



PHACT PTSA December Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, December 14th at 6pm, via Zoom Video Conferencing

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93444248153?pwd=NFVlYnpKMxhPUXNJaJFJSVRybFdxdz09>

Meeting ID: 934 4424 8153

Passcode: m3LDp2

Attendees: Sherry Smardon, Cindy Palmer, Christy Andrychowski, Lisa LaBelle, Heather Victoria, Darcy Baran, Judy Noel

Agenda Items

1. Approval of November Minutes

1. Motion to Approve: Cindy Palmer
2. Second Motion to Approve: Lisa LaBelle
3. Comments or abstentions: No
4. Motion carries via vote: Approved

2. Treasury Report and Approval

1. Any update on receiving the CVSH/Aetna grant?
 - a. Action: Christy to check with CVSH/Aetna
2. Motion to Approve: Christy Andrychowski
3. Second Motion to Approve: Lisa LaBelle
4. Comments or abstentions: No
5. Motion carries via vote: Approved

3. Membership Report

1. 70 members as of today
 2. Email reminders are still being distributed; also on FaceBook
 3. Heather checking with CTPTA re: membership level needed for PH seniors to be eligible to apply for the scholarship
 4. Reminders to PH staff are fine; also reminders during events, etc. are beneficial
 5. Actions: Heather to provide Darcy with a list of staff that has already signed-up; Darcy to place forms in mailboxes
-

6. Actions: outreach to Senior class families to advise of scholarship possibility via email; Heather to draft/develop the wording for the email; Darcy will email this along with some other updates; Christy to print/bring membership forms to the High School games (ticket table)

4. Advocacy Report

1. Curriculum (DEI) – Lisa to reconnect with Mr. Tedeschi in January
2. Grant application for National PTA's Center for Family Engagement
 - a. Active engagement of current school community
 - b. Diversity within happenings at the school; population with concerns
 - c. Lisa working on grant for submittal on 12/19
3. Cultural awareness activities
 - a. Table in cafeteria for monthly awareness event; action: follow-up with Kathy on contact for Native America Awareness month for next year
4. Mental Health Advocacy
 - a. Trevor Project Resources – Lisa did some research and rec'd an email from the Trevor Project; holiday awareness – stress/anxiety
 - b. Action: Lisa to turn this over Mrs. G for GSA students
 - c. Making our parents and community aware of the resources we have – start with pamphlet in the mail describing services we have at PH; what services, what do they do, how do they reach-out for services, etc. (social worker, psychologist, etc.) – consider Zoom Q&A session with our PH staff and parents (consider a night in March/April)
 - i. Darcy – Safe space should be ready soon (also virtual space)
 1. Have been getting into classrooms, have held assemblies after events, trying to encourage both students and teachers to be more open and knowledgeable, etc.

5. Reflections Report

1. Update – Reflections has been broadcast through various mediums (PH Happenings on the Hill, loud-speaker announcements, teachers, etc.)
2. Need to get this going before holiday break to ensure we have time before the deadline
3. Action: Darcy to follow-up with PH teachers

6. Recent Accomplishments

1. FunDrive complete
 - a. Amy Famiglietti (Savers) joined the call to debrief; definitely a success story from the Savers perspective
 - b. Referral program has gone fully-automated; PH can access our unique referral code ("Earn Even More \$\$"); can share to FaceBook/email/etc. – shares that are acted upon successfully by non-profits will get us another \$50
 - c. Sherry suggested that we do a final email (pics/stats) from the PH event; develop verbiage that can be shared with the 3 towns (Scotland, Hampton, Chaplin)
 - i. Action: Lisa to pull together PHACT FB post with referral link (to go out as soon as Lisa gets the link)
-

- ii. Action: Happenings on the Hill (Action: Darcy to coordinate the thank you)
- d. Lisa clarified that we (PHACT) could share with PH (if a class or team wanted to do a fundraiser) – would be considered a separate organization
- e. Trend to hold another Fundrive? Can be held up to 4 times per year (one or two times per year is normal for groups) – perhaps balance (Spring and Fall)
- f. Keep Fundrive on agenda going forward (under Ongoing Business – Fundraising)
 - i. January – lessons learned

7. New Business

1. Papa Gino's Fundraiser 12/22/21 (4p-8p) (Christy)
 - a. Action: Christy to send email blurb to Darcy for Happenings on the Hill; Christy to post to Facebook
 - b. Action: Darcy to ask Matt put it on the website and Google Classrooms; also, Darcy will ask Matt to announce on Connect Ed the day before the event
 - c. Action: Lisa to send through the PHACT email distribution
2. Anonymous Donation for DNB memorial fund – consider ongoing management of memorial fund dollars
 - a. Have met with RD11 to get more detail; did not get enough information to make a decision so we are reaching-out to that other group to get more info (and to the financial institution that takes care of the RD11 fund)
 - b. Action: meeting to be pulled together to re-evaluate current standing and future management (consider ROI, control, reach to community, etc.)
 - i. Schedule meeting with the Community Foundation of Eastern CT. to understand requirements for endowment; Sherry to have a brief conversation with her contact: will pass contact info over to Judy and Lisa

8. Ongoing Business

1. Updates from
 - a. Brooklyn shadow visits follow-up – one student so far
 - b. Sprague Nov. 23rd visit – went very well; ~35 students (panel, good feedback, etc.)
 - c. Continuing outreach to Brooklyn, Canterbury and Sprague for shadow visits; holding until January based on current COVID environment
 - d. Canterbury – provide transportation to/from Helen Baldwin School
2. Staff Appreciation Days
 - a. Timing of upcoming appreciate days – January (school security and climate specialist) – January 9th
3. Teachers' Needs
 - a. Heather heard back: Mrs. Abby – upping of STEM credits (9) for graduation: should go through the Board of Ed (readying for next year's Seniors); meeting with admin 12/15
4. Inspirational Quotes Project Update
 - a. Mr. Tedeschi gave the go-ahead
 - b. Awaiting dates that folks can get into PH during holiday break

- c. Materials to be gathered for Cricut production; outreach to seniors and senior advisors to help put up signage (Michelle Murray has Cricut but may be busy; email to PH librarian to see if she can help out as well)
 - i. Cricut paper is a bit pricey but Michaels, etc. normally give discounts
- d. Add some quotes in Spanish
- e. Action: Heather to follow-up with the PH librarian and Andrew
- 5. Fundraising
 - a. Cook book or
 - b. Calendar – photography class isn't happening until next semester (consider this fundraiser for next year)
 - i. Update from Darcy: was to outreach to photography teacher to start collection of photos/artwork
- 6. Business sponsorship of PHACT (Fundraising)
 - a. Sponsors have been on webpage for well-past the year; reach-out to current sponsors to re-up for 21-22 school year; reach-out to local/community businesses (RTS, Bagel One)
 - b. Treehouse Comedy – interest in comedy night in 2022 or 2023
 - i. Lisa spoke with the French Club (no current restrictions) – won't be a limiting factor
 - ii. Lisa spoke with Treehouse – contract and commit two months prior to an event; no penalty in postponing
 - c. Let's consider potentially April once we are a little closer and have a better idea around COVID concerns – REVISIT for January
- 7. DNB Memorial Scholarship (Fundraising)
 - a. Name plate ordered for last year's recipient – plaque is with the printer
 - i. Action: Sherry to follow-up on plaque pick-up
- 8. Booster Club Update
 - a. Current President and Secretary are stepping-away from Boosters; consider Boosters function joining PHACT
 - b. Continue to discuss at January PHACT meeting

9. Open Discussion

- 1. Next meeting date: January 26th, 6p via Zoom