



## Winooski PTO Meeting Minutes Wednesday, December 15, 2021

**WSD Priorities:** 1. Literacy; 2. Capital Project (playground and staff appreciation);  
3. Parent/Community Education around Restorative Justice

**Attendees:** Laura Lee, Kate Simone, Arica Bronz, Lucy D'Aponte, Joe Smith, Amelie Thurston

### Welcome/Introductions

- Welcome everyone and introductions
  - Name, pronouns, anything else you'd like the group to know
  - Check-in question: What are you looking forward to in 2022?

### Land Acknowledgement

*"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." **Kate read the land acknowledgement.***

**Timekeeper:** Amelie

### Agreements:

- We agree that the PTO's work reflects the dynamic and changing needs of our school district (children, families, teachers, and staff).
- We agree to communicate with kindness and listen with the intent of understanding.
- We agree to respect each other's time.
- We agree that our voices and behavior as members of the PTO represent our school district.

### Secretary's Report

- November 2021 Meeting Minutes
- ***With addition of Larkin's comment regarding possibility of providing translated pieces of the book for more community participation, the group approved the November meeting minutes.***

### Treasurer's Report (November 2021):

#### REVENUES

- McKee's Ticket Donations \$7,984.00

#### EXPENSES

- Walmart Grant \$\$ \$555.59
- Bank fees \$ 5.00

**CASH ON HAND \$57,726.96**

- ***Includes check from Wal-Mart fund (PE department weights/gym supplies).***
- ***ACTION: The group approved the Treasurer's report.***

## Committees

- Fundraising
  - ***Dog Show: The group did not meet this month. Planning on meeting early January.***
- Inclusion and Outreach
  - ***12/14 listening session (Kayla Loving, Mugabo) discussion of community perception of PTO.***
  - ***Still talking about book club.***
  - ***Kate C-S attended Parent Resource Group recently. Not a lot of parents, but good info was shared.***
- Teacher/Staff Support
  - ***Krista spoke recently to Laura about support for staff in light of very low morale. Emily Hecker also spoke to Laura about doing something for teachers next week. Early in the AM before school.***
- Boosters
  - ***The school is taking admission for basketball games but appears to not want Boosters to help. Chris is working on figuring this out.***
- Events
  - ***Talent Show: When is PAC going to be ready? Joe will reach out on this. What would we be able to do with COVID? Congolese Women's Choir was suggested as a potential opening show. Should we try another online production?***
- [Calendar](#)

## Previous Business

- PTO logo update: Next Steps (e.g, stationery, web page, swag, banner)
- [By-laws Review](#) – ***Work on this in the new year? Could this be intro to the January meeting (5:30-6:00). Send it out ahead of time as a Google doc to allow for comments ahead of time. Joe could be the point of contact. Kate to make sure Joe has access to the file ([joewsmith518@gmail.com](mailto:joewsmith518@gmail.com)). We will send to all members, those who are interested can reach out to Joe. How much leeway do we have with the by-laws. What happens with our 501(3)c status when we update these?***
- Community Opportunity - Book Group (Kate Grodin and Kayla Loving) (***WSD Priority 3***)
  - [The Little Book of Restorative Justice](#)

- **Kalya Loving emailed Kate G. about the listening circle ideas. Offered January dates, acknowledging a later time for people outside of teachers/staff.**
- **[Global Healing Oasis Donation](#) (GoFundMe): Lucy met with Coco (founder/creator) last week at Scout. Renaming Marigold Street. She is eager to connect with WSD. We invited her to our next meeting. Lucy gave Coco the donation check. She has ideas and resources for fundraising.**
- **Donation to Winooski Library (Matt Gile): Laura has a check to drop off. Will do so tomorrow.**
- **Vaccination Clinic update: Last week PTO and friends helped support vaccine clinic for JFK kids. Lucy put together the list of names. Can we just send an ecard (so much easier than hard copy)? A generic VISA card would also “fit” everyone. City Market? What about some new Winooski businesses? Commodities is struggling. The group decided to go with VISA gift cards (\$50 for each Covid Coordinator + \$25 for other staff). The PTO officers to take care of this.**

#### **New Business**

- **Winooski Partnership for Prevention meeting with Kate Nugent (12/10): WPP is working to organize a virtual speaker in the spring. A woman who does a TED talk following her child’s suicide following substance abuse. Interested in having the PTO promote and support the event.**
- **Popcorn request for 12/17: Laura and Kate S. to drop popcorn off at school for movie day.**
- **Staff support request from Krista. Can we provide coffee and treats for staff and teachers before school before break?**

#### **Funds Requests**

- **Theresa Fox: Request made for additional funds for setting up her new classroom. We have plenty of \$\$ (not everyone claims their stipend). ACTION: The group approved this additional claim (\$91). Let’s categorize this as funds request.**

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, January 19