

**Audubon Charter School
PTO Executive Board Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2008**

Members Present:

**Secret Mbaye
Michelle Ancar
Shelley Kelly
Lora Carapina
Patty Kissinger
Robin Stead
Daliah Bauer
Leila D'Aquin**

**Mischelle Thiels
Joe Ryan
Laura Garbers
Christine Brennan
Rima Abumousa
Undine Jost Zengel
Jeanne Kessler**

Adminstration:

**Dawn M. Collins
Janice A. Dupuy**

Loetitia Ducos

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

Minutes from the September meeting were approved with changes.

Special Guest, Ray Humphries- Repicci's Italian Ice fundraiser – Mr. Humphries presented his fundraising ideas to the group including sale of flavored popcorn and Italian ice mixes. He said Audubon would get 40% of the profits from sales with no upfront investment. Payment made upon delivery. He can be contacted on his cell at 504-458-5816 for details.

French Director's Report – Madame Loetitia told the group about a visit from the French Minister of Education. It was an important and successful visit, she said.

Principal's Report – Ms. Janice attended the Master planning meeting on the previous Monday and reported that she understood that the master plan pertains to buildings only and has nothing to do with school programs. She reminded the group that we need to be politically correct and make sure the Broadway remodel remains in the Phase I plans. She said Darryl Kilbert, Superintendent of Orleans Parish School Board, will interpret the findings of the Master Plan and help us figure out what they mean for Audubon.

She said the FAME Board approved the adjusted school calendar and the revised version will be printed in the Rarebird. She added the last day of school is Monday, June 1st, a half day.

Ms. Dawn reported that leap tutoring has begun for 4th and 8th graders. She said there would be a work day at Carrollton campus on the 18th.

Rarebird – Dahlia Wolfson asked for submissions to the Rarebird by Monday at noon. Submissions can be made at rarebirdnewsletter@yahoo.com. She added they are trying to get a student from the 6th, 7th or 8th to be a sports writer for the paper.

Christine Brennan reported on her experience getting the Rarebird printed. She suggested we ask for permission from the general membership to outsource the printing with PTO funds.

Ms. Janice suggested we send out the Rarebird electronically and said we could use the new broadcast system to distribute the paper.

Ms. Janice reminded the group that the decision to go paperless was an administrative decision and not one made by the general membership.

Patty Kissinger made a motion to go to the general membership and ask for funds to outsource the printing until we finalize plans to go paperless. Christine Brennan seconded that motion.

Treasurer's Report – Joe Ryan reported there were excess funds left from last year's French trip and suggested we ask the general membership to reallocate those funds.

He suggested we purchase a PA system with PTO funds and someone reported there is a PA system. Joe said he would locate it for the next meeting.

Joe also recommended adding \$500 to art teacher Louise Johnson's budget.

Christine Brennan suggested we add \$500 to her budget. Joe said he would put this before the general membership.

Someone reported that Athletics Director Tina Felix asked for funds to purchase a digital camera. Joe suggested we use the existing AV budget to purchase a camera for each office and have them available for check out.

French Vice President- Jeanne Kessler suggested we provide an email address where parents can pose questions to be selected by Janice and answered at PTO meetings. A discussion ensued but the matter was tabled until the next Board Meeting.

Joe Ryan suggested we use capital funds to put heating and ac units in the portables. He has researched the mini-split system and thinks the cost would be around \$1500 per classroom. Christine Brennan made a motion for the treasurer to explore this further and present findings at the next Board Meeting. Motion was seconded and approved.

Membership – Christine Brennan said 110 membership surveys had been returned so far. She asked Ms. Janice if the administration would like to resurvey. Ms. Janice said to put the survey in the Rarebird.

Room parents – Undine Jost Zengel reported there was a French room parent for every classroom and they were almost there on the Montessori side as well.

Fundraising - Lora Carapina reported the Innisbrook sale ends on Friday. She said the sale is not going well. She said there was huge participation with the Silver Graphics program. Fallfest will be on Nov. 15th. All food has been 100% donated. They hope to raise \$20,000.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.