

March 11, 2020
Gower PTO Meeting
Gower Middle School

Start of Meeting: 5:43 pm

In attendance: Deana Miron, Dina Jason, Caroline Vroustouris, Mary Szabo, Elizabeth Shaker, Gina Rodewald, Tracy Murphy, Ann Bjork, Katie Smith, Ericka Polanko-Webb, By Phone: Nagla Fetouh

5:43 pm: Meeting called to order by Dina Jason

Dina: What is Gower going to do regarding the emerging issues with the Corona Virus? PTO can only decide if we hold our own events or not. What do we do about the Taste of Gower?

Dina: D181 has already decided to cancel all extracurricular activities, athletics, clubs, parent participation, field trips. It is our decision as a PTO Board whether we cancel all of our events.

Deana Miron: We should all discuss whether to cancel Taste of Gower because it is less than a month away.

Caroline Vroustouris: Nagla has texted me and would like to call into our discussion.

Nagla Fetouh calls in on Caroline's cell phone and is put on speaker for everyone to hear: Hi everyone, The Gower Foundation Board will meet tonight.

Dina Jason: Nagla, the PTO Board will be voting tonight to decide if we cancel the Taste of Gower.

Nagla Fetouh: I will talk with Dr. Simon. The Gower Foundation has an event scheduled for March 21 that we have to postpone or cancel as well. Nagla thanks the group and hangs up.

Ericka Polanko-Webb: For those who have underlying health conditions, it is important to follow these events closely.

Gina Rodewald: Dr. Simon has meetings with health officials. Right now, there is no reason to cancel school. Tracy and I meet with Dr. Simon and follow protocols.

Dina Jason: Let's decide by March 27 whether we have the Taste of Gower event. We will postpone a vote until then and we will let vendors know by that deadline.

Deana Miron: New fundraiser: Gower Wall calendars. Pre-sale. Can be sold at the beginning of the school year and early-year events. \$20 per calendar. Our goal is 300 sold x \$20 minus \$5

per calendar cost. Looking at an estimated profit of \$4500. We can also sell the wall calendars at Back to School night.

Dina Jason: EPI: Flyers are ready to be distributed and included in the e-blast for ordering school supplies for next school year. The lawn signs are ready.

Dina Jason: Chuck E. Cheese \$404.40 profit from that event.

Gina Rodewald: Chuck E. came to Gower West and stood by the door at dismissal. Most kids liked it but some don't like people in costume. None of the kids cried.

Dina Jason: Fun Fair: Went very well, very smooth this year.

Caroline Vroustouris: Volunteer recruitment went well. All positions were filled this year.

Katie Smith: Prize tables were a hit, everything with them went well.

Dina Jason: from a food perspective, I think we need two cotton candy machines next year. They cost \$200 each but they make a great profit.

Elizabeth Shaker: Sorry I was not there. I would like to run the raffle next year. We can do a Slice the Prize, Dominos Pizza \$10, PTO gets \$5 and Dominos gets \$5.

Tracy Murphy: Turn on the cotton candy machine a couple of hours before it is needed, and bag the cotton candy rather than using two machines. If we pre-bag I can open the gym for that at 2pm so that setup can happen earlier.

Multiple Board Members: We should buy a cotton candy machine rather than rent one.

Tracy Murphy: This makes sense because a commercial cotton candy machine costs \$220 - \$500 and we will never have to rent one again.

Deana Miron: Fairy hair: Cost \$450 and they gave us a corporate discount. It was a huge hit with a very long line.

Dina Jason: Gower PTO Board positions open for 2020-2021: Vice-President (1-year term) and Treasurer (2-year term). We will post these in our e-blast.

Meeting Dismissed at 6:21pm.

