

Vorhees HS PTSO-Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2022
Virtual Meeting

Attendance-

John Simpson-Assistant Principal, VHS (ABSENT)
Amanda Mahon-PTSO President
Jonathan Lapoff-PTSO Vice President (JOINED AT 7:09PM)
Open Seat needs filing ASAP, Treasurer
Open Seat needs filing ASAP, Secretary
~ Public attendees ~ Helen Ramirez
Renee (did not catch surname)

Amanda Mahon called meeting to order at 7:06 PM

Welcome everyone

1. Zoom time is limited to 40 minutes per Zoom account, we do not pay for one, but if we time out, just log back in and we will have another 40 minutes.
2. The public is kindly requested to be on mute and encouraged to join at the announcements portion of the meeting and/or email us at vorheeshptso@gmail.com
3. Membership forms are on our webpage www.nhvweb.net/vhs/ptso/ under the membership tab, please fill out how you can help as a member. If you have recently joined, we will be in touch with you soon, TIA.
4. VHS PSTO announcements are issued/emailed from Maren Smagala, our District's Communication Coordinator and to our Members directly from the PTSO. Please check emails often

1. PRIOR/OLD BUSINESS

Approval of April and May/June notes. President called for a vote, Executive Board approved notes.

2. Grad Night, is a special event coordinated by the PTSO board members. Last year it was held at Great Adventures during after park hours. Closed to the public only available to graduate and chaperone. This was held in place of the typical Project Graduation event. It ran from 8PM-1AM on June 10 th for the class of 2022. Positive feedback received.

-Special thanks to Mr. Simpson, all in our school district who helped make this happen and to all the teachers who chaperoned to help make this event successful. It was such a success. It turned into a school trip because it took place before graduation.

3. Class of 2022 Graduation Lawn Sign Fundraiser another success. Turned into a very successful fundraising event. Thank you to the class of 2022 parents and all volunteers who supported this popular fundraiser.

4. Kona Ice was successful and popular at Graduation practice. Special note of thanks to the anonymous family who generously donated to make this refreshing and popular treat possible.

-Rough years with COVID. Funding has been limited.

5. Senior T-shirts were gifted. Annual tradition. Gifted from the PTSO and Amanda delivered to VHS to be distributed to students. Special note of thanks to Mr. McGeehan for another year of assistance in getting this fun gift to the graduating class. The T-shirt slogan this past year was "Nothing can Stop US." A very fitting slogan for them. Paying for these T-shirts was possible from our funds as well as made possible that were generously donated from two anonymous families. You know who you are and we are most grateful. We received great feedback.

6. This is all old business. Annual PTSO insurance was purchased late spring the official purchase was entered in late June. Brings us to August 23 we will need to renew that as we get closer to the end of the year.

7. My City Discount Fundraiser- Ran for the first time last year late fall. Del Val, North and a bunch of other HS in our area that run this gift card discount fundraiser. They are very cool looking and have the Viking on it. We were going to kick off this year with that, and decided to launch it later this fall.

8. Monthly Student Awards are budgeted for this year and the plan is to purchase before end of September and to get them to Mr. Simpson to have on hand for distribution during the school year. For anyone not familiar with this program there is more information on our website. It is a national program and each month has a theme of a character, i.e., citizenship something like that. Mr. Simpson coordinates which student was most deserving to receive the award and generally it is a gift card from us. Over the years we have done a \$10.00 gift card from Amazon. This year we will go for Dunkin Donuts gift card. Unfortunately, Walgreens no longer accepts checks which is our only means of payment right now, unless we can setup pay pal, etc.

- Jonathan you and I will have to vote on that. If you want to add the vote now. President called for a Vote. Vice President Voted. Vote was approved for the purchase.

9. Last very important Thank you to our previous officers Nancy Slota our previous Treasurer and Tracy Fly our previous Secretary. Thank you for your dedication to the 2020-2021 school year. Wish them all the best as they take on their new career paths.

