

Delaware Military Academy PTA Minutes

November 16, 2017

Attendees: See sign in sheet.

Call to order and opening Remarks:

Tatiana Rice called the meeting to order at 6:35pm

Commandant's Report:

Commandant's Report- Commandant Pullella gave a general update on fall sports, school progress and field construction progress. He stated they are discussing and researching the use of chromebooks or ipads. Interviews have started for the 2022 class. The Commandant said they have had numerous drivers speeding through the parking lot. There will be discussion on the best way to handle this situation whether an electronic speed sign would help or getting a DMA parent who is a state trooper to assist in regulating the speed.

Guest Speaker:

Guest Speaker was Gunnar Barr. He spoke about the Dinning In ceremony. The Dinning In is a formal military ceremony for members of the unit, which includes a dinner, drinking and other events to foster camaraderie and Esprit de corps. It is an excellent experience for Cadets.

Secretary:

Secretary Denise Carr was absent, October meeting minutes were not presented.

Treasurer's Report

Erin Battista presented the Treasurer's report. The account was reconciled at the end of October. The books were handed over in November from Dave Rice to Erin Battista. Current budget was presented. She stated the PTA lunch on Fridays is now making a profit after we have paid for supplies, food and drinks to sell.

Vice President Reports:

Executive VP – Maryellen Charno – no report

Communications VP – Cami Pisklak – was not present, no report

Committee Activity Committee – Committee Chair Kathy Bleacher reported:

Kathy requested to move winter dance to February 10. It is the best day that doesn't conflict with a winter sport.

Fundraising Committee – Free Lunch Committee Maria Gedney was not present. Cami Pisklak sent in the following Friday Lunch Target Analysis.

Our goal is much higher per lunch this year than last or the year before as we are looking toward the Friday lunch program as covering the lion's share of the revenue we need. The approved budget looks to the Friday lunch program to raise \$12,800.

Keep in mind a few things when looking at this report:

- it is formula driven - goes all the way out to the end of the year

- each lunch needs to generate \$512 in PROFIT in order for us to meet goal - which is easy to do with pizza and we could never do with sandwiches last year and the year before - even at a lower per lunch goal
- we depend on each lunch happening so if school is called off for any reason (inclement weather, a rewarded day off, a tragedy) - it will impact how close or far away we are to goal
- we depend heavily on NOT over-ordering - a sandwich over-order of 20 meals cuts our profits by \$65 ($20 \times \$3.25 = \65) - a pizza over-order of 20 meals (roughly 3 pizzas) is only \$15 ($3 \times \$5 = \15)
- we also depend on NOT having our free and reduced lunches take a huge bite out of profits - one pizza can cover 8 free and reduced lunches - at \$5 per pizza we need 3 pizzas on average to cover those 24 lunches - which eats up about \$15 of our profit. Sandwiches take away about \$78 from our profit ($24 \times \$3.25 = \78) - not a huge number per lunch but it equates to a \$1,575 loss overall ($\$63 \text{ difference} \times 25 \text{ lunches}$)
- we are generally a little farther behind at the beginning of the school year - but if we are running smart we catch up quickly - it's a factor of the amount of supplies we have to buy at the beginning of the year (since most of it is perishable and cannot sit around all summer), the amount of cash Maria has out for supplies, and just getting into the groove
- to get an idea of how far we are to goal look at the last lunch (#25 on 6/1) - we have \$10,232.60 to go meet goal
- to get an idea if we are on track to goal look at the most recent lunch data (lunch #7 on 10/27/2017) - we are currently ahead by \$7.40 - we always vacillate back and forth for the first half of year between being ahead of goal and behind goal depending on the amount of money Maria has out and on hand for supplies - going forward we should be ahead from now on I believe (unless something happens to impact our trajectory)

Hospitality Committee – Committee Chair Debbie Riley Geist reported:

Open house was a huge success. Leftover refreshments went to the 5Krun. Nothing until Junior Ring ceremony March 26. She will need help with manning and cleaning. Also, she will need help with the Service Academy event in April.

Membership Committee – Committee Chair Tina Duffy reported:

We have three new memberships to date in November making the total 193. We still are not at 100% for staff and teacher memberships - 28 have joined to date.

We were not able to obtain an electronic version of the student roster to send targeted membership applications to students via their home room. I honestly do not have the time available to type up or hand write labels.

There is software available for generating Excel files from PDFs. Can you check if anyone within our PTA currently has the capability to do this? Some versions of Adobe will convert files. If so, I can scan in my hard copies and forward them as PDFs. If they can generate the Excel files and send back, it would be greatly appreciated. I'll create the labels from the Excel file.

Tina reported 193 memberships, 28 staff.

Military Support Committee – Brad Bacci, Veterans Breakfast Committee Chair and Jenn Pobanz, Turkey Drive Committee Chair reported:

Veteran's Breakfast huge success. Dominic Papa underwrote the event again.

Turkey drive – Great response from our families - we have 147 committed on the SignUp Genius - 115 from our order and 32 from our families. Cash donations grand total: \$3,194.06. Cadet Dress Down Day – total \$2,470. Staff Dress Down Day \$135. Bags will be put together after meeting.

Prom Committee – Committee Chair Dawn Reilly reported an update from Mrs. Enderica: The date is May 4th at Hartefeld Country Club. Time is from 7-11. We already have a deposit and we are working on decoration and colors with the prom committee.
Reflections Committee – Fidelia Portillo agreed to chair. Nothing to report.

Staff Appreciation Committee – Committee Chair Debbie Brown was not present. The following reported was emailed.

I am all set for the Thanksgiving Luncheon on the 17th. Chick-fil-A sandwiches are ordered, and the Signup Genius is filling up. My next event will be the holiday luncheon in December. I plan to order from Café Napoli as we did last year. I'm thinking we'll have it 12/21, the last day of school before winter break.

Old Business:

Follow up to Fundraiser question: Tatiana and Commandant met, and the PTA is allowed to seek donations. However, a solicited vendor list needs to be generated and approved so vendors aren't asked multiple times for donations.

Follow up to PTA membership forms/Recommendation letter – the school agreed to add PTA form to recommit letter and freshman welcome letters. Along with a note included in the letter urging PTA membership.

New Business:

None:

Announcements/Reminders:

Parents are still commenting over Chick Fila Sandwiches for PTA Friday Lunch. As stated in previous meetings, Chick Fil A raised their prices. The PTA is doing very well with pizza and the financial projections will give our PTA a healthy income by June.

No meeting in December. Next meeting is January 18, 2018.