

# NSPA MEETING

## 11/17/09

### MINUTES

**1. Call to Order:** NSPA Secretary Betsy Sue Scott called the NSPA meeting to order at 7:12 pm.

**Other Board Attendees:** Joanna Cole, Clare Dean, Cindi DiPalma, Maril Levy, Mike McGurrin, and Steve Roushakes

**Board Members Absent:** Melissa Dana, Lisa Doyle, Kathy Ginsberg, Lyn Goodman, Tom Grumbly, Jennifer Hill, Brenda Mutchler, Patti Oehmke, Nancy Vibert and Marilyn Williams

**Other Attendees:** None

**2. Treasurers Report:** Volunteer Coordinator Clare Dean related that, according to an email from Treasurer Patti Oehmke, the NSPA's financials had not changed since the last meeting.

**3. Re-approval of the September Meeting Minutes:** The Secretary asked Webmaster Mike McGurrin to summarize the clarification he sought in the September meeting minutes, which were approved at the October NSPA meeting. He stated that the reimbursement request that he had submitted in the amount of \$150 represented payment for renewal of the NSPA's **web hosting** (emphasis added) and domain name registration for a two-year period. With this clarification in the November meeting minutes, he will now post the September meeting minutes on the NSPA website. October meeting minutes were not available.

### **3. Old Business:**

**a. Halloween Party:** Faculty Representative Maril Levy and Alumni Rep Joanna Cole reported that the Halloween Party went well. The Volunteer Coordinator received a "thank you" note from the faculty and she will scan it for distribution to the party's volunteers. Twelve students stayed overnight to set up the Haunted House. The Alum Rep reported that Juniors who participated in the Haunted House decided what they would do differently next year. The Board outlined lessons-learned from this year's party. They centered on the need for less food, especially that containing sugar. So much food remained after the party that Val Boone took some of the food to donate to her church. Secondly, fewer decorations would be required. It was noted that leftover decorations will be stored for next year's party. The Board concluded that two hours constituted the right amount of time for the party.

**b. Tables of Eight:** The Tables of Eight dinners have been launched. The first dinner had two host families, one of which was Mike McGurrin's. He had three families attending, each of whom brought food. The next dinner session will take place on January 9, 2010.

**c. Volunteers:** The Volunteer Coordinator reported that Wednesday Teacher Snacks are covered through April 28, 2010. She also has an "in a pinch" list of parents who will help at the last minute. However, no volunteers have come forward for the Campbell Soup and other

products labels fundraising project. She will call Board member Kathy Ginsburg to find a Lower School parent to take on the labels project. The Coordinator related that the School has signed up online for the Giant Schools program and that a flyer will go out shortly on the OneCause fundraiser.

**d. Auction:** It was reported that Auction planning meetings are underway. The Auction will take place on Saturday, March 13, 2010. Mike McGurrin will post this information on the NSPA website. An Auction donation form will go out after the holidays.

**e. Scholarships:** The Secretary/Scholarship Committee Chair reported that two applications have come in. The Committee, including Mike McGurrin, has worked on revising the application form. Committee member/9<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Rep Jennifer Hill has communicated with the applicants in order to obtain missing information.

## **5. New Business:**

**a. Ski Trip:** Deposits will become due on December 1<sup>st</sup> for the ski trip to Snowshoe. Forty-two people have signed up to date. The trip package includes transportation via bus from the School, meals and lodging. It is viewed as a community-building event with the charge at cost. No portion of the charge will inure to the NSPA.

**b. Ted Ramsay's Art Exhibit:** Ted will hold an art exhibit in Reston on November 30<sup>th</sup>. He has offered 20% of the sales to the NSPA in exchange for our distribution of a flyer advertising the event. The Board voted to accept Ted's offer. The Faculty Representative will let Ted know of the Board's acceptance and will thank him on the NSPA's behalf. She will also let Joan Goodman know that a flyer, to be prepared by the Volunteer Coordinator, will be sent to her soon for distribution to School parents.

**c. Holiday Benefit Concert:** The Faculty and Alum Reps announced that a Holiday Concert to benefit Food for Others food pantry will take place on December 17<sup>th</sup>. There will not be any tickets and admission is a donation of food for the pantry.

**d. Website:** The Webmaster noted that the NSPA's online forum is scantily used. The Board's consensus was that people are not aware of it. Efforts will be made to enlarge awareness of the forum.

**e. Prom:** The Alum Rep announced that, to date, students have raised \$500 for the Spring Prom. She would like the students to change focus from only New Schoolers in the fundraiser to the outside community.

**f. Sports:** It was noted that the Basketball and Soccer teams are active this year. There is a possibility of volleyball and baseball teams as well. It was suggested that the students work with Ted to design a logo for team sports. Suggestions to support the teams included the NSPA's buying new uniforms for the Basketball team and providing juice and snacks for players at the games.

**g. SAT Prep Course:** Two Board members with 11<sup>th</sup> Grade students questioned why the SAT Prep Course had been cancelled. The Faculty Rep suggested that they speak with Joan Goodman on this subject.

**h. Yearbook Pictures:** The Alum Rep reported that John Potter takes Seniors' portraits and that the other students' photos consist of the mug shots for their identification cards.

**i. Peter Veres Grant:** It was reported that Peter Veres sent a "thank you" note for the NSPA's \$300 grant to him.

**6. Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the NSPA Board will take place at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, December 16, in the School's Media Room.

At the July meeting, the Board set the NSPA meeting schedule for the school year, including: 1/20, 2/17, 3/17, 4/21 (Annual Meeting), 5/19 and 6/2/10.

**Adjournment:** The Board meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

**Minutes prepared by Betsy Sue Scott, Board Secretary**