



MS 297 | SEVENTY-FIVE MORTON

PTA General Membership Meeting January 17, 2018 6:15pm Minutes

- I. 6:20 pm Call to Order – Nick & Bob (29 attendees on sign-in list) incl. 12 people who said they could never make a morning meeting
- II. 6:23 Review and approval of agenda
- III. 6:24 Reading and approval of last month's minutes
- IV. 6:25 Treasurer's Report – Judy - donations \$42,605 so far + \$6,750 in projected income from monthly donations thru June = 44% participation; today received \$10,000 contribution.
 - a. Interim Financial Report was presented by the Treasurer; must be filed with DoE every January; copy is attached to these minutes
- V. 6:30 Principal's Report – Jacqui
 - a. 75 Morton construction update - tomorrow Mike Mirisola, Director of External Affairs for NYC School Construction Authority is coming to school; will meet with Nick, Bob and Heather Campbell. Most outside brick is exposed now. Outside elevator will come down on 2/1/18; all outside brick revealed soon. In July we will be notified of move date. Hope to move early in the summer
 - b. Decorated class doors in advisory being judged tomorrow. There will be 12 categories so everyone is happy
 - c. New bulletin boards coming so may do another open house for parents to go upstairs
 - d. Monthly school-wide assemblies in Gym starting in Feb. Corey Johnson coming 2/7/18 to talk to the kids; kids are learning about him in social studies
 - e. In March, assembly will be screening of documentary, "Straws," about the environmental effects of using plastic straws; arranged by Sasha Lazard
 - f. Beginning to interview prospective new teachers for next year. If you have any good candidates please send to Jacqui
 - g. Math staff developer will be helping math teachers for 15 days starting yesterday
 - h. Ellen Rice, parent & educator, is bringing some teachers to visit schools in Queens for staff development
 - i. Request to Jacqui to email blast her weekly letters so more parents get them. Report cards coming out 1/31/18.
- VI. 6:41 President's Report – Nick & Bob
 - a. Possible Brass Monkey parents' party
 - b. Still need venue for roller; disco please send suggestions to Kim Youngberg
 - c. New Spring Collection of 75 Morton merch coming this semester. Picture day 2/2/18
 - d. Lice check tomorrow by LiceEnders: you will be called to pick up kids if they have lice; a

- week later there will be follow-up checks
 - e. Class Parents have been chosen for class-specific communication
 - f. Fedner LaChapelle volunteered to drive his car to pick up the fridge donated for teachers
 - g. Always need printing paper and whiteboard markers – bring them in if you can

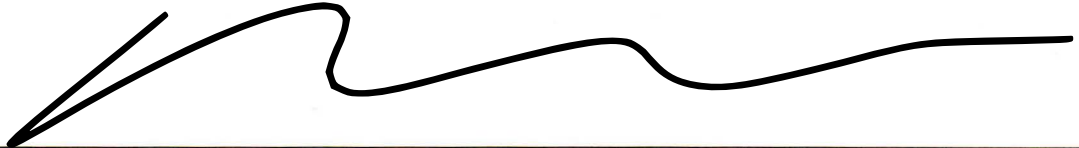
- VII. 6:52 School Leadership Team Report – Beginning process of naming the school. We will conduct a poll - kids and parents - that will go out with next week's newsletter. 75 Morton, Morton Middle and The Morton Street School are among suggestions. Jane Jacobs can't be used because her executor (son) rejected the request. SLT is reading the book by Ken Robinson "Creative Schools"- everyone should read it - lots of great ideas. Using it to frame a mission statement for the school.

- VIII. 6:54 Presentation on Socratic Seminar method – Nancy Letts, staff developer, shared work she is doing with teachers and students. So far, she has worked with each teacher other than PE. Has given Jacqui and other teachers new ways to think about teaching methods. Sit in a circle with the kids. Children can learn to think philosophically. If you keep asking the same questions the same 5 kids will answer them; she tries to get all kids involved. "Explicit Curriculum" – what is overtly taught. "Implicit Curriculum" - systems of status and power in each classroom, renders some kids invisible. "Null Curriculum" – it exists because it doesn't exist – if you find you don't understand a curriculum it becomes null to you. Attempt to have kids find meaning in all curricula. For example, teach math using Escher paintings and math involved in the painting. Get deeper into understanding the meaning of books, studies, experiences and art

