Voorhees HS PTSO – Meeting Minutes
October 5th, 2021

Attendance –

John Simpson – Assistant Principal, VHS

Amanda Mahon – PTSO President

Jonathan Lapoff - PTSO Vice President

Tracy Fly - PTSO Secretary

Nancy Slota – PTSO Treasurer(Nancy was not able to attend but was able to update Amanda prior to meeting.)

Public attendees - none

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Amanda Mahon called the meeting to order – 7:06 PM

Welcome Everyone

- **Zoom time is limited to 40 minutes** per Zoom account but if we time out, just log back in and we will have another 40 min.
- The **public** is kindly requested to be on mute and encouraged to join at the announcements portion of our meeting and/or email us at vooheeshsptso@gmail.com

1. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. September Board Minutes: *All Board members read and were in Favor of September Board Minutes.*

B. PTSO Facebook page: Jonathan confirmed that FB has to run off of a personal page so Amanda will email Maren to see if she could possibly open a FB page for us. Amanda also offered to make the introduction via email between Jonathan and Tricia Wagga, a parent volunteer from VHS who contacted the PTSO via email and attended the last meeting. Jonathan will then coordinate with Tricia regarding the upkeep of the PTSO FB page.

C. Running Fundraisers: Mr. McGeehan confirmed through email with Amanda that all fundraisers are decided on per event. We can run similar events to other clubs/groups but just not at the same time.

2 TREASURER'S REPORT

A. Raffle License renewal is in the works (expires in March 2022) and Raffle account balance is listed below.

B. September 2021 Bank details are as follows:

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Starting Balance 9/1/2021: $2,700.56

Income: Paypal Transfer $96.15

Ending Balance 9/30/21: $2,796.71

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Processed after 10/1/2021:

Paypal Deposit - Pending as of 10/4/21 $14.08

Memberships as of 10/4/21: 3

Anticipated expenses:

- *Annual report to be filed in November - Anticipated cost of $30*
- *Biennial renewal of raffle license application has been received. Renewal must be received by the state 15 days prior to expiration. Our license expires 3/14/22. Prior treasurer's recommendation is to file as early as December - Cost of $100*

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Raffle Account (as of 9/30/21) $550.00

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3. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - MR. SIMPSON

- nothing at this time

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4. NEW BUSINESS ***(Amanda shared Nancy's update)***

A. **Replacement needed for PayPal ASAP - Square, Members Hub, Google Pay, Apple Pay, CheddarUP Once this is squared away, our membership forms will be updated.**

1)PayPal An account is currently set up for the PTSO under Jennifer Desch, a previous PTSO board member. Mr. Simpson knows her as she currently works at VHS. All agreed that it is best to phase out this account and perhaps set up a new account. Jonathan said he has used PayPal without having a paypal account. There is no requirement to have an account as one may check out as a guest.

2) Square - Like a PayPal account, it allows set-up of online stores. Cost per year - $399(current sale price). Pricy, may use in future.

3) Members Hub -

4) Google Pay - Looks good per Amanda but will get more details from Nancy. Will run on Apple per Jonathan.

5) Apple Pay -

6)Cheddar UP - Learning more about, will keep us posted.

7) PNC - Uses Zell link or payment goes right to PNC account. Have to link through a bank account, not a credit card. Not a great option as it's more of a burden for users.

8) Venmo - Currently, used for payments at Snack Shack per Mr. Simpson. For a business account, one needs to link to a personal account. Business account will take a percentage.

9) Apple Pay - Deals with Donations. The problem is that one can only use on an Apple phone per Johnathan. No Apple Pay on Android. Maybe we use a google pay & an apple pay option.

B. **Addition of a Hardship Membership Form/Offering under membership tab.** A confidential form will be required. Mr. Simpson said that this is a good idea and everyone was in agreement.

