

Friends of Hawthorne Community Meeting - FINAL minutes

11/2/21 6pm – 7:30pm via Google Meet (virtual)

Attendees: Tommy & Casey Gregory – Presidents; Emily Glass – co-Treasurer, 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 – Interim Fundraising Lead, Juliann Choe – Hawthorne Art teacher, Ms. Flavors – Asst Principal

Quorum reached at 6:04, Casey is kicking off the meeting, Casey and Tommy welcoming attendees.

Ms Flavors – Asst. Principal:

Volunteers – Q – is the October 29th deadline for volunteers still intact. Still no ability to volunteer in the schools – extended to mid-January. If we have to have volunteers is at Admin discretion, putting safety first. Admin had been VERY safe, so quarantines or shutting classrooms. They WANT people to be able to come in, but if they have volunteers it should only be for essential work for operating the school – fortunately they have NOT needed additional support – the district has been able to supply district personnel, especially with lunches, sub shortages, etc. They do want families to volunteer – however, they just sent out a survey to staff/teachers to see what their needs are for support, to learn what may help – perhaps a classroom parent, maybe in a virtual aspect – pick up items in the school and then do activity at home and then complete and bring back – like a “virtual classroom parent.” They are not in need of parent volunteers for lunch or recess everyday – but maybe on a day – like Wednesday – 2 grades eat lunch together so they may need more support – or staff shortages – maybe Mondays and Fridays. Admin will look at trends and needs and come back to community to ask for support if needed.

Q - vaccination clinic November 17th, perhaps 2-5. Detailed info will be coming out to families very soon – just Hawthorne families. Second round date being clarified. Will also go out in the newsletter to families.

Q – lunch food supplies – things have improved. Majority of students still bring a lunch, These past couple of weeks have looked good with the options, no shortages.

Q – volunteer support to help socialize information, etc. for the Vaccination clinic. Ms Flavors will take that back to Ms Scott to check to see if there is a good way to support it, and will pass back info to the FOH.

Juliann Choe – new art teacher

Been an art teacher for 7 years. This month’s focus is Indigenous Peoples then fall activities, etc. focusing on color education.

Working to think about the art museum event, Tommy and Casey can help to support.

Katie Berman – advocacy update

Explaining D7 advocacy group – food shortages have seemed to be resolved. Also busing issue – was able to see the equity tool utilized by SPS – took buses from schools with more resources and brought them to the less resourced schools. Busing issue is not resolved w/ the district, but Hawthorne is resolved. Special education staff movement is still being worked out – Hawthorne admin is working to keep the staff. Another key item – how can we improve communication between schools, admin, communities, etc. Substitutes is the next large equity issue on the horizon, there is a gap in available support, no extra staff available. There is a large outreach from SPS to recruit.

Katie will be working with a couple other schools to put together a town hall with state reps – one state senator and 2 people from house of representatives – a lot of the issues come down to state funding. There is lots of area to plug into supporting this -

Set up communications meeting to get an understanding of full communications tools and how we can possibly use it. Devin interested as well.

Break out session to discuss the take back the PTA motion – Sara R and Katie to lead?

Emily Glass – Treasurer report - October

Income came from – tamales donations

Spent – expenses are on track and in line with budget. Books, art supplies, annual subscriptions, web hosting, PTA insurance.

Tamale donations – we started do the donations last year based on families in need. Originally created the tamale fundraiser 8 Or 9 years ago – Hispanic families that facilitated Day of the Dead, they wanted to do a fundraiser they could contribute to – in lieu of the auction. Affordable but impactful! Initially Hawthorne families made the tamales, but since covid a local business is making them.

Lindsey – fundraising update (covering for Ara)

Aimee is coordinating with the SES fundraising alliance. They are in the midst of determining the “move a thon” or whichever. FOH is still planning on holding a fundraiser this year – looking at a larger venue to hold more people to make it more inclusive. Ideas for venues welcome! Outside is preferred.

Fundraising group met last week – Mandy Calloway is one lead – need a couple more leads! Event, communications, etc. Depending on interest, there is something to do! Nailing down venue and date – community building event, with a lower ticket price with some fundraising component, but not like the auction

New business –

T shirts for Kindergarteners! And sweatshirts – corin and bria and jenny

Diversity/equity and inclusion – is there anyone interested in that? There is often a lead for that as well.
Devin, sara, katie

Is there a way to streamline communications for a DEI group? Create a new alias for FOH?

Family support worker – are there still families in need that we can do a community building event. New family support worker – jenny miller, ms paula was helping to transition her in. Sync with her to find out how to support?

Tommy, last call for new business.