- IX. 7:11 Committee Reports
 - a. Fundraising challenge update – Bob: going well. Will revive Direct Drive end of year. Looks like we'll meet our monetary goals but want 100% participation. Need to carry some money over to next year
 - b. Cathy Curtin's theater benefit New World Stages 3/19/18. 319 seats, 19 reserved for teachers/staff, 3 schools participating: Beacon, PS3, and 75 Morton. 300 tickets will be sold at \$100 apiece. Proceeds split equally by the 3 schools. Play is "Still Life" by Alexander Dinclaris (Oscar winner for "Birdman" screenplay). Asking A-list actors (mostly theater). Cynthia Nixon is a Beacon mom who can assist with casting. Will be a table read with 8 actors; glass of champagne after the reading. Tickets ideally released 2/19/18 (if have enough actors committed).
 - c. Soul Cycle – still setting a date, looking at March
 - d. Auction Party - April 20, 2018 with online auction before. Need to solicit donations so will need parent help. Go block by block, door by door to restaurants and shops
 - e. Clothing Pop Up Shop suggested by Cathy – if you can help organize contact Bob
 - f. Community Building (contact Jeanne or Alessandra if you have more ideas). We're setting the culture of this school so get creative and come up with ideas that will be part of what the school is in future. Update on proposed ideas: Hackathon – Douwe working on it. Family pickup basketball games - Heather. Screening idea – Jeanne. MLK day of service next year - Irma. Assemblies for song singing suggested. Jacqui reported on activities already in the works: Candygram on Valentine's day so all get candy. Kids-only talent show. Field trip to Jefferson Library to see art installation. Career day where parents can come in and talk to the kids.

- g. Basement space at 75 Morton – need to generate ideas; seeking creative uses for students and community, community partnerships. Prime West Village real estate – let’s get creative. Contact Nick at pta@ms297nyc.org with ideas
- h. Brainstorming re parent workshops – social media and teens and tweens being planned with educator, Michelle Ciulla Lipkin; self-defense (Tania Vargas); how to achieve the most with your life (Cathy); handling stress (Diann Witt); de-escalate situations; build confidence; meditation; model UN (Sabrina Dhawan); navigating LGBTQ issues; "Parents of Tweens" workshop (Kimberly Price); sex education; alcohol/drugs and how to talk to children about it; screenwriting (Sabrina Dhawan); involve kids in facilitating workshops (Gabe Z). Kids will have a class in 7th grade for sex ed using curricula approved by DoE
- X. 7:47 Old Business - lice already discussed
- XI. 7:48 New Business
 - a. Nominating committee formation – to find people to serve on PTA and SLT boards. Talk to Nick and Bob if you’re interested in helping out
 - b. Budget committee formation – very important for what we want to do beyond the curriculum. Forming next month, talk to Bob, Milpa and Judy if you’re interested
 - c. Soccer team made it to championships and both boys and girls basketball teams are doing well.
 - d. Naima – City as School is a beacon school so its rooms are open to use for classes like yoga. Contact her
- XII. 7:54 Adjournment

APPROVED BY:



Co-President

APPROVED BY:



Co-Secretary



Interim PA Financial Report

MUST BE FILED WITH THE PRINCIPAL BY JANUARY 31ST

School Name: MS 297

District or Borough: 2 / MANHATTAN

INCOME	
Income Source	Amount
Beginning Balance as of 7/1/20 <u>17</u>	\$ 0
Membership Dues	\$ 42,605.38
List below all other sources of income. List each fundraising activity separately. Include all gifts and contributions received. ¹ Amounts listed must be gross receipts, not profits.	
<i>e.g., Candy Sale, Picture Sale, Flower Sale, Green Market, etc.</i>	
School Merchandise	\$ 3,987.55
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
Total Income for the period	
\$ 46,592.93	

¹ Attach a page containing additional lines, if needed to account for all sources of income.

EXPENSES

Expenses² – Itemize each expense incurred during the period on a separate line. A single fundraising activity may involve more than one expense. Include PA donations to the school and identify the purpose for all donations.³

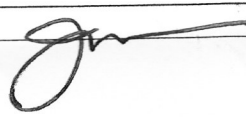
e.g., Payment to ABC Photography for picture sale services, postage for PA mailings, PA literature printing costs, etc.

	Amount
Quickbooks	\$ 141.54
PayPal Fees to Date	\$ 1,117.03
Lice Enders	\$ 300.00
Volleyball Nets	\$ 334.18
Printing of School Directory	\$ 255.80
Checks for DTA a/c	\$ 87.08
my school Anywhere membership	\$ 298.00
School Merchandise Lost	\$ 2399.00
Welcome Table Snacks: conferences	\$ 136.42
	\$
	\$
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	\$
	\$
Total Expenses for the period	
	\$ 5069.25

FUND BALANCE AS OF 1/15/20__

Total Income (including Beginning Balance) – Total Expenses = Fund Balance

Total Income from Page 1:	Total Expenses from Page 2:	=	Fund Balance:
\$ 44,592.93	\$ 5,069.25		\$ 41,523.68

Date Interim Financial Report was distributed to Members:		1/17/18
Date Interim Financial Report was distributed to the Principal:		1/17/18
Prepared By (print): JUDY YOUNG		
President Signature:		Date:
Treasurer Signature: 		Date: 1/17/18

² Expenses are any payments for goods or services provided to a vendor, store, business, etc., including reimbursements to members following the submission of receipts for out of pocket expenses.
³ Attach a page containing additional lines, if needed to account for all expenses.