



Montessori by the Sea PTO Minutes

Date of Meeting: February 8, 2011

Meeting called to order: 6:10 by President, Anna Womack

Attendance: Judi Dunlap, Anna Womack, Patti Schmidt

Golf Tournament: Nicole Morris needs volunteers. She also needs to know if you have specific sponsors in mind and if they need packets. Also we will have a sign up sheet for golfers to sign up.

Community Service: Amy will be in charge of the Ronald McDonald House dinner that will be March 24th. We need a few more volunteers to make food and serve. Contact Amy Losoya if you are interested. We are still collecting for the Migrant kids, so don't forget to bring clothing and drop off at the blue building. Pam Dubrule is no longer at our school unfortunately, but Christiana will be taking on some of her responsibility.

Garden/Grounds: Paul Tomey is scheduling a FIXIT Day and Gardening Day toward the end of March. If anyone has any suggestions for Gardening Day, please contact Paul. The worms are back! This year the lower elementary is owning the project. Becky has done an amazing job with implementing a working log for the kids to care for the worms and the tea. A field trip is proposed at the end of the spring to Mother's Organics to see the farm and recycling plant. The kids will be selling the worm tea for use in spring gardens. They will be packaging it and educated on the unique vitamins and minerals only offered by this type of vermicomposting. We still need one rectangular planter and also need six low-light plants to give to the elementary to plant above the worm farm for aesthetics. The primary kids are welcome to visit the worm/composting box as Mrs. Cox instructs. There is a colorful book currently in Mrs. Becky's possession that Carmel, from Mother's Organics, gave to the school (primary kids too) to tell the delightful story of vermiculture. If anyone has low light flowering plants are would like to pick out low-light herbs to give to the kids to plant, feel free.

Green Team:

Healthy Hut is more than willing to provide us with another lunch day or substitute of pizza day. So, we could either add a outsourcing day to the week (every Monday) OR we could do every three out of the four Friday's as health lunch day and have MBTS's traditional pizza day the fourth (once a month as a treat). Making a healthy pizza as a substitue is not a good idea since the kids are so used to the taste of Dominoe's pizza. However, they are willing to come up with another lunch. The item Ty and I tried was their "pig in a blanket" -- hot dog (tofu dog) wrapped in biscuit dough (gluten free). Ty and I both liked it. I think they would work up a full meal (drink and side included) for not much of a premium to the current pizza price. Maybe we could take a vote to

which is preferable...

Spiro (owner of Healthy Hut) suggested we do a field trip during snack time to their cafe and let the kids sample things and have one of the chefs talk about health food. I don't know if that is available to the primary kids, but the idea is great. Permission from Judi and Mrs. Cox.

Marketing/PR Committee:

The downtown Farmers Market will no longer allow any school other than public, city schools to have a booth there (new rule). There is not a lot of traffic for the Sunday morning Corey Ave market. If anyone at the meeting has an idea for a location for a booth at a high-traffic family event, please let me know. We have great brochures (**get some in the front office to have at this meeting**). More importantly, please take MBTS brochures to post on bulletin boards at your favorite grocery locations or stores around town. Please email or text me where you plan to drop them off (for instance, PAG 8th Avenue stores, downtown Beach Drive stores, Gulfport, St. Pete Beach restaurants) so that we can eliminate duplicating efforts. (Email: yogakarla@msn.com; 727-421-6808). Please tell your friends or neighbors that are curious about Montessori about our open house events.

St Pete Produce (the small produce store near Waffle House on the beach who supported us during the Fish Broil) is involved in the Corey Ave Sunday morning farmer's market. They have asked for our help to spread the word and to attend the February 13th market because they have gotten The Lighting Hockey team to be there with their huge tractor trailer. Apparently, there will be games and activities for the kids at their trailer that day. They hope to bring more attention to this community market and get The Ray's and future support from other teams in the Tampa Bay area. Please make sure the flyers are distributed to each of our kids and encourage them to take extras to friends and neighbors who may attend this Sunday's market on Corey Ave.

Social Committee: Valentine's Dance was a great success and such fun! Thank you Lisa Davis, Denise Tomey, Amy Losoya and other moms that volunteered!

Lisa Davis has been sending out birthday cards to staff from the parents. Thank you Lisa!
We will be having a happy hour social at Paradise Grill in March or April - details to follow.

Future PTO meetings: From now on we will be having afternoon PTO meetings only (2:45) till the end of the school year.

Next PTO meeting: March 8th 2011 at 2:45, Blue Building

Adjourned: Meeting was adjourned at 7 PM.