

Delaware Military Academy PTA Minutes

April 19, 2018

Attendees: See sign in sheet.

Call to Order and Opening Remarks:

- Tatiana Rice brought the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.
- Tatiana Rice lead the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

Anthony Pullella, Commandant's Report

- Back from Spring Break, now winding down the year. Seniors have "checked out" but a good group of cadets with no issues to report.
- PSAT/SAT's went well.
- Administrative team gearing up for next year with budget requests and staffing plans.
- National Honor Society induction was last night (4/18). 24 cadets from sophomore and junior classes inducted which comprises less than 10% of the 2 classes so not easy to be part of NHS. The small, "quaint" ceremony went well.
- New Cadet Orientation will be on May 1st, a long night with lots of information given.
- New Cadet PT testing will take place on April 28th.
- Prom will take place on May 4th at Hartfeld. All attendees will take a breathalyzer at the door. Mrs. Enderica does a great job with prom.
- Academic Awards night will take place on May 16th.
- Building of the stadium is expected to start this month but the state is slow about getting permits. Should take 2+ months once it gets started then our campus will be complete! Mr. Pullella said he has other ideas for the campus but is keeping them under wraps!
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Secretary:

- Debbie Brown, Interim Secretary, provided the March 2018 meeting minutes. Cami Pisklak with the 1st motion and Debbie Riley Geist with the 2nd motion approved the minutes with no edits.

Treasurer's Report:

- Erin Battista was not present but Cami Pisklak reported that everything is going along fine. Underage and overage are as expected.
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Vice President Reports:

- Executive VP - Maryellen Charno - not present/no report
- Communications VP - Cami Pisklak - SignUpGenius for New Cadet Orientation coming out soon. Website is up to date.

Committee Activity Updates:

☐ Activities Committee - Committee Chair Kathy Bleacher reported:

- Working on Year End Picnic (5/25). Tatiana added that the picnic has morphed into more than the PTA just providing food making it difficult to coordinate. Last year it was rained out. Had a meeting with Mr. Pullella and decided that PTA would provide food (hamburgers and hot dogs rather than pizza) and the school will provide activities (hopefully to include a dunk tank). Need to go through the Activities budget to plan, having a meeting on May 1st to finalize details.
- Bell Ringing Ceremony (5/25) - old Navy tradition/last time you leave the ship you ring a bell. Seniors and parents typically leave after the ceremony and underclassman stay for the picnic.
- Senior Breakfast - will take place in May. Mr. Pullella added that nothing has ever been done for the Student Government, particularly the President and Jimmy Sidlowski who has done a great job. Mr. Pullella is asking 1 senior to stand up at the breakfast and say something about Jimmy, he would like to start this as a new tradition (maybe PTA can assist with a plaque or some other gift for President and VP).

☐ Fundraising Committee - Friday Lunch - Cami Pisklak reported for Committee Chair Maria Gedney:

- Actual profit is \$10,400, projected profit \$12,800. Missed lunch due to snow cost us about \$500 in profit.
- Membership Committee – Tatiana Rice reported for Committee Chair Tina Duffy:
 - PTA membership forms sent out with the re-commit letters, have received 95 new members in forms, not sure what is in Cheddar Up. Need volunteers for New Cadet Orientation. PTA membership checks will not be cashed until July.
- Military Support Committee – Brad Bacci, Veteran's Breakfast Committee Chair and Jenn Pobanz, Turkey Drive Committee Chair:
 - Not present/no report
- Prom Support Committee – Tatiana Rice reported for Committee Chair Dawn Riley:
 - Working with Mrs. Enderica on planning. Waiting to hear back from Hartefeld on when they can get in to set up. Need help with decorating, will send out SignUpGenius or parents can just reach out to Dawn or Tatiana.
- Reflections Committee –Committee Chair Fidelia Portillo:
 - No report
- Staff Appreciation Committee – Committee Chair Debbie Brown reported:
 - National Teacher Appreciation Week is May 7-11, having daily treats for the staff to include Cinco de Mayo lunch on Tuesday (5/8) and Chick-fil-A sandwiches on Friday (5/11).
 - Made the recommendation that we also serve Chick-fil-A to the students on 5/11 given the high demand by cadets. Cami expressed concerned about the profit loss we will occur but Scott Pic, Debbie Brown and Mr. Pullella (with money raised from dress down day collection) offered to help offset the loss if need be. Decision made to provide Chick-fil-A on 5/11 without taking pre-orders, Tatiana will work with Barbara at Chick-fil-A to place order. Next year hoping that LuAnn can offer Chick-fil-A as an option during the week along with other menu items, with PTA continuing to serve pizza Fridays.
- Hospitality Committee – Committee Chair Debbie Riley Geist reported:
 - Jr. Ring Ceremony was in March. Over budget because of room provided for Lavelles but a successful event.
 - Next event is ROTC night at Richardson Park (4/25). Using leftover drinks from Ring Ceremony, also getting sandwiches and wraps because cadets coming right from sports and will be hungry.
 - New Cadet Orientation (5/1), good with volunteers. Debbie Riley-Geist will arrive at 4pm. Asking for drink donations, Debbie Riley-Geist will buy food.
 - Academic Awards Night (5/16), will use leftover food and drinks from New Cadet Orientation.
 - Under budget to date.

Other Reports:

- Stacey Broomell, Nominating Committee Chair reported:
 - Slow on nomination, have 1 person for VP of Communications. VP of Communications and Executive VP both open, each 1 year/2 year consecutive term.
 - For Committee Chairs: Tina Duffy (Membership), Maria Gedney (Friday Lunch), Dawn Riley (Prom) and Fidelia Portillo (reflections) are not coming back so all spots are open. Ann volunteered to do Military Support, Debbie staying on for Staff Appreciation.
 - Maryellen will run for Secretary unless someone else want to then she will stay on as Executive VP.
 - See Stacey Broomell if you are interested in running.
- Jim Sidlowski, Student Government President reported:

- Senior gift, still looking at aquariums with Mr. Pullella. Have a budget of \$4500, trying to decide between regular and acrylic (more expensive) tank.
- The Speak out will take place on April 27th after lunch. Will have assembly in gym, dome or outside to discuss how cadets feel about the school; 1 cadet from each grade to discuss certain matters.
- Will have a dress down day to raise more money for the fish tank.
- Gwen Annable and Kelsy Lussier are running for Student Government President for next year. Tatiana Rice suggested that the new President come with Jimmy to the next PTA meeting.

Old Business:

- No report

New Business:

- No report

Announcements/Reminders:

- **Next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 17th, at 6:30 in the Mess Hall.**
- Upcoming events: 4/25 NJROTC Awards, 5/1 New Cadet Orientation, 5/4 Prom, 5/9 Spring Choir concert at Cooke, 5/16 Academic Awards Night (invite only)
- Ann mentioned that freshman parents are not getting SignUpGenius'. Mr. Pullella offered to put something in the Commandant's Corner.

Tatiana Rice closed the meeting at 7:46pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Brown

Delaware Military Academy PTA Secretary