

Orange Grove Elementary Charter School PTO Board Meeting Minutes August 24, 2010

29 Members present: Larry DiCenzo, John Clendaniel, Wanda Colston, Susan Murrell, Michelle Dunmeyer, Cynthia Wescott, Tressy McNamara, Patty Stokes, Sharon Dillon, Jane Fralix, Susan McGuckin, Melinda Del Mastro, April Smith, Brian Alexander, Cindy Pepler, Jandi Withrow, Catherine Hoffman, Peggie Nielson, Claire Smith, Linda Kern, Shelley Hardin, Elisa Mason, Kim Copeland, Susan Chase, Vicki Lawless, Ida Painter, Felisha Floyd, Beth Abeyta, Catina Murray

Members absent: Janet Tilman, Katey Hines McCormack, , Pam Tilman, Caryn Vedane, Alison Johnson, Lisa Lamb, Candyce Lyon, Lynn Hunsinger, Herbie Fralix, Ben McGuckin, Mary Morris, Lauren Daniels

Call to Order: Susan Murrell called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. Claire Smith read OGECS PTO's mission statement.

Announcements-Susan Murrell:

- Thank you to everyone for serving on Board this year. Parents are what make a school strive.
- Please sign up for snacks for meetings.
- Final Board slate is being passed around.
- Thanks to volunteers for helping out at Fact & Fee. Volunteers are asked to give Susan or Michelle feedback.

Approval of Minutes – May meeting: Sharon Dillon made a motion to approve, Tressy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Procedural Information: (Susan Murrell)

- Surfing the Wave of Success is the theme for the year.
- Cynthia Wescott has forms for check requests and deposit forms. Please have chairman of your committee sign off on any check requests for reimbursements that you have.
- There is a new form for Business Partners. Ida will give information about them.
- Please read over bylaws and information in your notebooks on how to proceed. Pro Kids will be scheduled after PASS testing.

News from OGECS Charter Board: Susan Murrell and Michelle Dunmeyer have been to 2 meetings so far. Renewal request is major discussion at meetings. This will also be a major discussion point at all general meetings. OGECS has endured \$420,000 in cuts over the last two years. Class size has increased to an average of 20 students per class. Issue of balancing revenue needs while keeping class sizes small.

Business Liaison Report: Ida has made contact with all partners and has gotten commitments on ways they can help OGECS. Please contact Ida instead of calling on Business Partners. Use the new form provided and make requests 2 weeks in advance.

PTO Handbooks: Wanda Colston and Pam Tilman are working on handbook. It will be up on OGECS's new website soon. www.ogecs.com

Harvest Moon Fest: (Cindy Pepler) Friday November 12 is this year's Harvest Moon Fest (from 7pm-11pm at the Elks Club). Tickets are \$20 each; cash bar; same band as last year. Robert O'Donald is catering. Volunteers will be needed to help serve and bartend

Spring Fling: (Brian Alexander) Spring Fling will take place on March 12 at Elks Club. If you are interested in helping, please let Brian know.

OG ECS PTO Board Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2010
Page 2

Supply Cart: (Michelle Dunmeyer) Last year the PTO discussed the purchase of a new supply cart. Randy Moultrie can build a kiosk for \$535 with wheels and a lock. Patty Stokes made a motion for the PTO to purchase the kiosk from Randy Moultrie, Brian Alexander seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Silent Auction: Jane Fralix announced that this year's Silent Auction will be May 7, 2011, 7pm Alhambra Hall. The theme this year is "Jamaica me crazy" and the big prize is \$5000 towards a trip to Jamaica. The trip is being donated by Donna Hill from Abbott and Hill Travel Agency and it includes air fare and lodging in Negril. Raffle tickets will be sold for \$25 and they will be capped at 400 tickets. Currently, the main focus of the Silent Auction Committee is obtaining volunteers. A form will be sent home next week asking for donations of time, etc. Once these forms come back, subcommittees will be formed. The Committee needs space for storage (temperature controlled). If you have space available (or know someone who does), please contact Jane.

Treasurer's Report: (Tressy McNamara) The current bank balance is \$106,454.68. New profit for 2010 silent auction is \$40,000 (changed from the profit announced at the May meeting due to additional payment requests). A draft of the 2010-2011 budget was handed out. Committees please review your budget and get back to Tressy if you need an adjustment.

Principal's Report: Larry DiCenzo

- Opening of school was very smooth. Thanks to all parents, teachers and staff and other volunteers.
- Car loop is the big issue. Mr. D recommends disbursing traffic by turning left and going down Manchester or going down Royal Palm Blvd. Safety is the major concern. Second is getting parents to work. Kids are being dropped off out front which is VERY dangerous. If someone does that in front of you, please blow your horn at them to let them know this is not acceptable. We are trying to educate parents on how to safely get your kids to school. Please talk to Mr. D if you have any other recommendations.
- David Church of www.sc-can.org is coming to our First Open House. Funding for public school choice is our major concern.
- The school is in the process of completing the application for charter renewal. Once renewed, it will be for 10 years. Once the application is turned in, an onsite accreditation team will come visit the school. They will do a review of the school's administration, etc. The administration feels extremely confident in this process. On the night of the renewal at CCSD, we need to have major parent participation on-site. This will take place downtown at Charleston County School Board in February or March.
- Wish list – the board voted to grant a wish list at last year's final meeting. Most items have come in under budget. The school did not need the \$4000 for the summer program and the money will be given back to the PTO.
- Silent auction commitment – Mr. D would like to propose that money from silent auction be used for purchase of a bus. We have not purchase a bus from last year's funds yet. Susan Chase and Lynn Hunsinger have been working to get a sponsor for the bus in the amount of approximately \$20,000. We would buy the bus and he would make monthly payments to the school. The bus will have his company's logo/name on the side. Another option is for OG ECS to sue CCSD over transportation funding. The School Board is looking in to this option. Sharon Dillon made a motion to allocate 100% of the 2011 Silent Auction proceeds up to \$40,000 for the purchase and operation of a bus. Elise Mason seconded. Motion carried after discussion.

Open Forum:

- The PTO Board Members will be needed to sell food and drinks at the Open House and General Assembly on September 14th.
- A Power Point presentation will run on the giant screen for upcoming PTO events
- Please encourage your friends to carpool.
- Mr. D asked that there be a motion to give Jessica Bennett a gift of \$250 for helping with QuickBooks conversion. Vicki Lawless made the motion and it was seconded by Melinda Del Mastro, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.