

SAINT VIATOR PARENTS' CLUB MINUTES
OF THE MEETING 12-03-2007

Present: Eileen Manno, Bridget Platania, Jean Simpson, Jean Spiegelhalter, Nancy Murray, Carol Sandmeier, Jackie Frett, Pam Tidaback, Julie Barth, Kay Haubenreiser, Alice Wimberly, Barb Siemienas, Barbara Frenzer, Susie Thompson, Beverly Wickman, Karen McLoughlin, Chris Schmidt, Eileen Cortese, Marilyn Rittmeyer, Sharon McKee, Elizabeth Hansen, Mike Cowsert, Cathy Sweeney, Val Wallenberg, Sondra Stanley, Cheryl Lardner, Teresa Stewart, Debbie Roman, Diane Dettloff, Deni Janus and Terri Bordes

THE MEETING:

The meeting was brought to order at 7:55 PM by Parents' Club President Jean Spiegelhalter. Our Vice President, Jean Simpson explained the topic for next month's pre-meeting which is Alcohol Usage Awareness. She passed around index cards to solicit questions and/or words of wisdom/advice for discussion at next month's meeting.

Jean Spiegelhalter passed around a donation envelope for the Adopt-a-Family that the Parents' Club is supporting. We already collected money at the last meeting, but we recently learned that we will be providing for a family of ten, so Jean asked that another collection be made. Kathy Loy will coordinate the efforts. Jean thanked Kathy for organizing the pre-party and games. Kathy Loy also led the opening prayer.

Deni Janus motioned to approve the minutes and Jackie Frett seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

School Principal Eileen Manno began by stating that about three weeks ago Mr. Nall, one of our teachers, asked for a medical leave. He said he would be returning the beginning of the second semester. On Monday, another one of our teachers, Monica Stevens will return from maternity leave.

All registration, including summer school, will be done online for the school year 2008-2009. The cost of printing the curriculum guides is \$3,000.00, so it was decided to put the guides online this year. Information will be forthcoming.

Mrs. Manno wanted to address Facebook, the online networking site, because the school will be taking a look at the whole concept. They want parents to be aware of the information contained on these sites. Students can post pictures and messages on these pages. There have been instances of harassment, bad language, and embarrassing pictures that are available to anyone who has access to these sites. Conversations can be copied and pasted and sent to anyone. She also said that colleges are going on these pages, as

well as employers and there could be dire consequences for the student if there is controversial information on these pages. The sophomore party held last month, is a prime example of how these sites can adversely affect students and their reputations. Recently, it has come to light that a teenage girl committed suicide because of the harassment she encountered on one of these sites. The problem with these sites is that you don't really know who you are talking to. In the above incident, the girl thought she was talking to a teenage boy when, in fact, she was talking to the mother of a friend.

Officer Cowsert said that he is part a team that offers a Safety Internet Presentation. So, while these blogs can be very beneficial under the right circumstances, we need to learn the best way to use the networking system.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Deni Janus stated that the Housewalk made about \$6,000.00. There is \$69,429.28 in the General Account at this time. Senior Events has \$2,816.69 due to the deposit made to reserve the Mystic Cruise for Post Prom.

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS POLICE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Officer Mike Cowsert talked about the programs he is involved in such as Cyber-bullying, Internet Safety and the sophomore health class presentation. He would be willing to do a presentation for the school anytime.

The signs for the Liquor stores are still being processed.

A parent asked about the new curfew going into effect for ages 17 and younger on Jan. 1. Officer Cowsert will look into it and present the new law at next month's meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FASHION SHOW - Sunday, November 11, 2007

Jean Spiegelhalter thanked Carol Sandmeier and Barb Siemienas for their hard work and success at the Fashion Show. Carol Sandmeier spoke on behalf of the co-chairs and began by thanking everyone for attending the show. She said 593 attended the show, which was in line with the 600 they set as a goal. They intentionally kept the number at 600, because in prior years, when between 620 and 630 attended, it was a little crowded. The ticket prices were increased to \$50.00 this year.

The Fashion Show made around \$52,000, although there are still some outstanding expenses. In January she will give a full accounting. Carol thanked our Treasurer, Deni Janus for all her help. Carol said the watch raffle was a good moneymaker. Carol also thanked Barb Siemienas and all the dedicated volunteers. She said the production company was phenomenal.

For future shows she had some suggestions: having more than one Chair - because it is

too much work for one person; faster check out lines and changing the method of announcing the raffle prize winners. She said it is too tedious to call out all the ticket numbers at the luncheon. She would like to have a live auction as well as the silent at next years show. Ticket prices will remain the same. There will be new model guidelines as well.

METROPOLIS: - Saturday, January 5, 2007

Eileen Cortese said tickets are on sale and even if you can't attend the event, please pass the word and encourage others to attend.

FLORAL SHOW - Wednesday, March 12, 2008

Pam Tidaback said there was nothing new to report, they will have more information after the 1st of the year.

HOSPITALITY:

Nothing to report.

CLASS REPS:

Nothing to report

SENIOR EVENTS:

They are just starting to meet and are getting their list of volunteers firmed up.

MARKETING/WEB PAGE:

Teresa Stewart said pictures from the Fashion Show will be available next month.

OLD BUSINESS:

Parents' Club President, Jean Spiegelhalter wanted to revisit the issue from last month's meeting regarding the dancing (grinding) that goes on at school dances. Jean said she spoke with many parents and the general consensus from their students was that they don't understand why the grinding is a problem and they think parents are overreacting to the situation. After meeting with the board, it was decided that parents should talk to their own children about this issue. They also decided that the music being played at the dances will be examined. Mrs. Manno said they don't want to discourage kids from attending the dances, so they will do what they can to control it, within reason. She realizes that there is a lot of peer pressure to dance this way and they will try to address

those issues.

January - Pre-Meeting is an open forum for parents to ask questions about and share experiences relating to teens use of alcohol, drugs, and other vices. Questions can be submitted anonymously.

In February, Mrs. Duggan, the College Counselor, will be the speaker at the pre-meeting. Among other topics, she will be discussing the use of a scatter gram program they would like to implement at Saint Viator.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Bordes
Recording Co-Secretary