

VALENCIA HOME & SCHOOL CLUB
MEETING MINUTES
September 11, 2007

I. Call to Order and Welcome /Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Wendy Clarke.

Present: Renee Roberts, Dianna Higginbotham, Letty Bess, Diane Elliott, Raychel Alonso, Susie Ronzano, Karin Kerber-Smith, Kate West, Megan Donnelly, Deb Aaron, Kate Sandusky, Jennifer Nowark, Kim Sotero, Earlene Alexiou, Michelle Young, Heather Jones, Christine Cornejo, Kalena Allard, Kelly Austin, Jody Cole.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the May 2007 minutes was made by Kate Sandusky, seconded by Jennifer Nowark. Minutes were approved without changes.

III. Principal's report- Dianna Higginbotham

Dianna reported that our new playground is a huge hit. She thanked the Valencia Home & School Club for making it happen.

Back to School night was a big success with about 70% of the parents represented.

We are at full enrollment in each class which is a concern. We're trying to plan for a new community being built in the area with about 30 children who will possibly attend Valencia in November.

Jeremy Etrl, our new Asst. Principal, has set up noon time soccer games which the kids really seem to enjoy. He could use parents to help organize.

The Harvest Festival which is coming up next month is a wonderful community event but not a big money maker. Thanks to the Home & School Club for all support they give the school.

A big thank you to Letty Bess, past President, for the years of service to the Home & School Club!

IV. President's report- Wendy Clarke

Our REV drive has brought in \$4,625.00 to date. Another \$500 has been promised for November and \$250 in December.

Grants

Wendy reported for Kim de Serpa who was unable to make the meeting.

We have 4 grants funded since May.

1). The Slinger Foundation (through the Community Foundation) provided \$5,000 to Valencia in order to assist us putting in a play structure that is Universally Accessible for abled and disabled children. This was given on behalf of Madeline Kline who is a kinder in our special day class.

2). CVS Pharmacy awarded a \$1,000 grant that went directly to the Natl Center for Boundless Playgrounds so that we can partner with them in completing our project.

3.) We are awarded a grant called “picturing America” from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Library Association. They will be sending us laminated pictures of America’s best art along with curriculum.

4). California School Garden Grants, Dr. Woods submitted this on behalf of the whole district last year and was awarded. We should be getting \$2,500 this fall.

Currently she has a proposal pending with Community Foundation regarding the playground. Because we received the donor advised grant from the Slinger Foundation, we were able to apply for the donor round table. Normally not granted to schools, our proposal will be presented to 35 or so donors and each can decide to give from 1-5 thousand dollars. We should hear back in November.

Reiter Affiliated Berry Growers did promise a donation but not sent yet.

She did apply to Driscoll, Granite Rock and Bay Federal and was turned down.

Valencia has the North Zone’s special day class for children with cognitive and/or motor disabilities. A group has met several times over the last year to begin planning for the new Phase II play structure which they hope will be unbelievably fantastic for the kids, and meets the needs of all students, including those in special day class. The Boundless Playground will cost more than the conventional playground which is why she’s trying so hard to find the extra funding. If you’re interested, check out their website www.boundlessplaygrounds.org. Valencia’s project is registered there.

Kim is currently submitting grants to The Children’s Miracle Network and Home Depot.

V. Fundraising report

Back to School BBQ- Christine Cornejo

Christine reported that the BBQ hosted by the 5th grade class raised \$2,083 for their Outdoor School next year.

The Harvest Festival dinner is also hosted by the 5th grade class for Outdoor School and is currently looking for a 5th grade parent to coordinate that dinner. A flyer will go out asking for help and donations as soon as a Coordinator is found.

Harvest Festival- Jody Cole

Jody reported that the Harvest Festival is a great community builder and fun fundraiser. The event will take place October 26 from 5:30-8:00. The 5th grade class will host the dinner and each class will host a game, bouncer or dunk tank which Jody will get prizes for. There will be a Country store with pop corn , cotton candy, coffee and goodies for sale. The 6th grade class will have a haunted house. The possibility of a DJ was brought up with discussion which decided it's not really a DJ event which has the tendency of bringing in older kids. Volunteers will be needed for security around the parking lot area.

Monte Foundation Fireworks- Kalena Allard

Kalena reported that the event is October 13. 31 tickets have been sold so far 250 needed to be sold in order to qualify for 100% profit from the past 5 years. Kate suggested the Home & School Club cover the remainder that isn't sold by the cut off time to secure the 100% profit. Kate made a motion and it was seconded by Kalena.

Subaru Drawing- Kelly Austin

Kelly reported that tickets will be sold October 10-November 4th for the drawing of the 2008 Subaru Outback on November 11th. Tickets will be \$5.00 for 1 or \$25.00 for 6. She's going to the Subaru kick off meeting on October 9 and will get additional information.

Sally Foster- Heather Jones

Heather reported that starting this Thursday we will be selling Sally Foster gift wrap and candy for two weeks. Valencia gets 50% of the sales. The 5th grade class will get the Sally Foster proceeds to go towards their Outdoor School fund for next year.

VI. Financial Report- Renee Roberts

Renee reviewed the Valencia H&SC balance sheet and Profit & loss handouts. The figures are current as of July 31, 2007.

The class of 2007 left \$187.14 unused. Renee suggested transferring that amount to the general fund. Voted and approved.

The H&SC gives each new kindergarten class \$500 from the general fund each year. It was voted and approved to transfer \$500 to the class of 2014.

VII. Spectra Arts- Aimee Martin

Dianna reported for Aimee who was unable to attend. The money brought in by Walk for the Arts last year has funded two artists this year. The upper grades will have pastels and painting this fall. The lower grades program in the spring has yet to be confirmed. Also, we will have three art assemblies paid for by an art grant by the State of California.

VIII. Other Items

Wendy suggested transferring money from the school beautification fund to Dave Higginbotham to use on the school grounds as he sees needed. Dave does a wonderful volunteer job helping to make our school look beautiful! \$200 was voted on and approved to allocate from the school beautification fund for Dave.

Wendy also stated that we still have a board position open for a Recording Secretary. Let her know if you are interested.

VIII. The Valencia H&SC meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, October 9th at 10:30am in the Library.