at 7:30 with the Photo Exhibition running concurrently. The Board President will serve as the Q&A moderator. In view of this program, the Board meeting was scheduled to end early. Accordingly, other new business was held until the next meeting.

6. Next Meeting – The next meeting was set for Thursday, December 13th, at 7:30 pm.

7. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by Betsy Sue Scott, Board Secretary

AGENDA
NSPA BOARD MEETING
November 15, 2007
*** 7:00 p.m. ***

- I. Call to order

- II. Approval of October meeting minutes

- III. Treasurer's report

- IV. Old business
 - A. Rudolph Red Nose Run update
 - B. Contact with counsel; scholarships

- V. New business
 - A. Grocery & other receipts
 - B. Next meeting

- VI. Adjournment