

Meeting Minutes

November 2023



Cold Spring Home School Association

November Minutes 11/6/23

1:00 PM / CONFERENCE ROOM

ATTENDEES

Kevin Cochran, Tonianne Hall, Rhonda Ragona, Amanda Andriola, Marielba Santana, Angela Cook and Divya Cyril

APOLOGIES

Denise Chila and Brenda Davis

Welcome

- Meeting minutes edited by Mr. Cochran for October 2023 approved.

Committee Updates

- See attached document.

Fundraising

- Rita's water ice check should be received soon ~(\$301)
- Pretzels order for October 435, November 420 pretzels will be ordered due to the Thanksgiving Holiday

Financials

- Mrs. Rosencrans has requested funds for author visits for younger grades. We approved and Tonianne will reach out.
- Traveling hot dogs \$100 deposit
- See attached document

Trunk or Treat

- Costs were lower this year since the DJ payment was significantly lesser than the past. The original Budget was \$1000 with \$600 for the DJ (Pulse) but DJ Greg Curran only charged us \$300 this year.
- Leftover Dum Dums will be passed on to bingo

- Midway Fire Department requested they bring their own candy next year and don't want us to supply.

New Committees

- Trunk or Treat is a large project and even though it is a free event provided by the school, it is a massive undertaking to plan. We'd like to make it a new Committee.
- Rhonda met on a zoom with the PTO leaders from all over the central bucks area in an effort to share and help each other. One thing that stood out was that most schools had a volunteer committee to help with acquiring and maintaining volunteers. We will start one and Amanda recommended they also be the welcome committee for Cold Spring.

Other Business

- Holiday Shop bags will be purchased. We discussed that the holiday shop may be scheduled during December 4th and 5th this year. The Co-Chairs will discuss with Mr. Cochran and Denise to confirm.

End Meeting

November 2023 Committee Updates

Committee	Chairpersons	What's the update?
Apparel	Margot Bauer and Kate Layser	Apparel committee made \$1781 with the fall sale. I am looking into what the processing cost to be to have a year-round store available for people to order supplies.
Bingo	Karen Vechionne and Leslie Morgan	Bingo committee has been chatting with Rhonda and Mr. Cochran to prepare for January's event. Planning has begun. Rhonda suggested that along with the teachers' experiences we have a Jake the Jaguar experience - mentioning A dance with Jake and a photo op as one of the fundraisers. Co-chairs liked the idea and will look into logistics.

Blood Drive	Heather Reynolds	The Blood Drive will be December 1st.
Book Fair	Emily Kiernan, Catherine DeLorenzo, Divya Cyril	<p>Book Fair was able to take a cash reward of \$3990 from Scholastic during the close out financial process. There are \$200.69 Bonus Scholastic Dollars available to the library to spend this coming school year in addition to what the librarian, Mrs Rosenrans, already spent during the Fair (she utilized 200 Scholastic Dollars and excess funds from Cathy Dollars <u>while the Fair was in progress</u>). HSA Check # 5953 for \$4558.37 was issued on October 11th to Scholastic Book Fairs to complete the Fall Book Fair close out process. The Year to Date total HSA Book Fair profit amount is \$4131.41 (\$2000 for covering this year's Library HSA Budget plus \$2134.41 for HSA) in the Book Fair account. Overall, the Book Fair had another successful year! Mr. John Laricella's \$5000 donation made a big impact both on sales and the huge benefit of allowing every single student the opportunity to buy at least one book. Mr. Laricella has indicated he may make the same donation next year. We will consult with him and Mrs Rosencrans sometime this spring. Fall dates for next year's Book Fair are confirmed as 9/20/24-9/30/24</p> <p>Katy DeLorenzo & Divya Cyril will remain as Book Fair Co-Chairs next year. Thank you Emily Kiernan! Emily will not be returning since her child will be graduating Cold Spring.</p>
Bulletin Board	Trisha Markowitz and Debbie Olivastri	The fall board is up. The winter board will go up in December.
Family Fun Committee	Amanda Andriola and Tonianne Hall	The 2nd annual Holiday Cookie Exchange will take place on December 21st. Parents will be invited to bake homemade cookies or purchase store bought items to make the cookie exchange a success!
Father Daughter	Amanda and Tricia	<p>We had our first meeting and picked a theme! The dance will be beach themed this year. We look forward to a fun event and promise no sand! We have booked DJ Greg and are discussing if we will use a Photo Booth or c&c this year. Our next meeting will take place next week to discuss decor. Our plan is to get a lot out of the way before the holidays so we can be well prepared in January.</p> <p>The decorating committee will be meeting on November 10th.</p>
Garden Club	Dana Evans & Karen	We have had a few weeding sessions the last two weeks, we have another one this Thursday and then in the afternoon Tuesday, Election Day, to get the tulip gardens ready for Ms.
		<p>Kruopas to plant the tulips in the back beds with the first graders (8th of Nov I think will be her planting date)!</p> <p>The butterfly gardens are looking pretty good. We have been trying to tackle the thistle, lots of the great pollinators that have</p>