10. Nancy Slota was able to do June Report before she left. A lot of activity in June. Start of the balance in June was \$10,467.79. Payments made for the T-shirts that was \$1,737.30. Paid out Grad Night transportation. We were able to use district buses. More

cost effective than Coach and no restrictions no surcharges. Helped us put that night together. \$1,224.00. We had reimbursements for Grad Night . Amanda purchased gift cards for gifting chaperones, drivers and packaging, dropped off with Grad Night tickets and wristbands to Mr. Simpson. Paid our insurance which was \$401.00. One note on that the pricing is staying the same. It has not changed in years for which we are thankful. Some funds went back to the parents due to the switch to school buses they were able to save some money and reimburse some of the parents as some wanted reimbursement. (At this point there was a breakdown in communication and could not hear several minutes).

Brought us down to \$5,146.94. She has here ending balance \$5,320.85.

Hopefully we will have a Treasurer soon. Was in touch with the bank and had the statements emailed and for July/August. From July 1- July 29 our regular bank account ledger was \$5,466.63. Our raffle account stayed the same at \$550.00. Hoping to get a raffle going this year. That would be really amazing. It is one of our biggest fundraisers and we have not been able to do that due to limited funds to buy the tickets.

August report from July 30-August 31 ledger balance \$5,522.28 raffle account stays the same. You will notice that the slight increase we held some last minute purchases fundraisers and we received a nice check from one of our vendors. Generous donations for memberships throughout the summer. Nice surprise over the summer.

11. Membership: As of today we have 44 new members. Thank you to all who have joined us thus far. Normally we have Mr. Simpson provide us with any information at this point. He is not here tonight. Mr. Simpson please announce yourself if you are here I do not see you on the screen.

New Business-Fall Fundraisers

Our organization is in need of officers as some of you may have seen from our emails. We definitely need a Treasurer and a Secretary. Anyone can fill in as a Secretary and that position also facilitates the membership organization.

Jonathan and I are on our way out. Our goal is to leave quite soon therefore our roles are available for officer sign up. (Aside would like to note Jonathan that you've been with this organization for 5 years discussion as to length of time with organization.

Amanda has been with the organization 3 years). Point is our time is here. We cannot stay on. Our organization needs help Board level and Volunteers.

Social media. Help is needed. No access to prior Facebook web page created. New page created connecting to personal pages. Maren has been posting on the VHS Facebook page. Would be great to have our own PTSO-VHS social media pages.

Fall '22 Fundraisers. Instead of listing them a google form will be created and sent to our members so that they can sign up. A couple can be shared.

- Vikings Discount Card

- Candleberry Fundraiser
- Senior Apparel Fundraiser '23 (Approved last June) tap in early
- Raffle popular over the year and has brought most money for the organization

Volunteers-Required to be a member of PTSO. Encourage everyone to be a member and gives us access to correspond with you.

Graduation 2023 (lost communication) June 14 starting at 10:00 am runs until 12:00. Graduating class size between 200-225. Do not have exact number will get final number from Mr. Simpson.

Project Graduation-

Have draft contract and deposit is due soon. We have the money so we should move forward. Jonathan I will discuss this with you further and touch base with project Graduation Committee. I did email everyone that checked off on the forms wanting to be part of the project graduation committee. 6-7 parents signed up and I emailed the parents asking for a Committee Chair and Co-Chair and suggesting that they meet as soon as possible to initiate fundraising. I want to give a shout out to Barbara Gallagher for agreeing to Co-Chair the Project Graduation Committee. This is huge and a great start and we have to round up some more people to fill out this committee. For anyone who is not aware I will just give a quick blurb about Project Graduation it is a really important event most HS have this event scheduled. It is a nation-wide program born from Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD). Project Graduation is celebrated on graduation night. The purpose is to provide a fun and safe night free of alcohol and substance abuse. Statistics show that high school graduation night is the most celebrated party day/night where they are more likely to get behind the wheel under the influence. It is our mission that no graduate from Voorhees is in that situation. Proud to make this event happen every year to the best of our ability. Cannot do it without the community. It is tentatively planned for a SECRET OFF SITE LOCATION. Information will follow as the project graduation committee comes together.

Class of '23 Senior Graduation T-shirts if funds allow by the end of the new years looking into sourcing the T-shirts and gifting to the seniors so that they can wear it to their graduation practice.

Budget- TBA. Started. Normally something the Treasurer does. Jonathan will share with you soon that we can work towards approval for the next meeting.

Announcements

PTSO Officer

Public

Adjournment Adjourned at 7:34 pm

Respectfully submitted by Helen Ramirez, volunteer note taker for this meeting due