

## **11.15. 22 PTA Meeting Minutes**

Meeting was called to order

**Recording secretary's report:** October minutes were approved.

**Corresponding secretary's report:** Kate shared thank you cards received.

### **Treasurer's report:**

Current bank balance = \$245,985.26

### **New Business:**

Reminder to sign up to be a member of the PTA. The link to register can be found in the Tiger News. Cost is \$15 per person or \$20 for a family.

PTA meetings will be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, after drop off.

Theatre Program Update – the PTA chair for the program is Staci Z. It will begin this Wednesday November 16<sup>th</sup>! Kerry from the Spring Lake Community Theatre will run the program. And Mrs. Roberts will be the advisor. Program will run 10-12 weeks. We were very excited to bring the program back! Thank you to the BOE for funding our facility advisor. And thank you to Staci for chairing this program. There was a discussion about parents paying a \$100 fee for the program. Parents shared that the \$100 made parents more invested in the program and they wanted to be sure children came to the practices. Parents shared that more children may participate if there wasn't a fee. A vote was taken to determine if the \$100 fee should remain, and the majority of PTA members voted to eliminate the fee and have the PTA fund the program.

NYC Trip – Mrs. Penrod requested funding from the PTA to take the middle school band and chorus to NYC to see a Broadway show, Wicked. This program was in place prior to Covid, and the students really enjoyed it! Parents shared that it helped to encourage student to join band and or chorus and to attend the practices. The request was put in through mini grants, but the expense will exceed the budget. Dr. LaValva suggested that the BOE typically pays for buses, and for consistency purposes we should suggest that the board pay for the bus. A vote was taken to add the Wicked tickets as a line item to the PTA budget. The majority of PTA members voted to approve the expense.

The Spring Lake First Aid Squad Presentation- the squad came in to discuss volunteer opportunities. They are in need of new members. The squad provides free ambulance service to the residents of Spring Lake and Spring Lake Heights, and this is only possible because of volunteers. They are looking for volunteers for the daytime shift and a few evenings a month. You do not have to be an EMT to become a volunteer. Please see flyer below for more details:

## THE SPRING LAKE FIRST AID AND EMERGENCY SQUAD

Serving the Residents of Spring Lake and Spring Lake Heights 24/7

We need more volunteers! We need YOU!

### Did you know?

- Started in 1928, the squad is the oldest First Aid Squad in the area
- In 2021, the squad responded to more than 1,000 calls
- The First Aid Squad supports every fire department call in both towns
- There is no charge for the response to an emergency or an ambulance ride to the hospital
- The First Aid Squad is staffed by volunteers, so the cost to taxpayers is minimal

### Who is on the Squad?

- Currently there are 35 active members from both towns
- Several members are high school students
- The members come from a variety of backgrounds: firefighters, law enforcement officers, engineers, physical therapists, business owners, mail carriers, nurses, lawyers, counselors, teachers
- All are volunteers!

### Where is the First Aid building located?

- The building is located at 309 Washington Avenue in Spring Lake, between the Spring Lake Police Department and The Scone Pony
- The first-class building has top notch equipment to fulfill its mission

### What is its Mission?

- To assist any resident or visitor in Spring Lake or Spring Lake Heights who may need emergency medical care and/or transportation to a local hospital

### How can you help?

- Lend a hand. Consider becoming a volunteer. Time is our stock in trade
- Each emergency call requires about 90 minutes of time
- Personnel are notified of a call by beeper, so you can be at home or around town, and respond when you are able
- Volunteers can help people onto a cot, into an ambulance, and onto a bed at the hospital
- CPR and basic first aid training is required. Free, on-site classes are provided.
- We need EMTs, too! An EMT is required for each call. We can arrange training for anyone who wants to advance to that level
- The squad needs a variety of natural talent, including data management assistance

Give us a call at 732-449-8810. We'd love to talk with you!  
Volunteering is a valuable resource for our community, and it feels good!  
Be assured that your neighbors who need the help will thank you.

