PTA Board meeting minutes, 6/5

In attendance: Beth Cavanaugh, Lisa Delaney, Carolyn Duran, Gretchen Kilby, Leslie O'Connor, Sara Albert, Joyce Chow, Kirsten Isaacson, Stephanie Hart, Craig Stack, Andrew Rice, Julia Silverman, John Grant, Dawn Macneill, Hanna Nesper Newell, Kari Brooke,

Call to order, 6:07 pm

Gretchen Kilby makes a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Dawn Macneill seconds it. Motion approved unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Finance committee — Craig Stack

- Reminder to fill out check request forms. Committee chairs should make sure they have OKs from the check writer.

Spanish program — Leslie O'Connor

- Spanish is done for the year. Over the summer, will be working on allowing people to register and pay over Support Abernethy.

Basketball program — Lisa Delaney

- Current managers of the program are moving on. Cleveland High School has proposed taking over basketball. Need to call a meeting with stakeholders and make a decision. Connecting kids with the high school makes us equal with the other schools in the cluster. But we would give up control over the gym and the schedule. Also Cleveland would not take over K-2, so we need to figure out a plan for them.

Also if we are going to keep using Sunnyside Church for practice, need to pay insurance.

Volunteer committee:

- Plan to work on reinstituting a school directory. Will task room parents with helping with that.

Fundraising committee:

- We have a venue, date and chair for next year's auction. PTA sponsored buy-in party is coming up, costs are shaping up to be more than expected.

New Business:

- Review of combined community/board meetings? We had some repeats, so it is good to save time. But we also had some meetings where we needed more time to discuss/debate proposals. Dawn McNeill: Maybe the first few and the last few meetings of the year should be separate, since those tend to be the most involved? Hanna Nesper Newell: If there is a contentious issue that we know will take up more time, we could separate the meetings? Working plan is to set community meetings at 6:30, and reserve the flexibility to separate board/community meetings as needed.

- Proposal from Joyce Chow to create an equity/inclusion committee on the PTA. Idea is to make it clear that families at all socio-economic levels are valued, because the emphasis on fund-raising can make it hard for everyone to feel they can participate. We need to remove barriers for families and make sure that community support funds get into the hands of those who most need it, and look at the calendar to increase participation in a nonfinancial way. Important to embrace

inclusion as a guiding principle. Carolyn Duran makes a motion to create a standing equity/inclusion committee; Lisa Delaney seconds. Motion passes unanimously. Joyce will chair this committee.

- New mission statement: To enrich our children's educational experience through PTA programs, events and classroom support.

- Dawn McNeill: Proposal to look at increasing Scrip purchasing at Abernethy. A portion of your purchase price goes back to the school. To get this up and running is very time intensive. If we try to do it online, we might lose profit via credit card fees. Hanna Nesper Newell: A lot of work, but it is also one of the ways that Laurelhurst pays for their EAs. It's a way for families who can't contribute dollars to still support the school.

- Beth Cavanaugh: Suggestion to look at splitting the PTA and the foundation. There are conflicts between what our role is and the fundraising role. I do not believe that fundraising is appropriate for public schools, and can't continue to participate in PTA under the current structure. Carolyn Duran: We can work on this over the summer. Stephanie Hart: Agree that fundraising feels like a runaway train. The minigrants program is what we should be doing. Kirsten Isaacson: School funding is going to be a major topic in the fall, we will dedicate time to this at a meeting.