

Minutes: FR PTO Board Meeting
4/11/23 • Randall School • 5:30 - 6:30

Attendees: Ann Sydnor, John Wallace, Emily Powers, Claudia Santana, Ashley Russell, Mary Rihani, Erin McMillan, Mickey Willis, Soumya Palreddy, Kayla Snell, Beth Waldron, Colleen Moss

Call to order: 5:30

March Minutes: Erin motions to approve. Mary seconds. Minutes are approved.

Welcome to new faces and introductions. Principal reports will take place at Community Meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

- ☐ Received few more individual contributions, including an anonymous recurring donation from Benevity with employer match
- ☐ Parking – there was a duplicate entry so there was a decrease this month, and budget reserve is lower as a result
- ☐ Question: do we have budget for ice cream social and Mr. Moffat's band? Yes, should be enough budget to cover the ice cream social, but need to nail down the band costs. Ann will follow up on band cost, should be ok in the budget.
Side discussion: PEG groups will host an ice cream social instead of end of year pizza picnic this year with ice cream, BYO picnic and Mr. Moffat's band. Desire to keep it as simple as possible – might need help purchasing, storing, transporting. Date is Monday, June 5. Pre-covid it was a potluck organized by PEG groups and school community wasn't well informed about it, PTO is helping support.
- ☐ Received a little more Amazon Smile money even though program is ending
- ☐ PEG expenses starting to come through – anticipates they will be under the budgeted amount. Should be enough to cover picnic, any unspent funds go into reserve.
- ☐ Some snack pantry expenses for Franklin, some money remains if they need another run.
- ☐ Last month Randall moved their unspent funds to Social Justice fund.
- ☐ Sub teacher fund paid out money to Randall for extra instructional time
- ☐ Some discretionary fund money coming in and some grant expenses coming in
- ☐ Still anticipating a deficit for the year, but budget is in good shape
- ☐ Will wait to see where this year ends, before deciding what any capital fund money will be spent on going forward
- ☐ Need to work to get fundraising back on track because donations have decreased, spending has stayed similar despite not funding as many events.

Request for funding: Tree to plant at Franklin for Arbor Day

Franklin has lost a lot of trees in the past several years. Ms. Angela requested funding to plant a tree at Franklin for Arbor Day. Her dad was an arborist and her mom was an educator and they did this every year at her mom's school with a tree donated by the city (Milwaukee). Would like to plant a tree and have a ceremony with the kindergartners. Tree will cost \$200-400. Might want to do this again over multiple years.

There is money in the budget for Randall garden which is unused – could fund the tree for this year. Maybe Franklin should have garden line item in the budget as well? Budget will be challenging for next year because fundraising is down and we want to bring more events back post-covid. Randall gets \$500 for garden, long standing. Seems like it would make sense to have a similar amount for Franklin.

Motion: Erin motions to approve the spending for \$500 for the tree for this year and have the future board to decide if it should be added to the budget. Mary seconds. Unanimous approval. Motion passes.

Request for funding: Yarn

Ms. Sharrok requested yarn for student projects. Was funded by Randall discretionary fund rather than grant.

Capital Budget Allocation: Franklin playground and Randall desks

Ann had been hoping to have a plan to approve a specific amount, but it feels premature. So close to the end of the year, would prefer to have the next board decide, possibly over the summer in budgeting discussions. We will hopefully have a better idea what the playground expense needs are and if we want to have more money go to this, or community events, tbd.

Emily still needs to meet with Sylla to get historical info and meet with the central office to learn more about what's needed and start an RFP. This could help with fall fundraising too – Franklin playground. Flash Dash is coming up and staff has brainstormed ideas for projects for school, leadership team wants to put more energy and fundraising efforts to playground. We can better communicate the needs and the plan – working with capital budget to work towards fixing the playground.

Board Recruitment Update:

Formed a nominating committee – Mary, Ann, Colleen Manner, Ashley. Planning some recruiting events and have been talking to people to spread the word. Hoping to have a slate by April 23 and then can continue recruiting if needed. First event is Wednesday 4/19 at Garth's 5pm-8pm, Pizza Brutta going to donate pizza. Second event is Saturday 4/22 event at Randall 9am-11am for garden work day and playground.

Would like to get a staff member on the board if possible. John would like to put it out as looking for someone for the full year, but also open to splitting it. Teacher voice is important.

Election at May meeting, then new board will take over. Ann will plan a event for after.

Teacher Appreciation Events:

Luncheons being organized by Katie Kalscheur, Sign Up Genius to recruit volunteers. Post/share on facebook and google group.

Coral is organizing teacher appreciation chalking and will pair it with a trash pick up at the schools.

Year-end survey:

A survey should be sent to our community to help with budget forecasting and planning for next year. Anyone willing to help? Question ideas:

- What were your favorite events?
- Did you volunteer or want to?
- How would you like to be engaged?
- Did you like the glowball?
- What other events would you like to see?
- What programming do you want?
- Events to bring back?

Mickey volunteers to create, Ashley will help find old surveys, Mary also willing to help.

Would be good to have a discussion about grants – would it be beneficial to have a cycle in the fall? Make sure grant applicants know they need an adult sponsor.

Made it through the whole agenda!!! Thanks everyone.

Meeting adjourned: 6:30