Murrow Art Patrons (MAP) Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2019, 6:30-8:00, Edward R Murrow HS, rm. 438

Present: Angie Pruitt, Nell Mermin, Gilbert Flores, Howard Gibbins, Randy Berger, Mary Berger, John Thomas, Kerry Sullivan and Spy Kontarinis

1. The Meeting was called to order at 6:38
2. Meeting Minutes from October 21, 2019 were distributed, read and unanimously approved.
3. Spy, A.P. of the Art Department, thanked MAP for its effectiveness, commitment and noted the exceptional kindness of the parents who make up the organization.
4. No Treasury Report is available. Kerry reports it will be forthcoming in the next months.
5. Kerry Sullivan gave the President’s Report.
6. Before launching into new developments, Kerry noted that she had not yet progressed on two projects of interest:
   * 1. Consulting with other heads of PTA arts committees about updating the website with a “Donate” button
     2. Pursuing Jen’s multi-talent/multi-event “City Pass” concept, which has garnered lots of MAP support.

B. Bake Sale at Auditions

1. yielded almost $800 in net profit ($800 in sales, with minimal costs.) Most of the sales were food (only a few hoodies were sold)
2. MAP banner has been unveiled and was enthusiastically embraced.

Tablecloths and t-shirts forthcoming.

6. Old Business

A. Murrow Art Patron Website

Kerry made a plea for assistance in updating (John to assist)

B. Portfolio Committee

At prior meeting, it was discussed that a bound book of student work would be available (for sale) at the Spring Art Show in lieu of a program. Various types of books were discussed (bound, as on Shutterfly or, alternatively, a plastic spiral bound.) Kerry expressed concern that the committee’s work get underway. It is unclear whether anyone has volunteered thus far to serve on the committee.

C. Offsite Wine Tasting

To be held in February (tentative date is February 11th) at DRINK (Drinkplg.com) Intention is to invite parents, teachers, and alumnae MAP personnel (Spy has put the date in the calendar.) As yet to determine whether student art will be on display. Space will hold 60 or so. Parent owners were present and showed pictures of the gorgeous space, noting that it is near Botanic Garden and trains.

D. Budget

Spy indicated that she has consulted with teachers to ascertain their wishlist items. Some of these items will be available through school budget, (such as air purifiers) others have already been purchased through MAP funds (Paint disposal cans) Other items of interest include wall hooks, track lighting of the Art Show, a drill bit set and shelving inside a tool shed (which John has volunteered to help Ms. Holcomb obtain.) John and Gil have also volunteered to build canvas storage for Teachers Rosado and Holcomb. GIl has indicated that he may be able to obtain, used, other items of interest: A poster-sized drying rack and printing press (both of which are of interest to Mr. Magin) Gilbert will report back what he is able to obtain, and the committee will look into sourcing other items of interest.

Angie and Nell indicated that Mr. Magin had also expressed interest in a mobile lap-top cart which would enable a classroom’s worth of students to not only be educated in how to develop a digital portfolio but to take pictures and upload their work. As elaborated upon by Spy, the intention was expressed to help students develop student portfolios and the necessary skills starting in Freshman year. Additional requested supplies for this purpose would be 5 SLR cameras ($400-500/each) and 3 lighting setups ($150/each).

E. Grant-Writing Committee:

Currently comprised of Nell Mermin and Angie Pruitt (other members welcome!)

1. Currently investigating means of supporting acquisition of needed materials/equipment. Looking into:
   1. Donor’s Choose (necessarily teacher driven, but possibly can be initiated/supported by MAP volunteers) It is an on-line “wish-list” which allows for individuals/businesses to pay for teacher’s wishlist needs. Available purveyors include Blick and Amazon.

Spy indicated she knows this is often very successful for teachers.

Angie to upload request for printing press on Scott Magin’s behalf and process/success will be assessed.

* 1. Governmental Support (Borough President Eric Adams office) Nell has cleared with Spy that the laptop carts would be an Art Department priority and that if clearance is received from APO, Christine Ingordo, the committee can investigate these sources of funding.

1. Grant Writing Committee to attend early morning Art Department meeting to offer support to teachers, and ascertain how MAP can be helpful to them. Meeting currently scheduled for Tuesday, December 3, 8:15 am. Nell/Angie to email Spy to doublecheck scheduling as date approaches. Other interested MAP members welcome to attend.
2. Afterschool Clubs: Interest was expressed in funding afterschool clubs which would be supervised by Murrow Art Teachers Spy to ascertain from teachers whether they’d be interested.

7. Open Studio (5-8pm November 20)

1. Spy says teachers ready and excited to attend, that all Art Institute teachers will be present, the Department is organizing the event, and workshops will be available.
2. Kerry indicated that 6-7 parent volunteers are necessary. She thinks that they have self-identified.
3. Kerry requested that clear signage (for old-people eyes) be available to assist in navigating the floor.
4. Food Stuffs being brought by fabulous parents (chili, hummos/veggies, popcorn, beverages, Union Market donations)
5. Merch will be for sale
6. MAP Postcards will be available for distribution by Donation jar.
7. Spy checking with Music Department to see if musical trios available for ambiant music.
8. Spy/Kerry checking to make sure Rosie sending out reminders to students/parents.

Meeting adjourned a few minutes early. (Sorry, was stunned by this development, and didn’t actually note the time.)

Submitted by Nell Mermin

11-19-19