

Friends of Hawthorne Meeting – final minutes

1/12/21 6pm – 7:30pm via Google Meet

Attendees: Dana Math & Percy Allen– President; Tommy Gregory & Casey Gregory – co-vice-president, Ara Erickson & Josie Clark – co-Treasurers; Corin Lianides - Secretary, Gabe Sheffer and Peter Schumacher– member-at-large. +community members (including Ms. Scott, Ms. Mak,)

Percy kicked off meeting, welcomes all. **Corin** reviewed meeting minutes. Meeting minutes were approved at previous Board sync.

Put your grade in the chat for break out rooms

Ms. Mak is here to talk about school programs, including the upcoming one that will be happening on Jan 21. Bringing Mindfulness home. Please be sure to RSVP. Ms. Mak's mic is not working. We shared program flyer via screenshare in lieu.

Also Hawthorne is having a virtual open house next week, we are looking for a person who can represent from the PTA on the open house. **Tommy** will represent as the Board member for PTA for K open house and Katie Berman will represent for the whole school open house on Feb 4.

Jenny Lloyd – newsletter – she will be stepping down from editing in the next year. Looking for someone to take over, traditionally is better to have as a 2 person job – story wrangler and then editor, putting it together and sending via MailChimp. If anyone on the call is interested, or knows someone who may be interested, please let us know. Great to get people oriented this year if they can join Jenny so she can pass the reins. Please email Jenny if interested – email in chat.

Katie Berman – advocacy update

Not a lot to report, but the WA State PTA is organizing an Advocacy Week next week. State Legislature just started yesterday, so not a lot of info yet on what that is going to look like. If anyone is interested in writing a letter or making a phone call. Each day is a different topic to support. Katie will be sending out an email through the FOH listserv on how to communicate to the legislators. Short messages that are not mass emails are best.

Continuing to do every other week District 7 meetings. Very interesting, lots to learn.

Q: Josie – is there any work to get teachers pushed up in the vaccine list? Katie is not aware of this if there. Ms. Scott said that the SPS Superintendent emailed the health dept

Treasurer's Update – Josie

December spend: More gift cards for families (total \$6,500 and art supplies (\$2k) – they are finally available to buy! Family support – we raised an extra \$12k this year – we still have \$5,500 left of that budget in addition to the \$6,500 budgeted. Also \$9k left in the principal's discretionary funds – there may be needs that come in with reopening school? Dana Q – “Right Now” funds – how does this work? Ms. Flavors will hopefully have more information.

Percy – seeking 2-3 people to do a mid-year financial review for the PTA. Simple audit of spend, an opportunity to really make sure that everything is transparent and well run – monthly reports, bank account info, etc. will take about an hour or 2 of time. This cannot be anyone on the board, or in the Treasurer’s households. Percy will offer a Hawthorne T Shirt to who does it 😊. **Jenny Lloyd is volunteer 1, Maureen Merrill is a maybe.**

Heidi Slater – update on school crossing

Won \$500 grant – to be used for flags/supplies 4 different crosswalks around the school. Will need a volunteer that is handy with a drill to install into the posts. Once we have funds she will purchase.

Second grant for repainting Phoenix - Dana will write a letter of intent for Ms. Scott to send in.

Traffic safety updates – she has been meeting with them. We unfortunately ran into a snag on a completely managed intersection because there hasn’t been enough incidents (federal mandate). She is working with them to see how we can get this policy changed. Still hoping for speed cushions on Cascadia and a 2 way stop the other way. 38th will get speed cushions and turtle bumps. Angela will help to support for putting up the flags.

Dana Math – holiday drive update

\$12k total funds raised plus supplies. Tons of gift cards for families, huge, huge volume of household supplies. Way more than anticipated. Dropped at school before winter break. School was able to create 1:1 meetings for pick up. Included warm winter jackets, etc. In a month or so let’s check in w/ Ms Flavors to see what current needs may be.

Peter Schumacher – playground update.

Last month closing our King County grant. Had been planning on scheduling a community call to discuss status and moving ahead – with all the potential back to school efforts, etc., he has put that on hold for now. Wayne Rennick Q – can we take down playground fencing so Launch kids can use playgrounds? Peter will reach out to see if SPS is ok with it, but in December the answer was NO.

Angela Schumacher – auction/fundraisers

Auctions seem like not the right time to spend money to make money, Straight-up virtual ask. We need to know HOW much money do we actually want/need? How do we nail that goal number down?

Want to maybe do the “fundraising Palooza” to involve the kids more, expanding families. Families could

Josie will dig into what we *think* we might want to strive toward based on past several years and provide as a starting point, and then discuss should it be +/- 20%? Last school year we raised about \$101K net auction, \$17k in walkathon, and then \$20k in employer matches. Should we assume to raise

the same amount of money and use whatever we don't spend this year into a "rainy day fund" for future years. We also don't know what the kids will need next year in terms of support, etc. that might need funding.

How do we think about doing a larger combined fundraising? Traditional walk a thon isn't a huge fundraiser to hit the 100K number. Maybe break out needs of levels, i.e. Need X # of 5k donors, X # of 3k donors, etc. Or year-long campaign to for direct asks via email, etc.

We did try to do the Year long "phoenix fund" as well as the auction, but people preferred to go give the money at something fun like the auction – need to commit one way or another.

Also re: involving another PTA – how do we bring that forward, and expand? How can we grow the pie for multiple south end schools to get more community involvement? Ara volunteers to help think about it. Angela Bell-Austin said that a few years ago we did reach out to other schools and no one was interested in actually doing the work.

We need a subcommittee together with folks who have fundraising experience and online platform experience. Does anyone have any knowledge around what other schools are currently doing? How do we get the kids more involved? Fun ideas on how to get community involvement, kid involvement, etc.

Angela will help to wrangle subcommittee – angela.schumacher.training@gmail.com

We should focus on having whatever the fundraising event later than traditional – closer to April and May. This will give more time to plan, make sure we understand needs, etc.

New Business:

Angela Bell-Austin – 5th grade graduation. Is anything planned as we know it will be virtual-esque? Balloon arch, photography, props. She is willing to be the owner of setting it up, but what is the budget? We do have a budget bucket put aside for events that we could use! Also could we do yard signs?

School photos – are we actually able to do a set up for kids outside and have a scheduled time for them to come? Ms. Scott said she thinks we still have a contract with LifeTouch for this year, district also said that SPS wasn't going to do photos so that was originally why. We can look into having the photos done for the Spring, Ms. Scott will look into that whole contract, etc. and let us know.

Aki Kurose feeder school change – Wayne went to the online meeting about moving Hawthorne from Mercer to Aki. Seems like a done deal. Aki does seem to have a PTA. Heard reasonable things about the school. There looks like there might be opportunities to connect with the other schools that feed into there.

Postponing breakout rooms until the next meeting as we ran out of time.

Percy closed the meeting.

meet.google.com/nvp-ojcp-xkt

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The meeting grid displays the following participants:

- Ara Erickson
- Percy Allen
- Jenny Lloyd
- Jeremy Berman
- Casey Gregory
- Jessica Emerson
- Leann Gorman
- Jake Doll
- Devin Victoria Brückner

Meeting details

(17)

Casey Gregory 6:11 PM
move to approve

Ara Erickson 6:11 PM
I move to approve.

Jenny Lloyd 6:11 PM
second

Josie Clark 6:11 PM
I second.

Send a message to everyone

FOH Meeting ^

Raise hand Turn on captions Present now

6:18 PM 3/9/2021