

Friends of Coonley Board Meeting

Feb. 4, 2020, 7 p.m.

Board Members in attendance: Kristin Morris, Brooke Odem, Brooke Roark, Christina Kreidler, Stephen Laslo, Kathy Alvarez, Erin Van Awken

Honorary Board Members in attendance: Principal Zurawski, Kelly Lish

Guests in attendance: Renee Schneidewind

Call to order (B. Roark): Called meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes (B. Roark): B. Roark makes motion to approve Jan. minutes. K. Alvarez seconds. All approve.

Treasurer's Report (K. Alvarez): Our tax exempt status is still being resolved. Will have our status resolved in time for big Spring Fling purchases but will have to pay tax on things until then. Auction money is starting to come in. Have only paid minor Spring Fling expenses so far. Abbie checks have been getting rejected and we are getting charged fees. K. Alvarez and B. Roark working to resolve without paying fees. Total funds: \$923,447. Committed funds: \$371,244. Available funds: \$552,203. K. Alvarez made motion to approve Jan. expenditures report. S. Laslo seconded. All approve.

LSC Report: No report given.

School admin report (S. Laslo): We have graduation in multipurpose room and put up stage for Coonley graduates to walk across. This year we have a student in a wheelchair. A ramp will cost \$6,000, which is almost as much we paid for the stage itself. Have looked into renting, but rentals aren't insured for a mobile stage. Will we fit in multipurpose room for graduation after this year anyway? Will consider options/best way to be inclusive.

Spring Fling (B. Odem): Have sold 163 tickets. Sold 77 at baseline price of \$100. Sold 69 at \$150 and 17 at \$50. Received \$30,000 donation from Sunny Durham Foundation that helps us build packages. Next and final co-chair meeting next Tuesday. Final push for donations, parties, and ads this week. Most things due Friday. Next Wednesday we launch cash raffle. Doing it online again, same website as last year. Admin are working on list for fund-a-need since we don't have one big-ticket item this year. Will make more of a wish list with a variety of items. Should we do a flier to put in program to highlight these items?

Free cash for Coonley (C. Kriedler): Next Box Tops collection is Feb. 21.

Teacher appreciation (E. Van Awken): This month there will be a load the lounge. Grades K, 5, and 7 will be loading it. C. Kreidler and E. Jurewicz working on that. We approved replacing the toaster oven in the staff lounge via email in January. Teachers very happy with new appliance.

Movie night (E. Van Awken): Very well attended. Had about a \$200 loss, which is fine. Went well, will tweak some things for next year. Start popping popcorn earlier. The voting for movie choices went well with the teachers. Maybe give them a few more days next time. Next year revisit option to purchase whole small pizzas in advance. Need to set that up earlier next year. Consider having volunteers next year stand next to doors to outside and open them if it gets too warm in gym/multipurpose room and monitor the entrances.

Coonley Cares (B. Roark): Jenny Schaeffer, B. Roark and Sarah Renz toured the Yacht club (donating their space) where luncheon will be held for Coonley moms to get together for an afternoon with teen and expecting moms from Simpson Academy. Embarc handles the food for volunteers. Sign up sheet will be going out this week.

Three organizations that Spring Fling committee members brought up for Coonley Cares Spring Fling fundraiser are Embarc, Share our Spare, and Inner City Impact. Will be a poll of the Spring Fling committee chairs to decide which worthy cause to support via Spring Fling this year.

Shannon Belmont and Tracy Stein working on an event with a Coonley mom who is involved in Share our Spare – an organization that collects/distributes secondhand stuff for kids. Someone from the organization would come in to talk to our kids. We would donate diapers and hygiene items for families in need and Share our Spare would provide bags for kids to put together kits. Probably the Friday after Memorial Day. We could do Coonley Cares T-shirts for participants again, or maybe do water bottles. Last time was \$25 to attend. We can still allow people in for free. Last year it was kind of rushed, this year we are getting better jump on it.

Coonley Core (K. Lish): Have lost a few sponsors, but still gaining others and doing well overall. Also have lost a few team members so we could use some new volunteers to be Coonley Core reps. Each rep has 6 or 7 businesses they serve as a liason to. Don't have to get new sponsors. Will advertise for more help in the FOC blast.

Insurance (B. Roark): Talked to our insurance agent again today. He's still working with underwriters to settle the background checks issue. We are still covered currently.

Playground refurb. (B. Roark): Ramping up preparations for Cubs grant application. Brooke has met with Blaine people for advice. Also has reached out to other schools to find out what their turf fields cost. Redoing our field to eliminate the dips in it will by far be our biggest ask. Also want to repaint lines/add a logo. Also add some benches for parent seating. We will put together a wish list of things and see what they will fund. Also have to say what money we will bring to the project as it is a partnership. Need to get a letter of recommendation from other local orgs that have used our field, such as Lil' Sluggers and Welles or Hamlin baseball. Backstop will stay. Djana Sterpin on board to help write grant. Linda Lesondak also willing to assist. Pamela Clayburn interested in helping as well.

Board opening (B. Roark): We currently have one open spot on the board and anticipate several others next year. Time to start spreading word and see who is interested in joining.

Adjournment: B. Roark moved to adjourn meeting at 8:10 p.m. C. Kreidler seconded. All approve.

Minutes prepared by K. Morris. Next FOC meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 3, 2020.