Aquaponic farming system presentation – Founder of drop the beat farms came in to discuss a program for Mountz. Drop the beat has been seen in the New York Times, ABC news with Localish, CBS

News with John Elliot, NJ Readers Digest, The Coast Star Newsgroup & recognized as a distinguished

farmer from Grown in Monmouth and Jersey Fresh. The systems are in West Belmar Elementary School, West New York Middle School, and Forrestdale School of Rumson to name a few. They suggested one of two systems for Mountz. The larger system contains 336 vertical plants and can harvest 420 lbs. of tilapia. The smaller system contains 122 vertical plants and can harvest 300 lbs. of tilapia.

They explained that Aquaponics is the combination of aquaculture (raising fish) and hydroponics (the soil-less growing of plants) that grows fish and plants together in one symbiotic ecosystem. The fish waste provides an organic food source for the plants, and the plants naturally filter the water for the fish. And the benefits of Aquaponics: 1/10th of the amount of water usage, 1/4 the amount of grow space, two crops grown in one system (Fish and Plants), no herbicides or weeding, less disease and pest issues and dirt-free produce.

They suggest that the system for Mountz be in the back of the APR where all students can see the system. They said all students can work with the system and learn about it. They would install and maintain the system.

The system will be discussed in more detail in the Dec PTA meeting.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade fundraiser Chili Cook Off will take place on 11/19 from 12-2.

The PTA has formed a new committee called SEL Committee. Committee members are Kerry D, Keri T, and Rebecca S. Thank you for volunteering for our PTA's new Social and Emotional Learning Committee. Mrs. Levine updated the PTA on some of the school's SEL funding and programming at our last general meeting and the idea for this committee was borne from that discussion. The goal of this committee is supplement/support the school's SEL endeavors. Which can include suggestions for assemblies, activities, curriculum enhancements, or other school programs. All ideas welcome!

### **Teacher Liaison Report:**

None for today.

### **Administrator's report:**

Dr. LaValva expressed his gratitude to the entire Mountz community for their incredible efforts in organizing and running the Spring Lake Kitchen Tour. He shared that it was overwhelming to see the community come together and create a wonderful event. Which was so successful and will benefit HW Mountz.

### **Committee Updates:**

Giving Tree Update - The PTA is kicking off our annual holiday Giving Tree. We ask all students to bring in an unwrapped gift for a child their same age. Gifts can be left in the bin at reception at the front of school. We will be collecting gifts 11/14 through 12/1. We are partnering with Interfaith Neighbors in Asbury Park to distribute the gifts to children this holiday season. Last year we had close to 100% school wide participation. We would love to do the same this year!

Holiday Cookies for Teachers and Staff Update – this year we ask parents to bring in cookies from 12/1-12/9, 2 parents a day, 2 dozen cookies each. A sign-up sheet was passed around at the meeting and all slots were filled. Thank you to all who signed up!

Poinsettias for teachers and staff – question was asked if we should continue this program. Mrs. Levine shared that teachers and staff love receiving the handmade cards from the kids. And she would circle back about the poinsettias.

Elf Hunt Update – the hunt will take place in Dec. It will be updated a bit, and more detail will be shared as the date is confirmed. Thanks to our chairs Liz M and Kiernan D.

Gift Fair Update – the gift fair will take place on 12/15 and 12/16. A volunteer sign up sheet will be coming out soon.

Someone Special Dance Date Announced - it will be Sunday 3/19 4-7 at the SL Golf Club

SLED Liaison report: N/A

BOE Liaison report: N/A

2022 Kitchen Tour Recap:

Deirdre K thanked kitchen tour chairs, Cheryl L, Merritt M and Nichole V for a tremendously successful return of the Kitchen Tour. Cheryl L spoke about the day's success: Net profit is \$89,000 and should be \$94,000 once ads are paid in full. Cheryl encourages everyone to submit outstanding expenses. Cheryl was thrilled with the success and is very proud of the final product. The new enhancements were well received which included: Bag redesign, more premiums, doubled VIP sales, additional color ads in the ad book. Cheryl thanked Erika G. for contributions to graphic design in the ad book, a special thank you to restaurant team and Diane M for assembling bags. Overall, the tour was a huge success - thank you!