

WILLARD PTA MEETING MINUTES

Location: Zoom Meeting
Date: March 18, 2021
Time: 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Attendance:

Minya Nance, PTA President
Tiffany Chan, PTA President
Sarah Gordon, VP Fundraising
Amy Goldberg, former PTA President/Member at Large
Aleks Walker, VP Communications, PTA Council
Emily Davis, VP Equity
Megan Beltran - Co-Treasurer
Angelica Barrera - Co-Treasurer
Heather Voznak, Former Treasurer/Member at Large
Elizabeth Davies, Secretary, PEP Rep
Lucia Garza(translator), Amy Gabbert, Danielle Cohen, David Murphy, Lynn, Mimi Hancko, Regina Stonebraker, Sarah Peterson, Erin Burden, Eloise Auseon, Melissa Denton, Cecelia Hoskins, Jerry Michel, Jerry Succes, Prabha Parameswaran, Jill Royce, Sonja & Paul, Kerry Herbst, T W, Karin Steinbrueck

Agenda Items:

1. Opening - Minya Nance
 - Ground Rules:
 - Lean In/Back
 - Take responsibility for impact
 - Recruitment
 - Several Positions opening on Exec Board including Presidents
 - Any interest direct to Minya/Tiffany or gmail account
 - Additional Committees you would like to see?
 - Need committee chairs

2. Equity Plan - Emily Davis
 - First year - layout for school years 21/22 & 22/23, continued input from the community
 - Four Pillars
 - Representation & Diversity,
 - Community, Belonging & Inclusion (survey coming up soon for input from community)
 - Systems & Policies
 - Individual Empowerment
 - Progress report
 - Pillars and goals have reviewed been by key stakeholders, including input from our Willard Community Conversations on Race groups
 - Equity Audit - looked at all the PTA programs, policies, etc.(over 60) and assess the priorities

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- Scorecard - Racial and Equity Impact Tool used to assess the PTA budget
 - Need more community input/feedback - survey going out and will be communicated in several channels and is translated into Spanish
 - Used a Willard parent to help with communications plan
 - Reviewed the Exec Board structure
 - Implementation of standing rules on we vote, etc.
 - Recruitment of new Exec board members who will need to be doing ongoing work over the summer
 - April meeting is vote on the Equity Plan
 - May meeting about One Fund and whether or not Willard will have continued involvement
3. Fundraising - Sarah Gordon
- Bingo/Pizza Night - Tuesday, March 23rd
 - Direct Appeal - starting the week after spring break (April 5th)
 - Choose your own Virtual 5K (weekend of May 22nd/23rd)
 - Bike, roll, walk, run, etc.
 - Looking for volunteers to help coordinate
 - Planning on getting sponsors
 - Will there be Willard masks?
4. Budget Update - Tiffany Chan
- Budget presentation
 - Actual Spend - \$4,500, Total Budget - \$26,100
 - Checking - \$61,000, Reserves - \$15,000
 - Restricted Funds -
 - Fall Appeal - just over \$6,000
 - Spring fundraising - go into general account and then for consideration for One Fund
 - Have plenty in our accounts to cover budget without meeting fundraising goals
 - Reviewing our budgeting process
 - Grounds Project still ongoing - project put on hold because of pandemic
 - Are there any funds/programs targeted for families during spring breaks...camps, etc. Also, are funds set aside for students who will require additional instruction during the summer?
 - In order to let families know about funds to help defray costs of Spring Break camps/activities (say offered by City of Evanston), what is the lump sum we are starting with Tiffany? I would imagine we need to let them know how much we can give so they know what they could sign up for - right?
5. One Fund Update - Elizabeth Davies
- Every Tuesday a different restaurant is highlighted with the emphasis on making sure the restaurants are representative of the broader Evanston community and that price points vary
 - Coordinated direct appeal amongst all PTAs starting after spring break
 - Live Event being planned for sometime in May
 - Subcommittees still meeting
6. Other Committee Updates:
- THRIVE (Erin Burden)
 - Magical Mondays

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- Magician, DIME, Animal Shelter
 - Grade Support Team to get help recruiting additional presenters, highlight presenters who are BIPOC, local Evanstonians/Chicagoans
 - April 5th - Daniel Biss speaking, student interviewer
 - For the Mayor Biss interview/ Q&A Zoom, would be so fun to have each teacher nominate a student from their class to ask 1 question ...
 - Mr. Michel moderating
 - Magical Monday idea: Circ Esteem in Chicago is a great program that fits a lot of your criteria (and has done programming at Willard). That might be super fun to see other kids do Circus. (Expensive)
 - Virtual tour of Brookfield or Lincoln Park Zoo - prepackaged experiences
 - Museum of Science and Industry is also targeting STEM programs for kids
 - Submit ideas for Magical Mondays here - <https://forms.gle/SLBkskj5PukudvNeA>
 - Need help with supporting and exploring the ideas - reach out to organizations to gauge interest and then reach back out to Erin Burden
 - Minya and Tiffany met with educators last week and it has been a struggle
 - Please reach out to grade support teams to offer help/ideas
 - Nice emails, things that help with self care
7. Willard School Updates - Jerry Michel
- Jerry Michel will be remaining in the District and will be classroom teaching
 - D65 will be bringing a candidate to Board for approval by late April
 - Fifth Grade Promotion - June 1st
 - In person most likely outside
 - District has given multiple parameters
 - Multimedia slide show will be created
 - Standardized Testing will be pushed to May
 - Access Testing will not be done until the Fall
 - Any changes to hybrid requests to be submitted no later than March 24th
 - Space reduction from 6 feet to 3 feet per Illinois Dept. of Health and CDC which will increase in person instruction
 - Hoping to get everyone on the waitlist to in person
 - Fully reopen in the Fall for in person
 - More Willard staff may potentially be coming back
 - The district shared this survey for feedback about the new principal search:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeU60wXS-pWOYltbbkHMqctK2bXjnpp2u7vhJJ6kc2UWzAdqQ/viewform?gxids=7628>
 - <https://inservice.ascd.org/if-we-arent-addressing-racism-we-arent-addressing-trauma/>