

Call to order at 6:35 pm.

District Reports

Kurt Walcholz, Superintendent – Began by apologizing for the room that we were in. He will talk to Shelly Strasser about it tomorrow. Kurt & Brian will need to leave early as they are going to the City Council meeting to discuss the creation of an ordinance that will, in the future, prevent a gun shop from opening across the street from a school. There is a current State Law that ensures a “Gun-Free” School Zone, however, as with many laws there are exceptions and gun shops are an exception. The District has been working with Gwen Moore’s office and they have kicked the responsibility back onto the local ordinances. The District has voiced it’s concern over the location of the shop and it’s proximity to Longfellow Elementary (278 feet from the school). Another resolution that will be discussed tonight is the ban of synthetic marijuana and the District wants to show their support for the ban. Kurt also wanted to thank the PTAs for help with parent partnership in all of the schools and thanks for the support that PTAs give during the WKCE testing times. Another thanks went out to Dorothy Riley and the Nathan Hale PTA for bringing Rachel’s Challenge to the students of Nathan Hale and an open community event.

PTA Advocacy—in the past Legislative Chairs from each of the schools had met each month prior to the Council Meetings. Kurt would like to restart these meetings as there are a number of very important changes on the horizon that will be directly affecting the education of our children.

Parent Advocacy—on December 9th the District will be hosting a parent advocacy program from 5:30pm – 9:00pm @ the Parkway Bldg., room 109. The sessions include School Finance, Transformation & Next Generation Skills, Road Blocks, Community Communication, and Understanding the Legislative Process. Please try to attend or ask your Legislative Chair to attend.

Brian Vissers, District Communication Specialist – Legislative Report submitted.

Dan Bearrs, Teacher’s Rep – Not in attendance.

Introductions

Secretary Report – Minutes were presented from the October meeting and the Emergency Board Meeting on October 15, 2010. Minutes were filed with the correction of “Gena Kraemer” instead of “Gina Kirkpatrick”.

Founder’s Day Carnival Presentation – Stephanie Pike from Triple M (262-391-2347) provided food samples from Club’s Choice for us to taste. Stephanie also provided information about Triple M & the Green & Gold Experience. Triple M Promotions will be providing for no cost to Council, the following for the Founder’s Day Carnival on February 20, 2011:

- ◆ 4 Inflatable games with a crew to set up/take down—including two bounce houses, one Touchdown Obstacle Course & one Giant Slide
- ◆ Airbrush Tattoo Artist
- ◆ 6 Midway Games
- ◆ Build-A-Buddy Machine—this will be advertised throughout the district via elementary & middle schools for pre-ordering. Stephanie will take care of all of the pre-order packets the first week of January.
- ◆ Food Concessions—Pizzas, Cheese Breads, Cookie Dough, Swiss Rolls/Pumpkin Rolls
- ◆ 1 Gift Basket for the Silent Auction
- ◆ Stephanie will DJ at the event.

Mark Oleson from Club’s Choice also spoke about the serious problems that their company has had in delivering the correct products to the schools of West Allis-West Milwaukee District. He explained that Club’s Choice has spent over \$300,000 on a new computer system and have not been able to get product to the correct location. For anyone who is willing to use him next year he will give a “Performance Guarantee” in that any PTA who uses Club’s Choice next year and they are not completely satisfied because of missing products or

wrong products delivered he will give \$500 with no haggling. He apologized for miscommunication issues and said that they are all completely resolved. Club's Choice is donating a new pizza oven for Council to use at Carnival and it is ours to keep. He brought 15 boxes of cookie dough for us to divide up. Thanks for the business he will offer to cook for family nights so that parents can taste the products.

Tona Goddard, Founder's Day Carnival Chair, continued to speak about the plans that the committee has been making. The menu will be hotdogs, hot pretzels, pizza, cheese bread, cookie dough, and nachos. The committee will also be contacting the Health Department, Fire Department, Police Department, Library, etc. to invite them to participate in this community event. There will be a silent auction—local units are not required to donate, however donations will be appreciated. There will need to be volunteers to supervise inflatables, sell tickets, work the raffle, work the donated midway games, concessions, etc. If each local unit could send three volunteers for one hour each, we should have enough. Tickets will be 4 for \$1.00. The committee has also decided to tie in a service project for this event—Council will be collecting toiletries for homeless students and their families. Laura just received the raffle tickets and would like to have the schools take at least 50 and try to sell them. There is a 1 in 1000 chance to win cash prizes--\$300, \$200, \$100 & two \$50. Local units do not need to provide a booth/game, no baskets, just volunteers. There will be another Carnival meeting on November 15th, 6:30pm at Johnny V's if anyone is interested in helping out on this committee.

Treasurer's Report – Joanie Mares has resigned – see written report.

School Reports

Central – Andi Krizan, President & Kristi Bonaparte, VP – nothing to report.

Lincoln – Shelly Brandis, President & Heather Justham, VP – Girls Night is coming up on November 23rd @ 6:30pm, this event is for daughters and their female mentors. They will have archery, making jewelry racks, etc. The teachers coordinate and PTA funds this event.

Jefferson – Janice St. Louis, Secretary – the fall fundraiser is done and November 18th is Skate Night.

Wright – Gena Kraemer, Secretary/Council Delegate – fall fundraiser is done, did well on profits but I have not spoken to chair to find out how the pick-up went (according to Stephanie it went well w/ a few glitches). FLW is discussing working with West Milwaukee & Lincoln to bring Rachel's Challenge to the middle schools.