1) $15 for single membership (1 parent / 1 kid)
2) $20 per family membership (1 or 2 parents / up to 3 kids)

5. FUNDRAISERS AND CALENDAR ITEMS

A. **PTO Today Convention-**Amanda went and it was a fun event but more geared towards K-8. Amanda shared some fundraiser ideas:

1)CSI Event/Class - Unique event run by a real detective like a stem class. We would purchase kits for the participants (25 kids per group) and topics would include: physics, math, footprint analysis, crime scenes, forensic science etc. Maybe we could do a few sessions. The idea is to buy the kits & sell tickets for it. The detective would run the classroom and would have an assistant. The "class" would be 1-2 hours. We could possibly run it in the evening or on a weekend. Mr. Simpson confirmed that VHS has a Forensic class run by Laurie Hance, a fantastic teacher, so Amanda will reach out to her about this event to find out how many students might be interested. Everyone thought this would be a really fun event.

2) Foozy Socks - Different styles available utilizing online stores. Not the greatest quality but nice for stocking stuffers etc.

3) PAALS - A pair of socks but both socks are different. Anti-bullying theme is "We are different but we are still a pair".

4)Harlem Wizards - Currently, they are holding fundraisers outside. Mr. Simpson said we can do in the gym but anyone not participating would have to wear a mask. The issue being an outside group coming in & not knowing their health status so Mr. Simpson will have to check and see if this event could be approved. Typically, the Wizards play games against the teachers and/or the kids. They can do fitness orientated programs as well. Amanda sent note to Mr. McGeehan to see if we could hold this event if it is approved by the school. Mr. Simpson will let us know.

5) 99 Pledges Fun Run - The company provides a link for each student to get pledges so they can share on FB, text or email & get donations. Touchless for us. We need to understand what manpower is needed to run the actual event. Amanada asked if we could use the track and sent a note to mr. McGeehan. Relay for Life is in the Spring and we don't want to interfere with that.

6) Cloud 9 - Very soft, nice products. Online store available so touchless for us.

7) Gameshow / The Brain Show - Set up teams and podiums for teachers & students. It is an in-person event. Maybe set up in gym or auditorium. One or two people would run it. Sounded like schools who have participated previously REALLY enjoyed this.

8) Light up Bracelets for North/VHS football game on Friday, October 29th at 7pm. Bracelets would have VHS - Go Vikes! or something similar on them and the PTSO could sell at a little table at the game. Amanda is willing to sell them if someone will do it with her. Amanda said the soccer club is selling towels at that game. Mr. Simpson said the kids would like the bracelets so Amanda is going to see about ordering.

9) Candle Berry Co - In business for 30 years. Subtle, nice scent. Lots of variety - different sizes and they have some for cars. Completely hands off for us as it's an online store and there is no cost to us. Mr. McGeehan is checking to see if anyone else is doing this. Amanda is happy to oversee this fundraiser. Mr. Simpson said we need to remind people that this PTSO group runs

Project Graduation and it is not possible without the parent's support. Amanda will get this fundraiser up and running in the next week or so.

B. Bags- anytime

C. Rock and Roll Racing- NASCAR themed remote cars. We pay for the event and sell tickets to fundraise, possibly in the Spring.

6. FALL FUNDRAISING

A. **ASAP Fall theme candle online store** ships directly to customer. Amanda setting up now. (see above section for further details)

B. **Chalk the Walk - 2 Separate events:**

i. FRESHMAN - JUNIORS CHALK A SQUARE IN FRONT OF VHS.

1. **Event Details** PTSO would provide the chalk and oversee this event for Freshman - Juniors. We may need 5 volunteers, will depend on number of participants. Mr. Simpson said that this would be a "one-time event" so if it rains, it will not be redone. We will make some suggestions in regards to artwork: positive affirmations, school spirit, VHS themes/ Beat North, school teams / sports numbers etc. $5.00 cost per student was suggested.

2. **Kona Ice** If we move forward with this event, Amanda will contact Tom, the Kona Ice man, and see if he would be willing to come so the kids could purchase ice cream etc. Will also ask if he could give us a cut of his sales for the event.

