



SANDWICH CENTRAL SCHOOL PTO Newsletter

March 20, 2006

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Present: Alex Adriance, April Brackett, Wendy Chappuis, Kelly Cox, Sally Cunningham, Lobin Frizzell, John Hansen, Juli Hird, Heather Littlefield, Jennifer Petitti

Also present: Patsy Slothower and Bob Wright for the Sandwich Housing Committee

Meeting called to order, welcome to all.

Sandwich Housing Committee: Patsy Slothower spoke on behalf of the committee. She asked to have a questionnaire sent home. Patsy explained how the Housing Committee was formed and that the questionnaire is a tool to find out what people think. Bob Wright added that Sandwich used to be a place for craftspeople and now there are few crafters left because of unaffordable housing. Questionnaires had been handed out at the Town Meeting and other locations and these are available for people to read at the Town Library. The Housing Committee meets every third Thursday, 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Bob Wright then shared with everyone present an idea he had come up with. Parents and their child/ren take photos of trees coming out of rocks. These could then be published in the newspaper with the caption "It shouldn't be this hard to find a place to live." Students and their family could include their name with the photo. It was felt by some that this was not really something for children to do because they would not understand the concept. Also it was agreed that it was a political issue and the school should not be involved. Parents could do this on their own if they wish.

Kids Yoga Class: this program will be for K-6 and is a 6 week program. After discussion it was agreed that PTO should sponsor this activity. Minimum participation will be 10 students. Katie O'Connell will provide all the necessary equipment and will teach the class. There will be a cost involved but PTO has scholarship money if needed.

Officers for the next School Year: **Treasurer:** Wendy Chappuis
Secretary: Alex Adriance
President: April Brackett is interested but would welcome a co-president.

Both Wendy Chappuis and Alex Adriance will be stepping down from their posts after next year (06/07). If you are interested in being a co-president, treasurer or secretary, please call Kelly Cox (284-6188) or Sally Cunningham (284-7342). Wendy Chappuis said she would be glad to have an apprentice for next year!

Fundraising next year: Kelly Cox has volunteered to run Innisbrook and Sally Cunningham has volunteered to run the Book Fair. Discussion followed on how to get parents involved with the PTO.

Read Across America this year will be held on March 28th. Wendy Chappuis has ordered books from Scholastic Books so that each child will be able to choose a book.

Chess Club: John has spoken with Tim Muskat who said he would like to run the club again. Scheduling may be a problem but if the details can be worked out, the club will begin after April vacation. It was agreed that Chess Club participants should pay the Chess Club fee when they enroll. If this is a hardship, PTO has funds available.

Reach The Beach: nobody has volunteered to run this event. John Hansen said he would do it for next year. It was agreed to try and get people involved and also to reduce significantly the amount of food served.

Letter: the PTO has received a letter from the Superintendent thanking the PTO for their contributions to the Boston Science Museum trip and Merrowvista.

Other Business: It was agreed that a bulletin board should be set up at school for the PTO. The surface of the playground needs to be looked at. Diane Decker-Booty has written a letter to Wally Smolnik asking for an immediate response. All the playgrounds in the District have the same problem with the type of surface used.

John Hansen reported that we have 3 new students starting school tomorrow (3/21) in grades 4, 5, and 6. The results of the NECAP testing are being released tomorrow. Next week he will know what will happen with the teacher staffing for next year.

**Next Meeting: Monday, April 17, 2006
2:45 p.m. in the SCS Library**