**Voorhees High School**

**PTSO MEETING Minutes 11/13/17**

**Meeting began at 7:05pm.**

In attendance: Jen Desch, Kim Garrison, Anya Muhlhauser, John Simpson, Anne Marie Kroger, Mary Raefski, Kristen Rinehart, Andrea Cramer-Rigatti, Jennifer Kearney, Caryn Tomljanovich, Nancy Belick, Tom Driscoll, Anne and Ed Vazquez, Alisa Grossmman, Barbara Hankinson, Julie Snyder

**1. Introductions** were made by Jen, Kim and Anya.

Jen Desch, President

Anya Muhlhauser, Secretary

Kim Garison, Treasurer

**2. Officer Positions** were described by Jen, who explained why positions need to be filled and presented to the Board of Education.

Currently we are in need of a Vice President. With a school this size we need more volunteers to help chair and fill committees.

**3. Committee Chairs**

**Dine Italian** – was cancelled this year, but still open to holding it later on the night of a home wrestling or basketball game, or we can replace it with something else. Raised about $4k last year, first year was so low usually about $6k. Typically was used as seed money for the raffle prizes and expenses.

**Raffle** – Open, also need to discuss prizes for this year.

**Teacher Appreciation** – Julie Snyder

**Senior Scholarships** – Open, looking for someone who can solicit from local businesses to increase the scholarship amounts.

**Media/Advertising** – Open, were a few members who listed they were interested on the membership form. If you are interested, please attend our next meeting so that we can discuss this.

**Project Graduation** – Open

**School Board Liason** – Open, were a few members who listed they were interested on the membership form. If you are interested, please attend our next meeting so that we can discuss this.

**Graduation Lawn Signs for Seniors** – Kim and Anya.

**4. Role of the PTSO:** Past – Future - Present

The PTSO Sponsors: Student of the Month, Staff Appreciation Breakfast, Senior Scholarships, Project Graduation.

The PTSO would like students to become more involved. We discussed the possibility of inviting class presidents to attend PTSO meetings. We need something to involve the students, maybe be part of prom planning or something.

The PTSO also would like to be able to do more for the teachers and also would like for them to become more involved in the PTSO.

• One suggestion was to sponsor something along the lines of “Teacher Mini-Grants” that would cover expenses that typically fall outside of the budget like senior class projects such as Senior Weddings or the Nashville trip for the student television network national conference in March.

• Another suggestion was to create a “Teacher Wish List” sent out via email and parents can provide items.

• Another suggestion was if teachers joined PTSO, half of their membership dues would be deposited into a separate “account” and used as a pool of funding for teacher needs.

• We can try to mimic Student of the Month to include Teacher of the Month where students vote for a teacher each month or per quarter. Kids can vote online with a google form. Mr Simpson can send a link to each class, Kristin will create the document for distribution.

**4. Fundraising**

Open to Ideas, some suggestions included:

• Dine Italian – Decide if need to hold again this year. Need to use and pay cafeteria staff to run the kitchen. Asked local businesses for food donations and would not ask for donations this year, just parent donations.

• ShopWithScript.com account for about 200 different vendors and retailers. Caryn will look into it.

• Tricky Tray – Anne Marie participated in one in 2013 that generated about $10K. A lot of work but a good fundraiser.

• Rummage Sale – Anne Marie would be willing to help, has a lot of expertise with this.

• Dinner Around Hunterdon (or at one restaurant) where a restaurant will donate a certain percentage of the profits from customers who have the flyer or mention VHS. Kim G. looking into it with a friend from another town about a food truck festival. Return needs to merit the effort. Plus taxing same local businesses that already get asked by so many organizations. Try to keep local and community based. Will need a chairperson.

• Amazon – ask Maren to send the link information on its own now before holidays. Jen and Anya will make a flyer that can be posted at wrestling matches. Add it to the township board for community at large. Anne Marie and Claudia and Mary R volunteered to help distribute to various FB pages.

• Caryn asked about Senior based fundraising. Decorate a parking space – pay for priveledge to decorate their space. Mr. Simpson mentioned that Mr P had talked about that. He will ask about it.

**5. Treasurers’ Report**

Have $4,189.61 starting balance.

**6. Approval of budget**

Kim will have a detailed accounting and budget for the next meeting.

**7. Communication**

Web page needs to be administered from the school. Mr Simpson will contact Mr. Broan on how to update it.

**8. Thank You & Any Questions**

**Meeting Adjourned**