

## **SCA Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** February 5, 2010

**Meeting Opened at:** Call to Order 12:35 PM; End of Meeting 2:36 PM

**Officers Present:** Karen Blando, Diane Gershkowitz, Jeanine Toes, Caroline Kenlon, Christy Weppler, Mary Jane Reilly, Jill McCarney, Kathleen Kosciusko

## **SCA Executive President's Welcome and General Announcements - Karen Blando**

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Approval of Minutes – Kathleen Kosciusko**

- November 13, 2009 minutes were approved.
- January and February 2010 interim board votes were approved. Interim board votes included:
  1. On January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010, the Executive Board voted to approve money for Student Assistance in the amount of \$250 for 1 student to go to Virginia for a Music Competition. The high school music department is also contributing \$250.00.
  2. On January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010, the Executive Board voted to approve money for Driver's Education Assistance in the amount of \$235.
  3. On February 1, 2010, a quorum of the Executive Board voted to approve money for Driver's Education Assistance in the amount of \$235.
  4. On February 1, 2010, a quorum of the Executive Board voted to release budgeted funds in the amount of \$400 for a Manhasset SCA Website expense.
- In addition to the above board votes, at the meeting, the board approved expenses for four students to go to Virginia for the music trip. The total cost to the SCA is \$1,000 (\$250 per student).

### **Treasurer's Report – Jill McCarney**

- Membership is doing well and continues to bring in money through their mid-year mailing drive.
- The Saturday Series account includes the closing of the outside account.
- The Manhasset SCA website has a budget of \$2,000 this year. Michel Tomlinson has been the website coordinator for the past four years. She has recently stepped down and passed her responsibilities on to Regina Rule. This is a temporary role for Regina Rule.

### **Executive Vice President's Report – Diane Gershkowitz**

The Manhasset SCA has not yet seen any proceeds from the Lord and Taylor event. Diane Gershkowitz is following up to determine when those proceeds will arrive.

### **President's Reports**

#### **1. Jeanine Toes – High School**

- The Penny Wars were held during the week of December 7th. The SCA had parent volunteers oversee the table during the lunch periods for 5 days, and then tallied the coins at the end of the week. The Junior Class won the competition with a total of \$1392.44, beating the Sophomore Class by \$6.39. The total money raised was \$7216.07. 70% of the money, or \$5051.25, was presented by the Student Government to the Manhasset Community Fund at the Candy Cane Tournament in December. The remaining money was deposited into Class accounts.
- The Freshman Dance was held on January 9th in the HS cafeteria. The theme was "Bring in the New Year". The evening was a huge success for the 200+ students present.

- The Freshman Class will also have a bracelet sale, with profits going to Haitian relief (Doctors Without Borders).
- The HS/MS Joint Parent Council Meeting was January 20<sup>th</sup>. Following a guidance update from Jane Grappone, the SCA hosted Johanna Mathieson, Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island. The presentation was P2P Parent Safety Workshop, which focused on peer pressure as it relates to Internet Safety, Bullying, Cyberbullying, RX drugs and alcohol abuse.
- The Sophomore Dance is scheduled for February 6<sup>th</sup>. The theme is "Mardi Gras" and Class Advisor Chris Keen, the Class Officers and 10<sup>th</sup> grade parent reps, Heidi McNamara and Lauren Boylan, have been working together to ensure a safe and memorable night for the Sophomores. Also, the Class has decided to do a Haitian Relief fundraiser. \$5.00 from the ticket sales for this event will go toward the relief effort and additional donations will be collected at the dance.
- The 2010 Frolic Chairs, Marie Horowitz and Oriana Cyprus, have been working for the last few months and will be seeing the architectural plans February 5<sup>th</sup>. We will be searching for a Class of 2011 Frolic Chair and Senior Banquet Chair and will send out a message through SCA Highlights and post it on the SCA Website. Please contact Jeanine Toes or Karen Blando if interested.
- The MSCA luncheon is usually held two Wednesdays before Thanksgiving. Next year, there is a conflict with the Senior Banquet. Some discussions took place suggesting alternate dates. The final date is not yet determined. Once a final date is selected, it will be announced at the SCA Executive Board meeting.

