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Treasurer, Sara Messmer [treasurer@bhspta.org](mailto:treasurer@bhspta.org)VP Communications, Carly Brettmann[communications@bhspta.org](mailto:communications@bhspta.org)

**General Membership Meeting**

**Wednesday, September 18th 2019 6:00pm in BHS Gym**

*The meeting was called to order at 6:35. Board members not in attendance were Wendy Wyatt and Carly Brettman. Although only 10 attendees signed in, there were between 20 and 25 attendees including present board members.*

1. Welcome: *Recognition to all students, parents, teachers and community members who provided support to all the upgrades that have taken place in the school garden.*
2. Secretary’s Report
   1. June minutes: edited to delete and add signors for accounting. Does membership approve with changes? *No changes to the minutes were requested and the membership voted to approve as posted.*
   2. Board approved an increase from $500 to $1000 for the Library. The money to cover this increase will be moved from supplemental funds. *No formal questions or comments were provided. However, there were some cheers and applause.*
3. Membership/Activities’ Report:
   1. Garden Club – Appreciation “shout outs”
   2. Sign-ups for committees and activities *A request was made for parents to look at the opportunities to get involved with several PTA committees found at the sign in table. We will continue to perform recruitment.*
   3. Upcoming activities – *Halloween Carnival committee meets on Tuesdays. Need volunteers. No further comments or questions.*
   4. Track Stars *Looking for parent volunteers for recess a few days a week, starting in October.*
4. Fundraising Report
   1. Value Village fund raiser *Made $370 and Limeberry made $67. Huge thanks to Volunteers from the Boston Harbor Association for helping us EXCEED our goals!*
   2. Upcoming: box tops *Will begin September 30th and go through October 18th*. *Changes have been made to how this program works. Stay tuned as we learn the details.*
   3. Color cycle bin in front of office. *This program goes all year long and any empty markers are accepted. Box is in front of main office.*
   4. Amazon smile/passive fundraising opportunities. *When shopping at****smile.amazon.com****, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to BHS PTA. Simply sign in and select Boston Harbor PTA as the charity of your choice. Get your friends and family to do it too! Your selection will be remembered and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation to the PTA.*
   5. Membership feedback on school play *The board discussed and has received feedback that we should be providing more opportunities to older students to engage in the play. We asked Colleen Powers from Apple Tree Productions attend our meeting and provide some options for our consideration. Ms. Powers identified that it is very challenging to work with k-2 students and that other schools have had success focusing on the older kids she provided 3 options, made some recommendations and provided suggestions on how to raise money to offset the additional costs.*

*A question was asked if using old plays could offset the cost of musicals. Only VERY old plays would not require a license*. *Comments were made that it is very common for tuition and fees to be required at other schools. We will post the handout on our webpage and extend the comment period. It will also be necessary to have parent volunteers to support this effort. s*

1. Communications’ Report:
   1. Website updated/Like us on Facebook.
   2. Membership feedback on most effective means of communications (paper in backpack, website, facebook?) *Generaly folks like the multiple levels of outreach including Harbor Highlights, FB and backpack handouts.*
   3. Directory
2. Treasurer’s Report
   1. Financial report/Budget report *A full audit was performed on the PTA finances for the past year. The outcome was highly positive as all records had been kept. New reimbursement forms are being developed and will include a signature line for committee chairperson initials. Sarah noted that she paid out $2100 and took in $1700 since school began.*
3. Presidents’ Report
   1. Meeting schedule for 2019/2020 school year – *We plan to have member meetings every other month.*
   2. Think big/supplemental funds *– We are doing cash flow analysis on our budget and hope to offer more insights in the spring.*

1. Principal’s Report: *New: Word of the month. This month is “kindness.” Curriculm night will be different this year. We want more inclusivity thus the open house next Thursday. More involvement with kids.*
2. New Business
   1. *Grant proposal expand book in the bag to all K-2. It was discussed that our standing rules provide no details for conducting the grant program. There was strong support for the proposal and it was suggested that we vote and approve the measure. It was also suggested that we should allow an opportunity for questions or feedback from non attending members. As a compromise, Pricilla Powers made a motion to approve half the funding of the request for immediate implementation of the program. The motion was seconded by Maggie Dunlap and a unanimous vote supported the motion. PTA will allow 2 additional weeks for review and feedback prior to taking a final action on the remaining funding request.*

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM.