

Winooski PTO Meeting Minutes Wednesday, October 20, 2021

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

Attendees: Laura Lee, Lucy D'Aponte, Kate Simone, Kate Cappleman-Sinz, Chris Freije, Amelie Thurston, Jennifer M., Joy Yonan-Renold

Welcome/Introductions

- Welcome everyone and introductions
 - Name, pronouns, anything else you'd like the group to know
 - Check-in question: What song best describes your current mood? ***I'm So Tired, On the Road Again, Don't Worry Be Happy, Hello, Hungry Like the Wolf, I'm Still Standing***

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."

Timekeeper: Amelie

Agreements (revisiting from the September meeting):

- 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.
- *We agree to get agendas out on the Mondays before the monthly meetings to give everyone a chance to review. Note that last-minute items may get added between Monday and Wednesday due to the reality of the requests we get. (Proposed in September).*
- **ACTION REQUIRED: Keep these on future agendas. Move last bullet to by-laws. VOTE: 7 people voted in favor. We will ask those members who were not present to vote via email (two-thirds of membership needed for a vote or 10 people--whichever is smaller). UPDATE: Via email the remainder of the group voted to approve the proposed language for the by-laws.**

Secretary's Report

- September 2021 Meeting Minutes
- **ACTION: September minutes approved**

Treasurer's Report

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$ 0.16
Concessions (from Stripe account):	\$ 83.32
Fundraisers (Checkerbay donation)	\$100.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$183.48

EXPENSES

Bank fees	\$ 5.00
Soccer cleats	\$100.70
Funds requests (HS gift certificates)	\$ 55.98
Teacher stipends:	\$199.20
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$360.18

CASH ON HAND \$50,225.82

NOTE:

- 2021/2022 Budget approval -- Update based on Boosters vote (*one line item changed to \$4,000*)
- *Laura reminded the group that we have a tax ID number, so we should try to use it when we make purchases (e.g., Staples).*
- *Chris gave some expense/income info to Lucy today (see below under Boosters). How should we show those numbers if they're not official bank transactions? Some costs (e.g., senior pictures) will be reflected in October report.*
- **ACTION: Group approved the September Treasurer's report.**

Committees

- **Survey results (8 respondents):**
 - Fundraising: 3
 - Inclusion and Outreach (**KATE C-S**): 3
 - Teacher/Staff Support: 4
 - Boosters (**CHRIS**): 1
 - Events: 2

NOTES: *The officers would like to have one non-officer member serve as a point person to coordinate efforts (see names in caps above). Laura to be included in any committee meetings.*

ACTION: We need more volunteers. Please volunteer for one of the above committees if possible, noting that we're still unclear on when/if we'll have something go under events (talent show online again?).

- **Committee Report Outs**
 - Fundraising (dog show) – **Kate reported out on 10/3 meeting minutes (attached to end of meeting minutes).**
 - Teacher/staff support (**WSD Priority 2**): Survey sent around last Thursday - 4 responses so far; working on drawing for teachers/staff
 - **We might send out another reminder. Can we send a standalone email on this?**
 - **We would like to do another raffle giveaway to help give a boost to staff.**
 - **Laura has reached out to some local businesses (e.g., gift certificates).**
 - **One idea is to ask staff to nominate each other. We could have one special prize for the nominee with the rest of the prizes perhaps being smaller.**
 - Boosters: Request for assistance selling tickets at basketball games;
 - **September income: \$1,142.39 (concessions). Expenses: food/drinks (\$706.70), soccer cleats (\$100.70); boys pictures (\$169.94), sr. boys flowers (\$40).**
 - **For collecting admissions for night soccer games (for the lights), the school gives \$20 (per game) to the PTO. Chris emailed the officers about the potential for other PTO members to collect admission for basketball games. Soccer season is over this Friday. Boys team might be in playoffs and might have a home game.**
 - **Basketball starts up after Thanksgiving. We probably won't be doing concessions for this based on layout. Chris has talked to Cheyne. Will email administration regarding space.**
 - [Calendar](#) (Google Sheet of the school calendar). All members are encouraged to use this to plan activities and help set guidelines for activities (e.g., one teacher/staff support activity/month)

Previous Business

- ECHO STEM program (spring 2022?). From September 2021 discussion: *Traveling STEM program. \$1500, conducted in person.*
 - [Traveling Programs - ECHO, Leahy Center for Lake Champlain \(echovermont.org\)](#)
 - **How many kids/what ages? Could we apply for matching funds?**
 - **Laura can reach out to further explore.**
- Bookmark competition (**WSD Priority 1**)
 - All estimates are for 1,000 bookmarks (**prices for 1 design, no shipping**)
 - Printplace.com \$43.50
 - Nextdayflyers.com \$54.95
 - Prinrunner.com \$82.62
 - Vistaprint.com \$367.99

- *Each kid could get their bookmark. Reach out to teachers/parents with template and instructions. Submissions could be made either online or on paper. Could we print up a certain number based on a random draw?*
- ***ACTION: Laura asked for a vote on a ceiling of \$300 for a bookmark-related project. UPDATE: Via email, the group approved this amount of money to be spent for this purpose.***
- PTO logo/merchandise -- Review of updated logo options and vote (see below for updated logo options)
 - ***The group likes Option 3. Do we need it to say “Winooski Schools” or could we just have “Winooski”?***
 - ***Laura to ask for Options 3 and 4 with different color outlines (thick and single thin).***
 - ***After we’ve decided, Laura will check with administration about use of the word “Schools.”***
 - ***We can vote via email on this.***
- Mergen’s Foundation grant -- ***Status of application. Laura to share language with officers for \$\$ with playground and literacy efforts.***
- [By-laws Review](#) (e.g., meeting times/dates) -- ***Who is interested in reviewing these? All are welcome to provide feedback in writing and/or to participate in a meeting by November 3.***

