

**Winooski PTO Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, March 17, 2021**

Attendees: Laura Lee, Lucy D'Aponte, Sarah McGowan-Freije, Chris Freije, Jess Audette, Jennifer M., Arica Bronz, Joe Smith, Amelie Thurston, Joy Yonan-Reynold

Welcome/Introductions

Timekeeper: ***Jess Audette is timekeeper.***

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. Joe read the land agreement.

Secretary's Report: *The group approved the February meeting minutes. Kate to finalize.*

Treasurer's Report

Revenue

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Boosters | \$400.00 |
| Interest | \$0.04 |
| Total Revenue | \$400.04 |

Expenses

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Program Expenses (Teacher Grants) | \$50.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$50.00 |

CASH BALANCE AT END OF PERIOD **\$48,248.83**

- ***Boosters revenue from ticket taking from games from 2019/2020 school year.***
- ***Jessica Bruce emailed us asking for update on yearbook check. Lucy to reach out to Betsy Dubuc in middle school admin to confirm who the check needs to be made out to (in total amount of \$500).***
- ***The group approved the Treasurer's Report.***

New Business

- PTO Education Scholarship and the PTO Scholarship
 - Do we want to offer them again this year? Are there any modifications we wish to make to any of the criteria? Any concerns regarding the sponsored scholarships which you would like to see addressed?

- ***Karen Greene emailed PTO asking about scholarships (PTO Education [someone pursuing a degree in Ed.] and PTO scholarships). We didn't give any money last year (they never followed up).***
- ***We have \$750 budgeted for Dollars for Scholars. In 2019 we gave \$750. Laura will circle back with KG to confirm the amount.***
- Upcoming Officer Elections (May). Expressions of interest in running for officer positions due at April meeting.

Funds Requests

- None

Committee Updates

- Fundraising Committee
 - Fun Run: ***Chris talked to the city (Ray and Jennie). We need to fill out an event permit with them. Burlington Marathon is in October. Should we do this on Memorial Day weekend? Pool's soft opening in early June, not something the city wants us to compete with scheduling-wise. Could we do it when the pool is open? Vermont Run Club can help promote it. Sarah Hammit and Arica are available to help with the planning. City will also be able to provide staff, we'll need PD to shut down roads. We will need people to stand along the route. We're not allowed to hand out water, but we could get some food trucks and raise money. June 19? Joe could do music, Suncommon will provide free bounce house (if it's possible with COVID). Most attendees at the 3/17 meeting are available for an event on 6/19. T-shirts with sponsors (with tier level regarding logo size)? Chris to do paperwork and then he'll have a better idea of what is needed PTO volunteer wise.***
 - ***Golf Tournament: Chris working on this. Maybe August or September.***
 - ***Dog Show (Jess Audette): Planning for May 22, 10-2 (ish). Needs some help over the next month and a half. Will work on event application. Needs to check on PTO insurance info. Currently thinking about 10 categories, with a cap on 15 spots/category. \$25 registration. Jess is talking to judges/experts about safety. Exploring sponsorship form (\$100/category). Reaching out to a local pet store for big sponsorship. Hold it in Landry Park. Support with grilled food/bake sale (depending on COVID)? Categories include best costumes, best trick, etc. Opportunities for booths/raffle. How many people can support? Flyers, visiting local businesses for sponsorships. Sarah M-F, Arica, Laura, Kate can help.***
- Teacher and Staff Support Committee
 - ***Liaisons/VT Legislation: In recognition of liaisons, we'd like to give something similar to the teacher stipend. Will there be any pushback from teachers who have some restrictions to their stipend? We need to be***

intentional in the wording with the gift but will not in fact police how the money is used. ACTION: The group approved \$300 (\$50 per liaison) for this.

- April 2021 Teacher/staff appreciation (*see below*)
- Teacher Appreciation Week, May 3-7, 2021: *Since we can't do an in-person even this year, we're exploring options. Gift certificates vs. delivery of bagel/coffee (taking orders for different grades during the week and delivering each day). Either option would be more expensive than our normal arrangement. Sneakers offered a gift certificate for an entree. Morning Light Bakery, Sneakers, and Scout offering discounted gift certificates. The bagel place has been really good to us. Gift certificates are probably the easiest route. Laura asks for permission to spend up to \$2300 for spring appreciation for staff (probably to include a gift certificate and perhaps some other small gifts [e.g., a card and/or some flower seeds). ACTION: The group approved up to \$2300 for this purpose).*
- Community Inclusion and Engagement/Antiracism Committee: *Members attended school board meeting, two members applied to steering committee (Amelie was accepted!), Arica is on the restorative justice group. Focusing on building relationships to draw new PTO members. Steering Committee will be looking for engagement/involvement in action groups (stay tuned).*
- Boosters Committee: *Senior Night for Girl's and Boy's Varsity Basketball Teams last weekend. Handed them out at the games. Kids were happy. Sarah to bring receipts to Lucy.*
- Craft Fair Committee: *No update.*
- Talent Show: *Scheduled for a week from tomorrow (3/26). Joe has about 15 minutes at the moment (3 musical acts, sketch in a different language, some artwork). Should we go ahead with this? Joe has reached out to school music and art teachers. What do folks think we should do? Joe to email Randy Argraves to see if there's interest if we were to extend the date. Kids' art is also an option.*

Next Meeting: April 14