

VALENCIA HOME & SCHOOL CLUB
MEETING MINUTES
March 11, 2008

I. Call to Order and Welcome/Introductions

The meeting was called to order by President, Wendy Clarke.

Present: Deardra Cline, Jennifer Nowark, Kelly Austin, Letty Bess, Aimee Martin, Katrina Walkinshaw, Michelle Young, Dawn Schipper, Diana Elliott, Kate Sandusky, Kalena Allard, Kim DeSerpa, Jennifer Moore, Wendy Clarke, Christine Cornejo, Heather Jones, Diana Higginbotham.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion to pass the February 2008 minutes was made by Jennifer Nowark, and seconded by Christine Cornejo. Minutes approved as written.

III. Principal's Report- Diana Higginbotham

Diana reported that two Valencia kids had placed 1st and 2nd in the North Zone spelling bee and placed 5th and 8th for the entire county. Also, in the science fair, six Valencia kids won county honors out of our ten which were sent. Other good news was that a Valencia 2nd grader had won the Ag Bureau art contest and received a savings bond.

The bad news is the proposed budget cuts have put a strain on the staff. Diana is trying to keep moral up. Nicole Dennis, Valencia representative for the special committee formed to tackle the budget crisis, went to the meeting last night. Diana reported that some of the issues discussed were reducing special education, increasing the K-3rd grades from 20 to 30+ kids, cutting back school counselors at Jr. and High schools, freeze all staff salaries. Everyone is just hoping that the Governor won't make cuts so severely. It is important for everyone to participate in the letter writing campaign to let our elected officials know we need their support. Three sample letters were handed out to meeting attendees addressed to Maldonado, Simitian and Laird.

III. President's Report- Wendy Clarke

Wendy reported The Box Tops fundraiser just finished and Lily Hasbe, who chaired that event, reported that \$924.00 was made this year. Deedee Gordo will take over next year as Lily has a 6th grader this year.

A volunteer is needed to head up the board nominating committee for next year's Home & School Club board. Michelle Young volunteered to chair with Christine Cornejo helping her.

The floor was then opened up for anyone who'd like to present a fundraising idea for next year. Ideas will be heard today and will be voted on at the April meeting.

- The possibility of an auction spring 2009 was brought to the group.
- Kim DeSerpa spoke about the Macy's- Shop for a Cause fundraiser. This is a county wide fundraiser to help out any non-profit. \$5.00 tickets purchased will give you 20% savings at Macys on the day of the event- October 2008? The school would keep 100% of the money from the tickets sold. Kim volunteered to chair this fundraiser.
- Jennifer Moore spoke about the program 'Great Lakes Scripts' where you buy gift cards on line and the companies will give back 3-10% to the schools. Christine commented that Escript has the same program but we just haven't advertised or promoted it. Krista is our Escript person. Jennifer is interested in helping promote the gift card side of Escript. A table will be set up at the kinder round-up to sign parents up for Escript.
- Deardra Cline spoke about the possibility of a golf day and casino night at Aptos Seascap. The event was a successful fundraiser in the past for Rhett's syndrome. This year Deardra would like to see the event happen with all the proceeds going towards the Boundless Playground project. Deardra will Chair the event and do all the prep work. She has a list of donors and attendees which contributed to the last Rhett's syndrome event so she feels she's have plenty of support. The event is tentatively set for Friday, May 16th. Discussion took place. Renee is concerned that as a non-profit our tax ID number can not be used for a "casino". Another concern is that the proposed day is the same day as Walk for the Arts. Kate made a motion to go ahead with the fundraiser if our tax ID number will allow casinos. Renee will check into it. Heather seconded the motion. The fundraiser was approved.

IV. Treasurer's Report- Renee Roberts

Renee briefly reviewed the Valencia Elementary H&SC balance sheet and profit and loss handouts. The figures shown on the handouts are current as of January 31, 2008. Renee commented that Escript is above budget to date.

Renee explained the Monte foundation's 5 year program. We should be receiving a check for roughly \$5,800. The foundation requires a letter stating what the money will be used for before we get the check. Discussion was made about whether to use the

money towards the playground project or put in into the General fund. It was decided to put the money into the General Fund. Wendy will write a letter to the Monte foundation.

V. Playground Update: Kim De Serpa

Kim reported that \$113,000 has been raised for the Boundless Playground project will \$125,000 total needed. She has recently submitted, and has not heard back from, 12 additional grants. This month two donations from companies were made. One from Taylor Insurance in the amount of \$500; and the other from Brent Garvey Painting in the amount of \$1,000.

VI. Misc. other items

Letty Bess reported that 300 yearbooks have been pre-ordered so far. Discussion was made about whether she should order 400 as last year 335 were sold with more needed. The group agreed that she should go ahead and pre-order 400.

Diane Elliott who is the Chairperson for Walk for the Arts this year showed pictures of the proposed logo with picture. Tee shirts for every child and business sponsorship were discussed.

VII. Adjourn Meeting

The Valencia Home & School Club meeting was adjourned by Mrs. Higginbotham. The next meeting is April 8, 2008 at 10:30 in the library.