New Business

- ***Job fair for the trades (CHRIS): He has a lot of contacts with tradespeople in the area, thinking about job fair for high school students (owners of some local companies [Yankee Plumbing, Evergreen Roofing, etc.]. Outside in spring time? We would need to coordinate with school. Some kids go to Essex and BHS for vocational education. Chris can take the lead on this (reach out to the school). PTO could offer gift certificate(s) as incentives.***
- Community Opportunity - Book Group (Kate Grodin, Kayla Loving, **Michael Literacy Coach**) (**WSD Priority 3**)
 - [The Little Book of Restorative Justice](#)
 - 2-3 sessions to read and discuss
 - Coffee or tea at Scout or apps at Waterworks?
 - Teachers, staff, families, maybe community members
 - We have a “Community Outreach and Engagement” budget line item (\$700) for this kind of thing.
 - ***Who is interested in this? Amelie and Kate S. are interested. This is an event and an outreach initiative. Dollar amount would depend on the level of activity.***
 - ***Laura to reach back out to Kate Grodin saying we’re hoping to help support.***
- [Global Healing Oasis Donation](#) (GoFundMe) -- Support for Winooski community members and the BIPOC community. Donations will fund free group support spaces for BIPOC community members (see below for more details).

- SUGGESTED ACTION ITEM: Vote on one-time donation OR support throughout the year
- ***Healing could entail yoga, therapy, etc. to be delivered in a space safe for BIPOC community members.***
- ***It's not clear if the physical space is in Winooski. Lucy could reach out for more info.***
- ***Joy suggested \$2,000. What about funding a single scholarship through a program? Lucy to make inquiries. Is it possible to fund a Winooski student (or alumnae) to participate?***
- ***Donation through GoFundMe would go on the official record that we'd made a donation.***

Funds Requests

- N/A

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 17

LOGO OPTIONS

OPTION 1	OPTION 2
	
OPTION 3	OPTION 4
	
OPTION 5	OPTION 6
	

Global Healing Oasis Information



UPLIFT BIPOC HEALING

providing FREE non-traditional group support spaces
for BIPOC community members in VT

Website: <https://www.badindianwife.com/>

GoFundMe Site:

https://www.gofundme.com/f/r7xtz8-help-fund-free-bipoc-support-spaces?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link_all&utm_campaign=m_pd+share-sheet

Dog Show Committee Meeting Notes (10/3)

Members:

Lucy
Laura
Kate
Arica
Amelie
Jessica

Mandatory meeting (Two weeks before the show for all Committee members, judges, volunteers) **May 7th**

Date of Dog Show: **May 21** (Time??? 9-1/2???)

Rain date: **June 4**

Committee meetings will be held on the first Sunday of each month, except for January (no meeting in January) from 4-5p. (If you would like to hold a meeting at your house, please let us know).

Participants \$25 per animal/category (could we offer some kind of discount for multiple categories?)

8 categories:

Best Costume
Best Owner/Dog look-a-like
Best Child Handler (under?????)
Most Obedient
Best Trick
Best Bark/Voice
Best Coat
Best Attitude

Local Sponsors: \$100 for each (\$50 for 1st prize, \$30 for 2nd prize, \$20 for 3rd prize)

Mule Bar- Have G/C

Chicks Market- Have cash

Scout and Co- Have G/C

Jr's- Have G/C

Sneakers- Need to reconnect- Jess to follow up

Commodities- Does someone have these?

Shafer's- Have G/C

Tiny Thai- Have G/C

Extra: 3 \$25 G/C from Sally's (where/how to use these?)

Can we apply for more G/C's to help with our spending. City Market, Price Chopper, Shaws, Hannafords etc...?

1st Sub-Committee: Marketing

10/3 UPDATE: Arica reached out to some vets in the area (no responses). Also reached out to FPW. No one has responded.

Goal to start posting on social media starting in the new year.

2nd Sub-Committee: Prior logistics

10/3 UPDATE: JEss can reach out to city again. But she needs to have a better idea of what the layout will be.

Lucy confirmed insurance info.

Jess to take on the sign up sheets

Jess to contact judges

Kate can help to update the online registration form. This could also work for crafters to sign up.

Potential raffle item: gift certificates for home brewery store next to the Bev. Warehouse We need them to update the date

We also have a Price Chopper GC we can use to buy concessions

Still need to confirm with Joe. Arica to touch base with him.

3rd Sub-Committee: Day of Logistics

10/3 UPDATE: We need to update this/work it out. See what Jess had put together last time.

We want to make sure the schedule is broken down so folks don't need to be there the whole time.

4th Sub-Committee: Concessions

10/3 UPDATE: We could make good money on this if we sell food. Can we find someone to do this? Would Boosters be available to help with this?

5th Sub-Committee: Booths (Locals who make and sells dog treats, dog clothes, judges booths, etc...)

OTHER THOUGHTS:

TO DO (OVERALL):

- Arica to report out on outreach regarding marketing
- Arica to report back on Joe's availability
- What would the next steps be for crafters? How much do we need to do in advance to determine the layout? Laura and Kate can work on this for the next meeting?

- We will need to be clear with everyone about all the details leading up to the event.
- Check in with St. Francis about potentially doing a spring craft fair. Laura will be in touch with her counterpart there.
- **Next meeting November 7**