

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Sequoia Parents' Club
Thursday October 11, 2018
Multipurpose Room at Sequoia Elementary School

The following officers were present:

President: Amy Niesen
Vice-Presidents: Dian Ross & Jeremy De La Torre
Treasurer: Katrina Gillaspie
Secretaries: McCall Miller & Michael Wanser

The following members/guests were present:

Kelly Suacci	Jeff Gospe	Andrea Guzman
Shelby Moeller	Lisa Brown	Melissa Coleman
Bryan Carr	Vanessa Ruiz	Mickey Nguyen
Rava Frengel	Sherry De La Torre	Lucinda Gardner
Justin Byrum		

Call to Order

President's Welcome

RVUSD Candidate Speeches:

The following candidates for the Rincon Valley Unified School District Board gave speeches:

Dave Traver
Shelby Moeller
Jeff Gospe
Lisa Brown

Introductions

All present introduced themselves.

Review and approval of September Minutes:

Vice President De La Torre moved to approve the September minutes. President Niesen seconded the motion. The September Minutes were approved without objection.

SPAC Report Recap:

Drills will take place on 10/18. Volunteers are being requested.

Halloween Carnival:

Jeremy De La Torre to spearhead, building a haunted stage. There will be arts and crafts, a movie (Hotel Transylvania III), and games. The carnival is open to all Sequoia students. Setup for the event will take place between 10/26 and 10/28. The carnival is scheduled for Sunday, 10/28, between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m. Contact Jeremy De La Torre for inquiries/volunteer opportunities.

Walk-a-Thon:

President Niesen discussed that some big-ticket items from the auction had not yet received any bids. She inquired whether it would make sense to remove some items from the Walk-a-Thon auction and save them for the Spring Soiree Auction since some auction donors limit their donations to 1 per calendar year.

Vice President Ross: Stated that PG&E, American Medical Response, and Santa Rosa Police Department will be special guests as first responders at the walk-a-thon. The first responders are arriving at 2:00 p.m. Dian asked that they stay for 1 hour.

Regarding the auction, silent auction proceeds go to the Sequoia Parents Club. Rincon Valley Education Foundation lets us use their online auction platform, but the proceeds go to SPC. As of the morning of October 11, 2018, we had raised \$9,684 from the auction. The SPC is grateful for President Niesen's hard work securing the auction items. Several items have not yet been bid on. Please remind parents to bid. The computer lab will be open on October 12, 2018, and can be used to bid on auction items.

Vice President De La Torre mentioned a booth for cutting T-shirts for a \$5 donation.

Green Club:

Member Melissa Coleman asked about a salad bar. There is a salad bar most days with 4 fruits/vegetables offered most days. Concern was expressed that there are not a lot of healthy options. Discussed potentially receiving grants for the garden. Asked about a group of parents mobilizing to get healthier foods on campus. Madrone has a "green club" and contact with them may have suggestions.

The issue of green/no-waste initiatives was discussed. Expressed the idea of putting Sequoia on the forefront of climate change. The Parents Club supports those ideas if a parent volunteer is willing to spearhead it. Someone needs to take the initiative. Sam Corel runs the recycling program during the Walk-a-thon and may be a good resource. Getting leadership in place is the key issue.

A question was asked regarding recycling at lunch time. Not school choice. It is labor intensive. People don't want to go through trash to implement recycling. A suggestion that Recology may do a presentation at Sequoia regarding recycling programs.

Fundraisers:

Possible fundraisers were discussed. Rainy Day Chocolate is a local chocolate business willing to give Sequoia 20% of revenue (unclear whether net or gross). Sees is going to do a presentation but do we want to consider the local company?

Secretary Wanser indicated that the Lagunitas Grant Application for Fine Arts Day has been submitted and we expect to hear by February whether we receive funding.

Spring Soiree: Member Andrea Guzman stated that the Spring Soiree is scheduled for March 2, 2019, at the Scottish Rite Center. She asked whether each class or grade could prepare a basket for the Soiree. It was mentioned that it is difficult for room parents to coordinate baskets for Walk-a-thon and it may be too much to do a second basket for the Soiree. Andrea is presently looking for sponsors to reduce the out-of-pocket cost for tickets to the Soiree. Members discussed potentially adding things like summer camp experiences to the Soiree auction.

Boon Supply: Member Mickey Nguyen mentioned Boon Supply as a holiday shopping fundraiser. Products are household-type products. SPC would receive 50% of gross sales. It doesn't take long to set up, and the products ship directly to purchasers. Concerns were raised regarding potential "donor fatigue" as the fundraiser is so short after the Walk-a-thon. But either people shop there or do not. It's not a heavy "ask" from the SPC.

Garden Cleanup:

Garden cleanup work party is scheduled for October 21, 2018. The Garden Club and 6th Grade parents are spearheading the cleanup.

Mike Cook, RVUSD Board Member:

Mr. Cook explained that the present RVUSD superintendent is retiring. The district hired a search firm consultant to help find the next superintendent. The consultant is Scott Mahoney, (707) 953-3434, mahoneysearches@gmail.com. Mr. Mahoney will be holding two community input nights, and that he wants the input of parents within the district. Mr. Cook emphasized that the selection of the next superintendent is the most important job for the RVUSD board.

Adjournment