		<p>been planted over the last few years have really done well, we still have places for more native plants to go in the coming spring.</p>
Holiday Shop	Jennifer Fisher and April Shaikh	<p>Holiday shop is in full swing.</p> <p>We have about 1400-1500 items so far. We need about 3600, I have 2 consignments so far that we pay for afterwards and only for the items we sell. I will be starting to submit reimbursements this week. Stuff is definitely more expensive and working my best to continue to find deals. I think we should go back to being able to purchase on January 1st. Other schools do it to take advantage of after the holiday sales.</p> <p>Starting July 1st means starting the beginning of the school year when kids are in school.</p> <p>Concern has been brought up about bags, Melissa Adkin was nice enough to go to a lot of local businesses asking for bag donations, but no luck so far.</p> <p>A parent said she would donate some new bags, but discussion is needed. We started requesting used bags to be environmentally conscientious. The past Holiday Shop Chair felt very passionately about this, so if we could stay from buying more new paper/ plastic bags that would be ideal. Let me know your thoughts on bags.</p> <p>Since social media posts are limited, I am going to make one post a month prior with lots of info, volunteer request, bag request(if we go that route) and hopefully some sneak peaks and then I will continue with the 2 more within a week or two of the holiday shop.</p> <p>Waiting to hear what's going on with the schedule. So I can make up a sign up genius for help. We need more help for 2nd grade and under.</p> <p>Tables have been reserved. Set up is Dec 1st. We will need lots of help to set up. December 4th is the big day!!!!</p>
HRPCoordinator s/	Missy LoFaso & Mollie McFeely	No updates
Hospitality	Catherine Barbieri	For the custodians this year we went with gift cards and a thank
	and Tara Marmur	you acknowledgement to say thank you to our 4 custodians. The cards were dropped off and the custodians received them for National Custodians Day on October 2nd.
Kindergarten Liaisons (which falls under the	Marielba Santana and Andrea Kooker-Kuttler	No updates

HRP Committee)		
Mother/Son	Rhonda Ragona and Debbie Olivastri	Debbie and Rhonda met for planning purposes and have started discussing themes. We will make a decision by next month and get the planning going. We are also assembling a team of helpers.
Pretzel Day	Amanda and Fernanda Fitch	Amanda will update at the meeting
Pumpkin Contest	Rhonda and Sangeetha Mannivanan	The Pumpkin contest was another hit this year. Rhonda and Sangeetha are meeting this week to go over a debrief. We received 110 Pumpkins. Not as many as last year and way more on Thursday (the day we weren't supposed to) than ever before. We feel the google form registration was a not ideal because most people who did it signed up in the 30-minute period between when we printed and when we got to school. Next year we need to send a copy of the form home with every child. We gave out one ticket per student. Next year we should go back to three tickets per category per student because so fewer bags are empty. Lastly we need to put in bold letters No CARVED Pumpkins. Also, Rhonda is looking for someone to shadow them for next year's pumpkin contest.
Rebates	Amanda	No Updates
ROAR-A-THON	Divya and Katy	Event is over for the 2023-24 school year.
Spring Fair	Tonianne and Rhonda	Spring Fair will take place on May 17th from 5:30-8:30pm. This year's theme is a luau. DJ Greg has been booked. Luau themed blowups have been ordered from Bette's Bounce House. The first volunteer meeting will be held on November 17th at 9am in the conference room at Cold Spring, right after pretzel day.
Sixth Grade Social	Emily and Divya	The first social event of the year was the Haunted Hayride, held at Winding Brook Farm on Friday, Oct 20th and coordinated by 6th grade parents Karen Vecchione and Cherie Cohan. We had 66 kids attend on the night (67 registered on MPP, we had one extra kid pay by check on the night and two no-shows). Profit
		<p>from the event was \$196.40.</p> <p>Kids had a fun time on the haunted hayride, and enjoyed s'mores around the bonfire afterwards.</p> <p>This event is probably the most challenging to run being that it is the first event, it's dark and generally chaotic but it went well thanks to the help of parent chaperones.</p> <p>There was an issue with a parent picking up some kids without signing them out, but this was addressed and will hopefully not be an issue going forward.</p> <p>Next up is the Bowling event on Friday, November 10 at</p>

		<p>Thunderbird Lanes organized by 6th grade parents Amanda Andriola and Lauren Mesick. Kids will be organized into teams of 5 prior to the event based on their preference when registering. We have 12 lanes pre-booked and will be accepting registration on MPP until Nov 7.</p> <p>Other confirmed dates are:</p> <p>Friday, December 1, 2023 (early dismissal day) - Ice Skating at Hatfield Ice</p> <p>Friday, January 26, 2024 - Snow Tubing at Blue Mountain</p> <p>Saturday, June 8, 2024 - End of Year Party at YMCA, Doylestown</p> <p>Details for events in March and April are being worked out, and will be confirmed in due course.</p>
Trunk or Treat	TBD	Event is ended for the 2023/24 School Year
CS Superintendent Advisor	Catherine DeLorenzo	<p>The Superintendent's Advisory Meeting was on Tuesday, October 24th: We were encouraged to share this with our school and HSA, and to help in informing our school community that filling out the survey is the best way for us to receive feedback. The realignment Survey can be found at www.cbsd.org/cbrealign.</p> <p>Additionally, the Groveland Parent Representative shared information about their Student Snack Initiative and tentative plans to help families in need in our schools. Groveland runs a snack/backpack club and promotes information about the CBSD Farmer's Market to help families who are food insecure. They also partner with their local Giant store to tap into donations to aid students who are coming to school with no snack. Some school representatives shared that their schools</p>
		<p>have a basket collection site during lunch for those students who don't eat the provided lunch fruit to have a place to return their unused food item. If interested in learning more about Groveland's program and ways to help at Cold Spring, contact Andrea Wheatly, Groveland HSA awheatley15@gmail.com</p> <p>The next Superintendent's Advisory meeting is on December 19th at 9:30 AM.</p>
Welcome/Volunteer Committee	Amanda Andriola/TBD	
Yearbook	Kerry Scandale and Danielle Niblick	Many fun events have been photographed so far. We are waiting on Rhonda's communication from the admins of the parent group to see if we can request photos regularly or if that