

## **Friends of Coonley Board Meeting**

**Aug. 6, 2019, 6:30 p.m.**

**Board Members in attendance:** Ellen McGarry, Kristin Morris, Brooke Odem, Brooke Roark, Christina Kreidler, Stephen Laslo

**Honorary Board Members in attendance:** None

**Guests in attendance:** Dan McGarry, Tiffany Strietelmeier

**Call to order (B. Roark):** Called meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

**Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes (B. Roark):** B. Roark made motion to approve April, May, June minutes. E. McGarry seconded. All approve.

**Treasurer's Report (K. Alvarez):** Finance team not available tonight. They will email us this month's numbers.

**2019-20 school year FOC meeting schedule (B. Roark):** We will stick to following the LSC meetings and starting at 7 p.m. First meeting will be Sept. 10. We will add all of this year's dates to the FOC website along with the approved minutes through June.

**Communications needs/Help wanted (B.Roark/K. Morris):** May need someone to help with website. Would also be good to have some new folks to help write/edit the FOC blast. Will ask around and advertise to fill these needs.

**New parents/guardians event (B. Roark):** Will be held on Aug. 21 at ROCKS.. Last year had about 70 people at new parents event. Can likely expect around the same number.

**Playground update (E. McGarry/T. Strietelmeier):** Previously passed by an email vote to use Shane to design/execute our playground paint elements (sensory path, four square, hopscotch, etc.). By next FOC meeting we will have sketches/more details on what sensory path will actually look like. She may even do some chalk templates outside on the path from Bell annex entrance to rock garden. Will be a sophisticated drawing that doesn't only appeal to youngest students. Admin currently can't guarantee access to the sensory path every day at recess. The playlot enhancements have been discussed w/ Ms. Collins. Might do planets near the butterfly garden. Four square courts just east of there, and then a giant calculator past that. Also a "mirror me" game with colored dots. Asphalt would have hopscotch boards and also a standing long jump. Shane will do parts that don't have a stencil and will oversee Coonley volunteers for the stencil painting. May add a target on the wall near Bell entrance. Will do a start/finish line for the track. Could do picture frames on wall on Leavitt side that kids could use chalk to draw on. Would it attract graffiti? Might be better on ground. Sticking with Coonley colors and white for the non-artsy features. We will need a timeline for the paint to make sure not everything painted at once, have people walking over it... have to be totally done with paint or not started by meet and greet on Aug. 29.

In future we still can consider nature-area improvements, such as adding climbing structures to the rock garden. Would have to landscape more first. Also reached out to risk management folks. Want to get basketball courts painted professionally and posts wrapped. Want to put benches in dirt area by playground for parent seating. Bike racks.. best place? Maybe on the parkway outside the gates? Asking city about that. Or maybe near Bell gate or near playground by alley. Have to be anchored into ground and would need CPS approval for that.

Hoping lake Coonley finally gone -- area was regraded and pipes were cleaned out. Has drained much better during recent rains.

We are looking into applying for a Cubs Diamond Project grant this year. Maximum gift is \$250,000. Possible ideas include redoing or refreshing/regrading turf, paint work on the turf, benches, a water fountain and netting on alley side to keep balls in play. January-April is the window to apply for the grant.

**Beautification (B. Roark):** Do we need a committee to get the garden in NE corner by Belle Plaine/Leavitt back in shape? Also could work on the planters by main entrance. Find some people with a green thumb -- doesn't have to be a big project. Even a few plants would look better than it does now. B. Roark will look into it.

**School admin report (S. Laslo):** Two major projects in gym. Looks like we will get some money from state/alderman. Can't get money for anything we've already ordered (volleyball nets/equipment/basketball net height adjusters). CPS is going to repair our gym floor. Then hopefully we can apply to get \$10K from state towards painting/refinishing/volleyball net holes. Next part is the electric for the power to run to motors that control basketball hoops. We have two quotes for that -- \$4,408 and \$6,350. Have been happy with both companies' work before. B. Roark motioned to approve \$4,408 for powering basketball hoops. E. McGarry seconds. All approve. Should be operational by fall.

**Box Tops (C. Kriedler):** Box tops representatives are coming to talk to school coordinators. Christina will ask for tips moving forward with the new e-program.

**Back to school meet-and-greet (B. Odem):** Will be held on the turf field on Aug. 29. For food trucks, Kona donuts, cheesies, and empanadas. Still have some feelers out for other savory options. Food trucks on site 4-6.

**Coonley yard signs (B. Roark):** We have new signs. Brooke will bring to Rocks for new parent meet and greet.

**Back-to-school coffee (B. Roark):** Brooke is ordering coffee. Have used Panera in the past. Do we want to consider having it outside this year? Biggest issue would be finding a place/way to set up with all the people on the field. Mr. W could announce it over speakers if we have it inside to draw more people in. Might make more sense just to keep it in multipurpose room.

**Adjournment:** B. Roark moved to adjourn meeting at 8:32 p.m. K. Morris seconded. All approve.

*Minutes prepared by K. Morris. Next FOC meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2019.*