

Friends of Hawthorne Board Member Meeting - FINAL minutes

12/7/21 6pm – 7:30pm via Google Meet (virtual)

Attendees: Tommy Gregory – Presidents; Ara Erickson and Emily Glass – co-Treasurers, Corin Lianides and Leann Gorman – Secretaries, Dave West – Vice President, Aimee Loucks – Member at Large, Communications; Andrew Fiore-Gartland - Member at Large, Bria Knowles – Member at Large, Katie Berman – Advocacy lead, Lindsey Kennedy – Fundraising Lead, plus other community members

Quorum achieved and meeting kicked off by Tommy, president. Corin reviewed minutes from 10/5/21 meeting and were approved as written.

Katie Berman: Advocacy update

A few upcoming legislative town hall she is working on with our local legislators in our district 37 state legislators. Board was included on email STD – will be sent out to D7 community – working to get interpretation and translations.

Number of advocacy board related trainings upcoming – many are around inclusivity and DEI.

Jenny Miller – new Family support worker for Hawthorne seems very open to communication and telling us what the families are needing, helpful for advocacy standpoint and in other ways

- 2 needs:
 - o 1. a point person who is the connection point for her for FOH and
 - o 2. how do we use the FOH budget to support those needs, or do we ask the community?

- FOH should not be the decider of what she uses the budget for, she should use it how it needs to be spent, we decide the general allocation in our Spring budgeting process as a FOH membership.

Motion: Should we have a winter supplies drive for the school – coats, gloves, boots, whatever the FSW needs. 2nded and Opened for discussion. Katie will loop back w/ Ms Miller to get list of actual needs. Corin will create the Sign Up Genius for the items and send the email to community and ask administration to send as well.

FOH is also providing \$3500 of gift cards to support the community.

Include a note in the delivery of the email: Don't have time to buy something? Feel free to make an annual contribution to FOH here for all these things we do....

Bria will write BofA letter for school pictures funding; will partner with Ms. Miller.

Equity Committee update – Sara, Devin, Ellen and Katie talked thru bunch of things regarding creating more inclusivity. D7 group is also looking for ways to more holistically including people in its community; meeting people where they are at in the community, making phone calls and asking people to join the PTA, Changing meeting times and days to when people could come, Interpretation (but need a demand). Talkingpoints (for translations) of comms.

Motion: Could we do an anonymous survey to get inputs we are looking for (w/ translations)? Opened for discussion: Group agreed it would be very useful to understand how to create more inclusivity by asking the general community for input. Dave W looking into how to do this. We can use our google tools.

Volunteer Update: Ara

We are still in need of the volunteer coordinator. Tommy or Dave will reach out to the board member who signed up to see if they are still able.

We need to reinvigorate the list of vols that signed up. Bria will follow up. We need to move things to the sign up genius so not to have only in a spreadsheet.

We may need to recruit a new vol coordinator – will need to take an action.

Treasurer update – Emily

Nov. expenses and income were both tamales. Made net about 2k, donated many to families!

On track w/ budget. Financial standing – 323K in the bank.

Need to put the budget PDF onto the website (Wayne to complete). Will also be creating a reimbursement form onto the site for a more formal process.

Will be filing taxes for next month and financial review – already have volunteers set up and ready to go.

Fundraising update – Ara

Currently very low key, tamales, employer matches, end of year donations, group getting started on overall big ask.

SE fundraising alliance – this will be in May. Hawthorne will be involved.

Fundraising concerns – how do we move from large focus on fundraising and move more toward the charter of the PTA – we would need to make this more incremental of a change versus changing it all at once.

Comms update – Aimee

Can we outline FOH membership and the rules in the next email?

Newsletters go out in the week after the meeting.

Question = the opt-in on data for the community emails.
