

FRANKLIN PTO 9/27/2007 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Executive Committee Members in Attendance:

Kim Freedman	-	Co-Chair
Susan LaPierre	-	Co-Chair
Eleanore Boschert	-	Vice- President
Terri Romanelli	-	Treasurer
Walter Devine	-	Secretary
Ruth Chapman	-	Principal

Opening remarks and welcome from Kim Freedman.

A motion was made to Nominate Susan LaPierre as Co-Chair of the PTO, the motion was seconded and a vote was taken by voice all members answering in the affirmative and none in the negative the motion was passed and Ms. Lapierre was elected Co-Chair.

The executive board was introduced, the agenda for the meeting was passed out with the PTO mission statement. Both documents were reviewed.

Treasurer Romanelli then presented the budget line by line, a slight variance in the CAS Budget was noted, and subject to that exception a motion was made to adopt the budget, all present answering in the affirmative the budget was passed subject to the correction to the CAS line item.

A question was raised regarding the absence of the original artworks item. It was explained that this activity has generally been held every other year and this is the off year.

Principal Chapman was then introduced and spoke briefly and introduced the evening speaker, Robin Norman from Title 1. Ms. Norman reviewed the history of Title 1 from its inception under the LBJ administration to the current time. Newton has approx. \$79,000.00 in funds this year and the three identified schools for participation this year in Newton are Franklin, Lincoln-Elliott, and Bigelow. The funds are largely used to fund teachers in the areas of language arts and mathematics, although parents can also obtain funds directly for parental workshops in Worcester. The funding is now largely driven by MCAS results and AYP failure can dramatically impact funding. Ms. Norman then took numerous questions from the members.

Principal Chapman then spoke regarding the upcoming picture day as well as the windmills from peace day. She then presented a powerpoint presentation regarding her perspective on elementary education and the various constituencies at play in Franklin. She touched on many topics of current interest, such as the school improvement plan, the acclimation with the community, the safe school environment, and evacuation plan. She then took questions from the members in an open forum ranging in topics from MCAS results, Technology (keyboarding), Math Curriculum, a discussion of the open circle model, and the Principal Search Committee, and School Openings.

A review of all the committees was presented by the Chairs, and in their absence by the Executive Board. We really need co chairs for the auction in the spring. Heather Dias and Melissa

Denucci have set the bar very high, but lets not let the momentum they worked so hard to establish slip away.

Co-Chairs Freedman and LaPierre then thanked everyone for coming and the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken by: W. Devine