

Franklin-Randall PTO Board Meeting 1/13/15 Minutes

Board Members Present: *Dan Julie, Noelle LoConte, Kelly Hamilton, Soraya Willems-Neal, Donna Wong, Cindy Schlichte, Melissa Hornung, Kim Anacker, Julie Gadau, Paul O'Flanagan, Lee Lazar*

Guest: *Sojin Chi, Kati Walsh*

Administrators present: *Britta Hanson*

1. Call to order 7:46 pm
2. December Minutes we approved as submitted.
3. Financial Update (Dan J.) – Spending seems to be lining up with the budget. Instructional teams are using the per grade stipend (books, supplies) and at both schools.
4. Discussion: Proposed Bylaw Changes
Last month the board discussed changing the bylaws to increase the number of at-large members. They had previously decreased size because the prior board (years ago) was having trouble with quorum. At large positions can be defined so that they do not have to attend, and thus will not affect the quorum rules. All the executive committee positions can be shared (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer) and they can potentially vote twice. Cindy S. is going to explore this more with legal help that has been working with the PTO Board.
5. Discussion: Off-Budget Spending Requests – continuation of the prior conversation from prior PTO board meetings. Initial proposed protocol is still being tweaked and is meant to be edited. Question was raised whether money would be allotted to the off cycle grant requests (after we have established a reserve account). Discussion around potentially starting at \$2000 as a starting point.
6. Discussion: Capoeira/Drum Power Grant Request – Capoeira/Drum Power (Artist in residency grant was submitted on time, but not received by the grant coordinator. It was discussed last month from the board about inclusivity/equity. Beth Kiser seems to have addressed this by designing for all 5th graders for 8 weeks. \$800 was the prior funding request and the motion was approved.
7. Discussion: Grants Discussion – Kathy Viner has requested an increase in her approved grant, from \$2365.85 up to \$2675.61 due to price increases from the 2014 to 2015 catalog and an error in the anticipated shipping costs. Discussion about whether to take it out of the 4K grade level stipend, but they have spent this money already. Motion to approve the funding request.
8. PTO Nominations Committee – every year a nominations committee is formed to recruit and nominate a new slate of board members. For example, president, secretary, and treasurer will be vacated next school year. Slate would need to be finalized by final PTO meeting in May. Discussion about reserving some at-large positions for new parents (for example, kindergarten parents).

9. Kati Walsh discussed Clay Stomp – done by a grandparent of Franklin-Randall students (Joel Pfeiffer). Two tons of clay is brought in. Prep is done the night before by parents and the following day is done by the children. Mural (or sculptures) is made from the clay for each school. There can be informational/educational stations (like literacy). Would be for all grade levels, maybe with grade level buddies (2nd and 4th graders, for example). Cost is \$20,000, which includes training some of the staff. Will likely be at the park by Goodman Pool. Extra clay would be donated to the art room. For prior elementary schools, this amount lasted about 4 years. How Franklin Art Teacher feels has been emailed, but we don't know his support.
10. 60 second updates:
 - a. Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Committee - Colleen Johnson is leading this committee. First meeting was held in December. It was a good recap of last year. Next meeting is scheduled to clarify goals and mission of this group.
 - b. Glo-Ball (chairs Jill Pfeiffer, Molly Papier, Stephanie Schauer) is 6-8p, 1/24/15
 - c. Nutrition and Wellness Committee Meeting (Kathi Seiden-Thomas, chair), 5:30-7p, 2/2
 - d. Winter Carnival (Lisa Geraghty is chairing) is 11a-2p, 2/21. Still looking for raffle prizes, please contact Lisa if you have any items. Volunteer request will go out next week.
 - e. Super Science Saturday (Mary Saecker, Tom Zinnen) is 9a-12p, 4/11
 - f. Date for International Dinner (Donna Wong, Gene Cook) - 3/21 or 4/25?
 - g. Randall Staff Appreciation Luncheon (Cindy Schlichte) is 5/11
 - h. Franklin Staff Appreciation Luncheon (Cindy Schlichte) is 5/18
 - i. Kindergarten Playdates Committee (Soraya Willems-Neal) is forming. We are looking for a successor to be committee chair and to recruit 4K parents.
 - j. Lead Volunteer Openings: Grants Committee, Franklin Movie Night

Meeting adjourned 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Noelle LoConte, PTO Secretary