

Board Members

Fatima Hill, President, Bethesda PTA
OPEN, Treasurer, Bethesda PTA
OPEN, VP - Communications, Bethesda PTA
Catherine Lombard, VP - Events, Bethesda PTA
Jessica Thornhill, Secretary, Bethesda PTA
Vernay Gilliard, Membership Chair, Bethesda PTA
Katrina Larmond, Principal, Bethesda Elementary School

GENERAL PTA Board Minutes

The General meeting for Bethesda PTA was held on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 in the Bethesda ES Cafeteria. The President called the meeting to order at 5:46 p.m. There were 32 members in attendance.

The President welcomed everyone present, apologized for the reschedule and invited Mrs. Larmond to say a few words.

Mrs. Larmond thanked the parents and staff members for coming out.

The Secretary established a quorum was present.

The President introduced Sandy Williams, Bethesda Media Specialist, to talk about the Bookworm Vending Machine for the Media Center that the PTA is purchasing with fundraiser dollars. Mrs. Williams discussed the details of the machine, who would get to use it, how teachers can leverage it with student behavior and that it will be stocked and replenished with Scholastic dollars earned from Book Fair weeks. Mrs. Williams also talked about the Bookworm Art Contest for the design of the vending machine wrap. Due date was extended a week to accommodate the general meeting reschedule.

The President discussed the open treasurer position, treasurer report and revised budget. The Holiday Shop proceeds went to cover part of the cost of the Bookworm Vending Machine. The budget was reported as follows:

Income: \$27,364.00 est.
\$31, 194.55 actual

Budget adjustments - a motion and vote were taken to approve the following revisions: Under expenses, International Night should not have been labeled a "Fundraiser". Fundraiser monies that exceeded the estimated numbers were to be rolled into the "Giveback" category to finish funding the Bookworm Vending Machine.

Vote passed with 25 members voting Yes and 1 member voting No.

The Membership Chair gave an update on current membership numbers along with our goal of 200 members. At present, we have 177 members.

The VP of Events discussed our BFF Walk coming up on Saturday, March 21st. There will be lots of activities along with the walk and Book Fair will be opened up to all participants that day. Our last Chick-fil-A Spirit Night will be on Thursday, April 9th. A volunteer sign-up sheet was made available during the meeting.

The President introduced Evelyn Chatters, Bethesda Parent Center Coordinator, to talk about what resources are available to all Bethesda parents. She was excited to mention that they had a successful "Parent Center Open House" in January. Parents are welcome to come in the mornings and all day on Tuesday to browse and borrow resources. Resources included flash cards, books, math workbooks, biographies, help with fractions and place value, etc. Mrs.



Chatters spoke about her work with parent volunteers and listed the three next major things she would need help with: sharpening pencils for testing, book fair and cutting out laminated items for teachers. She had several handouts and booklets for parents to take with them.

The Spring Fundraiser was announced by the Secretary. The PTA is offering an engraved brick on the outdoor pavilion for \$50-\$55 each depending on the message and graphics. This is a great gift idea to a favorite teacher, family member or graduating 5th grader. Due date for the order forms is March 26th. Unveiling of all engraved bricks at next general meeting on April 30th.

Mrs. Williams was invited back up to start her Family Technology Workshop. She reviewed eClass and the student portal. Two hidden gems showcased were Level Readers A-Z and Mega Math – both have great grade level resources. She also touched on Google Classroom and G Suite that students use in their classrooms.

The Membership Chair presented the open PTA board positions for 2020-2021. There are two board positions and all chair positions open for next year. Committees for dads were mentioned. All applications are due by March 20th. The members will vote at the next general meeting.

The President awarded the top fall fundraiser winners with their prize money. Anna Taylor was the top seller with \$834.00.

The President opened the floor for Q&A.

Q. "What is VP of Communications?"

A. Someone that knows about the school activities and can be a liaison between the school and the PTA. Responsibilities will include updating the PTA website and social media accounts.

Raffles were drawn, and parents were reminded of the Black History Quiz Bowl and Program on Thursday, February 27th at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Jessica Thornhill

Jessica Thornhill, Secretary