

NSPA MEETING MINUTES, 11/16/06

1. Call to Order: Susan Bennett, NSPA Vice President, called the meeting to order at 8:44 p.m. (following College Night for high school parents)

Attendees: Susan Bennett, Linda Piper Board, Eileen Debicki, Janet Dopsovic, Lisa Doyle, Anne Heald, Maril Levy, Amy Mintz, Lorie Nierenberg, Virginia Palmer-Fuechsel, Janet Richard, and Nancy Vibert.

2. Approval of Minutes: The September and October meeting minutes were approved.

3. Treasurer's Report. There was no Treasurer's Report as Rich Delmar was absent.

4. Old/Ongoing Business.

a) Rudolph Run (December 9). Race Co-Chair Lisa Doyle reported that more volunteers are needed. Toni Townes-Whitley will do another parent communication. Janet Dopsovic reported that, unfortunately, no corporate sponsors had been identified as yet. Eileen Debicki indicated that runners were beginning to register.

b) Auction (May 5, 2007). Auction Chair Amy Mintz raised a number of questions that she wanted to discuss, including: do we want to open the auction up to the public this year? what kind of food should we serve? should we look into the possibility of on-line participation? where should the auction be held?

Consensus: open auction to friends of NSNVA community but not to general public; finger food (buffet), including beer & wine; possible on-line participation, if doable; live auction in black box theater, silent auction in gym, framed artwork could be hung along hallways.

Anne Held suggested that we think about possibly having a theme, and possibly also student performers. Nancy Vibert suggested that we sell student art. Anne and Lisa indicated that they both know people who have run successful auctions and who may be able to advise us; both agreed to pursue.

Amy indicated that she could use volunteers for the following:

Advertising

Food: Linda Board offered to help

Auctioneer: Harris Andrews (?)

Music: Virginia offered to play piano a bit and to see whether she could interest some of her music students in performing.

c) NSPA Attendance at Faculty Meeting. Susan and Anne reported on their attendance at the October 25 faculty meeting. The faculty was appreciative of the NSPA's interest in working together. Topics discussed: outfitting the library/media center; subscriptions to online journals; having the library open during lunch, staffed by parent volunteers; construction of a playground; enhancing/improving classrooms; procuring additional materials for the new theatre; "adopt-a-department" or "adopt-an-area," with more parent attendance at exhibitions (perhaps using parent expertise to assist in exhibition evaluations), and the sharing of good websites in various fields (with parent-recommended sites for research in specific disciplines); getting faculty wish lists. Some of these ideas raised again the uncertainty of just what the (non-profit) NSPA can contribute to the (for-profit) school without risking its non-profit status.

d) Merchandising. Maril reported that the elementary school kids had expressed an interest in sweats, boxers, teddy bears, and bobble head figures with the NSNVA logo on them (imagine the funds a Potter bobble head would bring in!). Virginia expressed an interest in pencils with NSNVA on them. It was mentioned that there are several boxes of previous years' Rudolph Run Ted Ramsey-designed shirts still available. It was agreed that they will be offered for sale as part of this year's race registration.

6. New Business. Virginia mentioned two upcoming activities for which assistance was needed.

a) High School play, "Arabian Nights" (11/30 – 12/9). Assistance needed for: sewing small curtains, including labeling (Janet and Amy volunteered to work with Virginia on this); contributing to purchase of sound-absorbent curtains (approx. \$500-\$1,000); and Cappies Night (12/8) -- working with Booster Dana Schreiner in feeding some 50+ student Cappies reviewers after the performance.

b) International Lunch (December 13, 12:15–1:00 p.m.). This will be an all-school event designed to recognize the international personality and spirit of the school. Virginia mentioned she could use help in making sure all international families are aware of the event and, along with others, are encouraged to contribute food for it. (There was talk of NSPA class reps possibly calling the international families in advance.) Eileen and Susan offered to help with the event on 12/13.

c) Defibrillators. Janet suggested that perhaps these be added to the wish list for the school, if possible.

d) December Agenda. To include: adopting a budget; establishing a policy on non-profit donations; identifying NSPA priorities; wrapping-up Rudolph Run. It was recommended that the November NSPA meeting minutes be circulated in both draft and final prior to the December meeting so that Board members could read them carefully in advance of the meeting and come prepared to vote on them.

7. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

