

**November 4, 2015**  
**CMS PTO Meeting Minutes**

**Call to Order:** 1:36PM

**In attendance:** Lisa Morgan, Heidi Short, Angie Sullivan, Nancy Chira Garcia, Murial Lin, Kath Uyeda, Victoria Beach, Lynn Cordell, Paul Behan, Ken Griest, Nakelle Fitzpatrick, Kristin Hunter, Heidi Short, Tanja Roos, Merrie Potter

**Approval of Meeting Minutes ~ September and October – all approved.**

**Treasurers Report:**

**Please see attached.** There are some additional activities to add to this figure; The Giants game busses (via Discovery Busses) (\$2500/bus), as well as the Islands Lunch busses (via CUSD). Still need to be paid;  
October Profit/loss sheet is also attached, as it was available at the bank

**President's Report ~ Murial Lin.** We had a pre-meeting with Ken, Heidi, Lisa, Murial, about a week ago, to discuss the annual budgeting. Years ago, CMS PTO had a line item for about \$10K that went to MEarth. Last year, CMS PTO had a line item for \$4500. However, with the District covering monies for most of MEarth, they are now asking for \$10K annual contribution from the CMS PTO via a line-item.

Tanya ~ Executive Director of MEarth. She is proud of the partnership CUSD and MEarth have developed; she is here to ask for year over year consideration of a standard amount of money so she can plan and budget. CUSD is the primary client of MEarth; however last year, worked with over 5600 other community members to use as a resource. Their mission is to inspire and encourage via environmental stewardship this wonderful habitat. Their team makes sure that this is a safe, fun environment to facilitate learning. Looking to raise more funds via the community.

Currently, we CMS PTO supports at about \$4500/year. But need habitat facilities support as well. What does it mean to maintain a property at this level of support? (Please see attached.) Year round maintenance is \$86K. They would like CUSD to carry half that number. However CUSD feels best at \$15K. Tanya is doing a lot of fund raising in the Community in order to make up that funding shortfall. What is the value of having MEarth in our children's lives? Huge, according to our Principal – Mr. Griest. He values the relationship, watches all kids/classes gaining valuable experience via this environment. We also contribute to the overall (Monterey County) community health, because this site supports lower income/underserved kids in our community. Today, they are asking for \$10K for annual property maintenance. Not locked in; and there is a value to having a line-item so that they can count on it.

Motion to approve additional funding to MEarth ~ \$10,500 for each year past this (2016 –on).  
**All Approved!**

**Honor's breakfasts** ~ coming up. Reps are taking care of it. 8<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade need to decide whether we still want Paris Bakery to provide this? But do the kids still want the same old vendors to provide the treats/rewards each cycle? For the breakfasts; we are keeping with the current vendors and grade reward-cycles; may consider changing future rewards.

### **Mrs. Fowler's Scholarship – Nancy Garcia:**

Several highly respected camps were researched by Nancy. Please see email from Nancy Garcia attached to meeting minutes. CMS would award scholarships to a handful of students who are deserving. The choice before us is to establish a budget amount for the year. (\$1000? \$5000? – who knows?) So, if you did two scholarships for \$2K, and each camp was \$500-1000K, then you really help some kids. Attached to the kid? Or the program? Need to set up a committee with criteria of who determines who gets how much. Ken is willing to sit on that committee. He needs an additional 4 parents who may be interested in also serving on this committee to help determine the value of the dollar spent. Many camps begin receiving applications in February, so we need to work quickly, or put it off until next year. Ken will put out a call to Angie to create a volunteer sign up for this purpose.

### **Building for Girls at CMS ~ Ken Griest**

Ken would like to establish a Gazebo or meeting place for CMS girls. He envisions a nice seating /gathering spot to counter the spot for the boys Wiffle ball court. Ken will talk with Dan Paul about a space where there is supervision; Victoria Beach, a parent and architect, is going to volunteer to help with this project and help the girls / boys/ students in the creative process and nurturing their talents.

### **Ways and Means ~**

- New Music teacher: Sarah Prusasky, from NY. Has taught for many years. She wants to encourage an after school rock band. Needs two electric guitars and amps. (\$500/ea)

**ALL APPROVED**

Meeting adjourned.