3. **Act Now!** We need to get moving on this if we are going to do something in the Fall before it gets too cold.

4. **Best Day/Time for Event** Could have on Saturday(building open with bathrooms etc.) or possibly on a Sunday. After school, the school is open and Administrators are there M,W,T per Mr. Simpson. Mr. Simpson also said that Friday may be the best as it is a lighter burden or possibly a Monday after school or maybe a Saturday 11:30 or 12 would be better because of sports schedules.

5. **Request**- PTSO needs to write up a request for this event which needs to be submitted to Mr. McGeehan & Mr. Simpson for approval.

6. **<u>Kid's sketches</u>** will need to be forwarded to Mr. Simpson & Mr. McGeehan for approval so kids would need to get drawings & payments in a week beforehand so there is time for Mr. McGeehan & Mr. Simpson to talk to kids about changes to drawings if necessary.

7. **<u>Yearbook Photos</u>** We can alert the yearbook staff so pictures are taken the day of the event.

ii. **SENIORS CHALK THEIR PARKING SPOT - SPRING EVENT**

1. Some seniors have a numbered spot, some spots are first come, first serve and some have a number. Mr. Simpson's idea is to have Seniors do their event in the Spring to announce where they are going to college etc.. in the Fall.

C. Cookie Dough Online Store- mid Fall, pending approval. Buy online & products are sent directly to customers.

D. Holiday Candle Online Store- mid/late Fall - Approval request sent(See Candle Berry Co, Section 6 above)

E. Shammy Shine at Shammy Shine- mid/late Fall, pending approval Tracy relayed that information is on their website regarding fundraisers. Basically, we would get $10 or $20 gift cards to sell and then we would keep 30% of all sales. Tracy will call about expiration date

F. Milk Can Football Game- 10/29, Light up Bracelets sell onsite along path and/or t-shirt online store - need approvals. (see *Light up Bracelets* in Section 6 for details)

G. Funds to Orgs.com / Sneaker Drive- Up 6 weeks long. Need 100 bags of sneakers with 25 pairs in each bag for a profit. We could make .40 cents per pound, about $10 per bag approx. No fee for pickup if 100 bags collected. If less, then we pay $250 for pickup for freight. Could earn $1000 if it works. They need 3 weeks notice to start the drive, Fall & Spring a good time. Company provides a starter kit. We need our own large waterproof box/bin at VHS and the Company picks up the bags. We would also need a tent with plastic set up like a clothing drive. We still need approval for this event.

b. Will discuss more next month with Nancy so we can iron out Concerns & Questions below:
   i. Can we include sending districts since we would need to collect so many shoes?
   ii. Are we just allowed to only collect sneakers or other types of shoes?
   iii. Need sneaker condition
   iv. Could we use big, clear garden bags from Lowes?
   v. Will the tent be enough to protect the shoes from the elements?

vi. Need to confirm profit information.

7. PROJECT GRADUATION

1. **VHS Class of 2022, Project Graduation Date: June 15th.** Mr. Simpson said the count is at 256 but we should plan for approximately 260.

2. **Grants for Prevention of Alcohol & Substance Use to help us pay for Project Graduation.** Amanda shared that other NJ districts have received such grants. Mr. Simpson checked and confirmed that there are no Grant writers within the district. Amanda shared that there is a NJ Grant Watch that charges a $50.00 fee for a grant writer. So, for a $1,500 grant, we all agreed that spending $50.00 to make sure all the wording is perfect would be a good idea. Amanda will find out about deadlines.

8. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. **Flower Power Online Fundraiser -** Fall, Holiday and Spring. Sounds like we will initiate this fundraiser in the Spring(can start selling mid-Winter). Tracy will contact Mr. McGeehan for Fundraising approval. She will also need a tax ID if this is approved by Mr. McGeehan so she can get approval to set up an online site through Flower Power.

9. ADJOURNMENT. Thank you for your participation! Meeting adjourned by Amanda Mahon at 8:30 PM

Notes Submitted by: Tracy Fly, PTSO Secretary