## 2. **Caroline Kenlon – Middle School**

- The holiday gift giving program went well. Seven families were supported.
- MS Friday Night Live was held on January 8<sup>th</sup>. Attendance was moderate. There was a ping pong tournament and pizza was served.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Parent meeting was held on January 6<sup>th</sup>. The power point presentation was updated and clear, the meeting was well attended.
- The Parent Council Meeting was held January 20<sup>th</sup>, attendance was light. Johanna Matheison from Big Brother Big Sister presented on Bullying and peer pressure.
- Try outs for the spring production for the middle school begins this week. They will be performing "Beauty and the Beast" on March 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. (Dates may not be final.)
- The September and December MS dances donated \$500 to MWCABC and \$2000 for Spirit Wear t-shirts, respectively. The March dance scheduled for March 5<sup>th</sup> is for Muscular Dystrophy and it is a yearly event. There is a Cinco de Mayo dance on May 7<sup>th</sup> and the final event is June 4<sup>th</sup>. This June 4<sup>th</sup> dance is sponsored by the SCA and would be free to all participating students.
- The middle school Valentine's Day dance will be held February 5<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 – 9:30 pm. \$5.00 for each ticket sold will be donated to a Haitian Relief fund.
- The middle school and high school parent council meeting will be held February 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am in the high school board room.
- The last Friday Night Live will take place April 16<sup>th</sup>. The teacher bands are scheduled to perform again.

### **3. Mary Jane Reilly – Shelter Rock Elementary School**

- The Holiday Giving Program was a success. The School Social Workers, Adventures in Learning, and the EOC gave holiday gifts to over 20 Shelter Rock Families. Many thanks to the co-chairs, Kathleen Barry and Elene Farrell, as well as to Shelter Rock Social Worker Jennifer Barbieri-Smith for coordinating this program.
- The Directory has been published, with distribution immediately after Christmas break. Thank you to Renee Press and to Christine Zummo who undertook this immense task.
- Shelter Rock published one newsletter this past fall, and an extended version with more photos is online. We will do another in the spring.
- There was a November Joint Parent Council meeting, Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in the Shelter Rock School auditorium, the Shelter Rock School SCA, in conjunction with the Munsey Park School SCA, presented an overview of the New York State Assessments by:
  - Patrick O'Reilly, District Coordinator for English Language Arts
  - Theresa Curry, District Coordinator for Science and Technology
  - Mara Steindam, District Coordinator of Social Studies and Home & Careers, and
  - Raymond Scacalossi Jr., District Coordinator of Mathematics
- On December 15<sup>th</sup>, the SCA treated the school support staff to a Holiday Lunch to show our appreciation for the many ways that they help our children throughout the year. Many thanks to Raquel George and Kathy Pappas for organizing this wonderful program for the staff.
- On January 21<sup>st</sup> there was a Joint Parent Council meeting held at Shelter Rock to discuss the important topic of Bullying. Amanda Gimondo, School Social Worker, discussed bullying including the definition of bullying, how it is handled in our schools, and what parents can do to help their children deal with bullying issues. Amanda has been going into all of the classes at both elementary schools to make presentations about topics relevant to that particular class. She is also working with individual students who need assistance. Throughout the presentation members of the audience asked questions and reference materials were made available for parents.
- Guess Who is Coming to Read was held on January 26<sup>th</sup>. Many guest readers came and read to the kindergarten through third grade classes. Congratulations and thank you go out to Danielle Zammit and Leslie Fleck, the chairs of this committee.
- Extended Extras has begun, with four classes being offered at SR, 3 in Spanish and 1 in Italian. Each Spanish class has 18 students, and the Italian class has 16. The SCA did not have to turn anyone away, with the exception of a few students who were interested in French. There was no French teacher available at 3pm to teach the class. Many thanks goes out to Kim Delany who has been the Shelter Rock registrar and volunteer coordinator.
- There has been a focus this year on recess, and in particular in the younger grades not showing movies and having activities for the children instead. This has been hugely popular with the children, due in large part to the wonderful supervisory aides who are working recess. The children have more activities to choose from and are enjoying the change. For outdoor recess, the school has painted 4 squares on the pavement giving the children another option for a game.
- Shelter Rock has received a check for \$750 from Boxtops for the collection from last spring. The students are still collecting and are having a contest to see which grade level collects the most box tops. The winner gets an ice pop party.

