

Friends of Hawthorne Community March Meeting – FINAL minutes

3/1/22 6pm – 7:30pm via Google Meet

**Attendees:** Tommy Gregory and Casey Gregory – co-Presidents; Emily Glass and Ara Erickson – co-Treasurers, Corin Lianides and Leann Gorman – Secretaries, Aimee Loucks – Member at Large, Communications; Andrew Fiore-Gartland - Member at Large, Bria Knowles – Member at Large, Katie Berman – Advocacy lead

---

Talking about moving to Zoom and starting to record future meetings.

Quorum: Tommy and Casey open the meeting at 6:03

Introductions

Meeting minutes from Community meeting in Dec – approved as read. No additional comment

**Advocacy report** – Katie Berman sent through notes, Casey read out notes

- Reference emails that Katie sent out
- Budget basics and drop in – Saturday 3/5 Zoom link, have translation provided
- Listening session for Disables Parents and Caregivers
- Easy actionable ways to advocate

**Volunteer report** – no volunteer rep to report

- Thanks for showing up in the rain on Sunday at the trash pick up (Tommy)
- About 20 people showed up
- Got all of the trash around the school
- Sign up Genius is going really well and easy to use
- Bria is not seeing a lot of engagement with Budgeting Committee and Nominating Committee. Send out again to FOH listserv as its own email

**Questions through Ms Scott – not able to attend the meeting**

- Are after school activities and parents into the building coming back soon?
  - o Slowly returning to normal after March 7<sup>th</sup>
- When can kids go back on field trips and when can parents enter the building
  - o Hope to hear in the next few weeks re field trips
- Will Hawthorne remove masks along with the State
  - o No until further notice
- Anything else you want parents to know?
  - o Budgets are happening right now. Based on enrollment, decrease in enrollment in 2021-22 school year and even lower rates expected for 2022-23.
  - o *(Casey to send notes to fold into the minutes)*

**Treasurer report** –

- Emily sharing high level points from January
- Main income came from donors
- Expenses – library books and masks, ongoing class subscription

- More or less in line with our budget YTD
- Family support budget –
  - o February we spent some significant \$\$ in family support and coming close to using all of the funds from 2020, budgeted additional \$6k and have not tapped into that. Question for the group – we have a larger amount of \$ for Covid requests or emerging needs (\$50k). Jenny Miller is looking for additional support for that. Ara suggesting we use these funds to supplement emerging needs bucket
- Budget request mid year – how do we go about this? In this meeting can we call and emergency meeting? Do we make a motion in this meeting.
- Don't anticipate spending our full budget due to after school activities
- Corin – if we approve moving \$10k from emerging funds to family support, if it does not get used does it go back to emerging funds. Ara – if we move funds we need to spend the money on that specific line item. Anything overall that is not spent this year goes into the big bucket for next year
- Who decides which families to support – our wonderful Family Support Worker decides this and reports to treasurer how much is needed.
- Retiring PayPal and using CheddarUp

**Motion 1** – extra \$10k from Covid flexibility line item for Family support (puts to \$16k for the year).

If it does not get used it goes back to the Emerging funds put back in to pot

- o Approved: 14 yes, 0 no

-

### **Fundraising report** –

- Ara – Aimee did an awesome job in the newsletter showing 2 different fundraisers happening
- Starting next week a push for roll out red carpet highlighting the teachers and staff and how your support can help them happening in March
  - o Would be nice to do another email to listserv and Facebook
  - o \$75k goal
  - o Communications plan from Lindsay and team to come
- Aimee - Move-a-thon (full community wide effort (SESEC) in May) – all 15 schools in south region, partnering together on fundraiser. Funds will be split equally up to a certain \$ amount then equitably for schools who need more, shift individual fundraising in specific schools to more community building model
  - o The group can use volunteers if anyone is interested.
  - o Resource of time is important as well as \$\$
  - o Still feel like a community building event even though it's for all of SE Seattle
  - o Direct email to individual people asking for help (Gina)
  - o Aimee has list of people who signed up in Sept to help with the move-athon and will reach back out to those people

### **New and/or Community Business**

Jenny Miller request (family support worker):

- At least 15 families have asked for help with paying rent (given the eviction moratorium just ended), and more have asked for help with covering utility costs. Ms. Miller is reaching out to

nonprofits looking for support, and she may reach out to FOH to ask for additional financial assistance, if needed.

- Does anyone know of an organization that would provide one-on-one counseling services to our students? Ms. Miller is looking for a group to partner with to provide much-needed counseling/therapy services to our students. Please reach out to her if you have any ideas.
  - o Suggestion for Jenny to come to next community meeting to speak to the PTA to talk through her needs for the school. Invite her to the April meeting, it's a board meeting but open to anyone
  - o Gap in connection with school staff and community understanding what FOH does and how to access it/needs. How do we engage the teachers more? Are they willing to have us come and explain we are here for whatever they need.
  
- **Motion 2** – I motion that we change our meetings to be full community meetings for the rest of the year instead of board vs community.
  - o Approved: 12 yes, 0 no
  
- Buy into SE Zoom account in 2 weeks
- Regarding Museum of Museum student art exhibit is April 6th, opening reception at 4pm
  
- **Motion 3** on behalf of Katie Berman (passed as written)  
I move that the FOH Board add a position entitled "Advocacy Coordinator" to the FOH Board, starting in the 2022-2023 school year, with the aim of centering advocacy efforts within the FOH decision-making structure.
  - o Approved: 10 yes, 0 no
  
- **Motion 4** - I move that FOH circulate a survey to all Hawthorne parents and caregivers (before the 2021-2022 school year concludes) to ask how they would like to participate in FOH, in an effort to uphold our values of "being an inclusive community" and "celebrating our diversity"
  - o Need to commit to a timeline of surveys, leaving it open ended but also providing some structure and guidance along the way. Ask admin to put out talking points for these meetings for greater awareness if people aren't signed up for FOH emails.
  - o Approved: 10 yes, 0 no
  
- Actions from the motion - Need to change our standing rules – can secretary do this. Should be on our website. On google drive but not on website.
- How do we get the word out who is part of the PTA? Wear sandwich boards? T shirts? LOL
- 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of t shirts as well as some sweatshirts are coming in. All of kindergarten classes should have their t shirts now
- Next meeting is April 5th

Meeting Ended