

GPA Meeting
November 17, 2009
Gateway Library, 6pm

1. Welcome and Introductions

Members present: Ginny Gjedsted, Julie Hagelshaw, Anne Carr, Steve Hyman, Pat and Bill Watson, Jackie Quella, Jude Deckenbach, Sandra Proctor, Martha Fulmer, Sharon Olken, Tina McGovern, Cindy D'Amato

2. Approve October Minutes – Pass for next month

3. Swamp Soiree Debriefing

Tina McGovern report: Fun, energetic & positive. Small community to coordinate a big event.

Sound & lighting: no AV running of kids/school as was done year prior; too expensive. Wanted to keep expenses low as possible. Unsure of revenue. Rentals (table and chairs) were included this year. Catering cost up a bit (tax?); ice sculpture donated. Design donated by Joann Wells' spouse.

How many came? Approximately 234 paid; faculty was comped (sp?)

Only 87 people bought stuff, except for raffle tickets by cash, but includes some people who paid on credit card.

Feedback: 3 people almost paid twice as much as anyone. Last year the raffle was done by a different person

Invitation should be changed to account for guests

Revenue could still go up based on money coming in.

Are all items paid for? Martha has some things to submit.

Items unsold...what to do? How many? Don't know right now.

Suggestions for unsold items: silent auction at Play or silent auction at PTA meeting.

Would anything stop us from having at the same venue? Jackie suggested using St. Mary's (on Gough) as an option. Tina caution is that there is a need of lighting, décor and rentals there. Site is great for parking and kitchen. Per Jude, Cindy Wilson chaired Rooftop when at St. Mary's. Per Sharon, sense wasn't as classy/upscale as we wanted event to be. Trade off is more expensive, but nice locale.

Per Sharon, one thing to think about, higher ticket sales last year. 87 people contributed, made more than 1st year, but more people. Lower ticket sales, more people and push for more people.

Per The Watsons Rooftop experience is different for the event to be in Feb/March. Look @ Design Ctr. (16/Sanchez) From them items logistically better. Rooftop has a lot of people planning. Postponement of event to later in school year can generate excitement.

Intimidating? Ticket price. What about setting tiers for the ticket price?

For next year: Communicate that the event is community building event. Jackie suggested having a sponsor level. As pay for x tickets. 3 families could pool together for progressive dinner.

Bill suggested selling kids' art as they do at Rooftop. The art teacher is against it at Gateway.

Per Sandra, highlight project week for the auction.

This year had 3 people soliciting.

Rooftop sets expectation. Each family is to get 5 donations. Each room has an auction representative.

Service discussion (suggested by Jude). Per Tina, Development office needs help/support, which was promised with bid sheets and live auctioneer. Agree that live person was wonderful. The availability of the reports at this meeting wouldn't be possible without them. If there was a community of enough people, then we could do it on our own. Pieces of service we were dissatisfied with, such as data requirements. No compromise. But they (the outside auction company) reconciled the numbers that night. And, they are still working on our data. Will we work with them next year?

Timing is a fundraising issue.

4. Upcoming Events: Gateway Play: A Midsummer Night's Dream, December 4,5 (evening) 8pm and matinee December 6 2pm(What's needed for the play and for the concession stand and parent volunteers.
Grandparents'/Special Friends Day, December 6th before the play matinee - what's it all about and special treats for the honorees and how you can help. \$5 for students; \$10 other; grandparent tea before. Ginny has parents to donate cookies. Concession to sell food and before and at intermission. Donated cookies, healthy items, cheese and crackers, fruit, water. Much of the same parents running it. Ginny has the list of participants helping. Can kids get community service if they bake/bring something? Possibly. But, they do get it if they volunteer. Students should be bringing a letter to bring grandparents. Need extra coat rack. (Sharon thinks there is one.)

Next open house is December 2nd. (Wednesday) Let Iris know if you can come.

8. Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie Hagelshaw, Secretary