

Winooski PTO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 16, 2020

Attendees: Amelie Thurston, Laura Lee, LucyD'Aponte, Arica Bronz, Sarah McGowan Freije, Chris Freije, Lydia Mongeon, Joe Smith, Jennifer Milizia, Jessica Bruce, Joy Yonan-Renold, Kate Simone

Welcome/Introductions

Timekeeper: Amelie

Land Acknowledgment

- *The PTO would like to acknowledge that we meet in community on Abenaki land. Our city of Winooski reminds us with its Abenaki name, "land of the wild onion" of the indigenous people that lived and stewarded the land of Vermont long before the Europeans arrived in North America. It is with respect and gratitude that we work towards practices of cultural equity to benefit current and future generations.*
- *Lucy read the land acknowledgement.*

Secretary's Report

- ***ACTION: The group approved the November meeting minutes.***

Treasurer's Report

November 2020

Revenue	
McKee's Ticket Donations	\$7,295.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$7,295.00
Expenses	
Misc. Hospitality Expenses (baseball calendar)	\$80.00
Boosters	\$24.89
Funds Requests (JFK celebration [popcorn])	\$227.00
Teacher Grants (x3)	\$150.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$309.89
INCREASE/DECREASE IN CASH	\$6,985.11
CASH BALANCE AT END OF PERIOD	\$48,327.75

- ***ACTION: The group approved the November treasurer's report.***

New Business

- Jennifer Hill, Winooski Rec. Director (She didn't get the Zoom link until late, wasn't able to attend.)

Funds Requests

- WMHS Yearbook - \$500 requested (\$200 approved in November). Jessica Bruce presented a letter from the MS/HS Yearbook Committee to the group. Requesting additional \$300. Usually raise funds through a variety of options. Main fundraiser is the annual train show, which couldn't happen this year due to COVID. Usually they like to give 8th graders and graduating seniors a copy.
 - Cost of yearbooks for HS students: \$20; for MS: \$10.
 - Additional fundraising efforts: chocolate sales and photo calendar. Continuing to explore options.
 - Total estimate for this year through Entourage (\$2400 for printing)
 - ***ACTION: The group approved an additional \$300 for the 2020/21 HS/MS yearbook.***

Committee Updates

- **Fundraising Committee.** Jessica Audette wasn't present. Laura asked if anyone else was interested in participating in this committee? Box tops don't seem to be worth it. Lucy and Jess talked about the possibility of hosting a fun run in the spring. If anyone has any ideas, please send along. What is status of Spirit Wear promotion? Kate to follow up.
- **Community Inclusion and Engagement Committee**
 - Arica: Happy Hanukkah! Working on the draft goal with the committee. Members reached out to the WASA group to see who they could provide support. Committee members attended a recent school board meeting. From an education perspective, the group will be reading *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendil. The inclusion subcommittee is working on drafting a script for a MS/HS advisory focus group pilot, to be followed by a survey for students and families.
- **Teacher and Staff Support Committee**
 - The group wants to send out year-end (now new years) thank you postcard for teachers and staff. Printing cost estimate around \$150. We have some \$\$ left from gift baskets.
 - In addition, the group was going to record a thank you video that Emily Hecker will send around in an email to teachers/staff.
 - ***ACTION: The group approved up to \$150 for the thank you cards.***
 - ***Sarah and Chris are going to get bagels and coffee for the maintenance staff at the school (12/21).***
- **Boosters Committee:** Basketball trials on hold until Jan. 4. Talking to Jean Berthiaume and Dennis Barkham to figure out what the remote viewing options are. When and if there is a season, they'll let us know what the monthly subscription fee is. Is this something the school would pay for? A majority of schools would be using the platform, which would allow parents to watch away games as well. Lydia to call the VT Principals Association to follow up.
- **Craft Fair Committee:** On hold still.

Additional comments from Jess Bruce: Offered up graphic design services, supports Staples printing, and has resources for sticker vendors and printing. Regarding sports, there are already cameras in the gym, so the charges are for streaming service only.

Next Meeting: January 20