West Milwaukee – Tona Goddard, President & Tracy Lentz, Secretary – still looking for donations for the Holiday Bazaar on December 18. Please contact Tona if you have any donations.

Franklin – Nicole Danek, President & Anne Gosetti, VP – November 13th from 11 am – 4pm is the craft fair please stop in! MAJOR fundraiser problems, hoping it will all be worked out soon but Mark just said that it was all straightened out and the orders that were brought tonight were still wrong.

General Mitchell – N/A

Hoover – Tracey Pomeroy, Acting President & Susan Dewey, Acting VP – Reading Carnival is kicking off this month.

Longfellow – Dawn Gallatin, VP – have a dance coming up on Friday. The gun shop is really taking up a lot of attention. The next PTA meeting is tomorrow night—it should be really interesting since the President has really chosen to stay out of the debate. See how it goes...Laura Weaver mentioned that Council had contacted Longfellow's president and offered to stand behind them on this issue to provide any support that they need. They did not take us up on the offer but left the door open if there becomes a need in the future.

Irving – Heather Slade, President – looking at doing fewer events this year. In the past, have done more with low attendance, thinking that if they hold fewer events, then attendance will go up. Starting the reading program—in past children kept track of minutes and were rewarded, this year children will have individual goals and will be rewarded for reaching those goals.

President's Report – Laura Weaver – As everyone should have received notice that Jaimie Reyes and Joanie Mares have resigned from their positions last month. Please contact Laura if you did not receive the information and want to see the resignation letter. Last week Cyndi Barbian stepped down as Bylaws/Standing Rules Chair & Membership Chair and today Ginger Roddick has resigned the Secretary position. Laura called for any volunteers to fill these positions for the rest of the year. Tracy Lentz volunteered to be Secretary, Amy

Repati volunteered as Membership Chair, Tona Goddard volunteered to be 1st Vice President, and Brenda Ward volunteered to be Treasurer (in writing as she was unable to attend due to a family conflict). Since there were no additional volunteers, all were accepted by the board in attendance. No objections or concerns were voiced. Halloween Express Fundraiser – have not been able to reach the owner, stopped in several times and left messages for him to call. Penny Larson had also called and left a message for him to call and he has not done so yet. Since the promise of a \$1,500 donation was a verbal agreement with Jaimie, we are not sure what he is going to do. It was suggested by a council member that we contact Catrina from Contact 6 and see if that will get a return phone call! Laura will try again and is open to the idea of seeking help from the media if necessary. Council will keep us posted.

★School's Going Green pamphlets are available at the table please take as many as you can use (Laura has 1,000).

★State PTA Training is on November 13 (see handout). If you can go, call state and let them know you can still register.

★Call or email Laura with any problems that may arise, Council is here to help find the answers.

1st Vice President's Report – Tona Goddard – The service project suggestion for Carnival is also to provide good PR! Tell the public who we are and show them what we can do. The idea is to change the negative perception of Council and clearly define what we do. It is time to leave the negativity behind and move forward positively. (Round of applause!)

2nd Vice President's Report – Janice St. Louis –The next newsletter deadline is November 17. Please send information in Word documents, this is easiest to manipulate. Send articles/flyers to janicestlouis@yahoo.com

Council Website – Gena Kraemer – www.wawmptacouncil.org – check it out! The website was supposed to be free, but I received a donation from Luv-N-Hugs Family Child Care which covered the \$50 cost for the Silver subscription, this gives us our own domain name and the site layout looks better and is customizable. This also keeps the hosting companies advertising off of our site. Please send information for upcoming events to me, flyers, etc. I have added a form for everyone to add their officers list and send to council, you can send changes to your officers list through this form too. Reflections has a page with all of the info and forms you need. You should be able to download and print from the site. If you need to reach Laura and can't find her email address, go the Contact Us page and I will make sure Laura gets it. It is still a work in progress, any suggestions would be greatly appreciated. A suggestion was made as to adding Council's Directory to the website. It was asked if anyone had a problem with putting that info out there, no one had any objections. Gena did explain that the Directory information had just been made available to her and it will be posted as soon as possible.

Reflections – Gena Kraemer – Distributed reception invitations, judges are almost all set--still need one or two. We have found several sponsors such as Anita's Dance Center, Artist & Display, and Art's Cameras Plus. December 1 is the deadline for entries to be in to Council, please bring them to the next meeting.

Awards/Banquet Dinner – Jane Edgar & Amy Repati – Going to be really short on money this year. Banquet will be May 20th (this is a new date). Still looking for a location, the committee is trying to keep the event at \$15/person to make it more affordable so that more local board members are able to attend. Hot and cold hors d'oeuvres instead of dinner. Awards packet will be delivered to the schools as soon as it is approved by the committee, there are several new awards being added this year.

Madison – N/A

Mann – N/A

Pershing – Amy Repati, President – the Haunted House was again a really big hit, love the new principal.

Walker – Kari Simpson, President – also had a Haunted House, great event; last week was the walk-a-thon made over \$6,000 going to clear about \$4,700 after expenses. Next is a movie night.

Wilson – Lisa Dreske, VP – Currently running a cookie dough fundraiser and planning a Holiday Evening Event.

Hale – Dorothy Riley – Rachel's Challenge went very well and continuing with getting the Friends of Rachel Club up and running. Craft fair is Saturday 9am – 4pm.

Penny Larson, Region F Advisor State PTA – see handouts & please come to training in Madison on November 13.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gena Kraemer (subbing for Ginger Roddick)