- Shelter Rock upcoming dates are as follows:  
February 9<sup>th</sup> - Internet Safety program (district wide)  
February 27<sup>th</sup> - Family Theatre (Charlotte's Web)  
March 8<sup>th</sup> - March 12<sup>th</sup> - Shelter Rock Bookfair  
March 11<sup>th</sup> - SR Parent Council meeting  
April 6<sup>th</sup> - Health and Safety meeting  
April 7<sup>th</sup> - SR Diversity Day  
April 12<sup>th</sup> - April 16<sup>th</sup> - National Library Week  
April 19<sup>th</sup> - Earth Day Celebration  
May 12<sup>th</sup> - Joint SCA Meeting (at Munsey Park)  
May 13<sup>th</sup> - Staff Appreciation Luncheon  
May 17<sup>th</sup> - May 21<sup>st</sup> - Health and Fitness Week  
June 1<sup>st</sup> - June 4<sup>th</sup> - Field Days  
June 10<sup>th</sup> - Parent Council Meeting

#### **4. Christy Wepler – Munsey Park**

- The Holiday Giving Program was a success. The School Social Workers, Adventures in Learning, and the EOC gave holiday gifts to 17 Munsey Park families.
- There was MP/SR joint parent council meeting in November that focused on study skills and research. In this meeting, the use of Book Flicks was demonstrated.
- There was a MP/SR joint parent council meeting, Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, to address bullying in the elementary schools. This was well attended and was a good discussion. Some of the discussion points will be taken and used as input for updating the Character Matters program in the school.
- There was a MP/SR joint parent council meeting, Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, which addressed DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills), Foundations and Reading Street. DIBELS is a tool to assess the literacy skills of younger elementary students; Foundations guides primary students in their understanding of letters and sounds; and Reading Street is the systematic leveled reading program that was implemented in September 2009 in grades K-3.
- Part 2 of the Elementary Curriculum Initiatives presentation will be held on Thursday, March 4. Place and time TBA. This will focus on differentiated instruction and the Advanced Placement track and is more geared towards grades 4 – 8.
- Extended Extras has begun, with four classes being offered at MP in Spanish, Italian and French. There are currently 140 students enrolled in the program. The cost is \$125.00 per session and each student receives a textbook and a CD. Arlette Schiffer is the coordinator and is doing a fantastic job and all feedback to date has been positive.
- The emergency backpack system is now in place, with each classroom having a backpack loaded with essential items in case the students are unable to leave their rooms.
- The MP book fair is scheduled to take place the week of March 8<sup>th</sup>.
- International Day will take place in March.
- The MP birthday is still underway. There will be a final celebration in June with school concerts and more.
- The MSCA gift of the playground pieces will be installed in March.

## **Principal's Reports**

### **Superintendent's Report (Charlie Cardillo)**

- The frolic will have the same format as last year and teachers and administrators will participate in the event.

### **Board of Education SCA Liaison Report – Pat Aiken**

- The next board meetings will focus on curriculum in the secondary schools. The subject being discussed in the next meeting is science.
- There will also be a budget meeting, Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **PASE**

- PASE is having a fundraiser on the evening of February 5<sup>th</sup> at Wendy's in Greenvale. 15% of the sales from two registers will be donated to PASE. The money will be used to support the two social programs they are running.
- PASE recently had a guest speaker on anxiety and OCD.
- The next PASE meeting in March will focus on the budget.

### **CASA**

- Cathy Samuels from East Williston, NY has recently joined the organization as its new project director. Cathy was the President of the East Williston/Roslyn Community Coalition of Drug Free Youth, Inc. She was also the PRIDE Project Coalition Program Coordinator for SAFE, Inc. in Glen Cove.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Kathleen Kosciusko  
SCA Executive Board Secretary