

Friends of Coonley Board Meeting

March 3, 2020, 7 p.m.

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

Honorary Board Members in attendance: None.

Guests in attendance: Renee Schneidewind, Missy Friedman

Call to order (B. Roark): Called meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

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

Treasurer's Report (K. Alvarez): \$60K in income so far from Spring Fling. Committed funds: \$413,857. Available funds: \$556,453. Total funds: \$970,310. K. Alvarez made motion to approve Feb. expenditures report. S. Laslo seconded. All approve. Trying to find update on renewal of our tax exempt status. Keep getting a recording. Will keep trying to confirm.

LSC Report: No report given.

School admin report (S. Laslo): Still looking into best plan for making stage handicapped-accessible. I. Cherry is looking into options. ... Need check to cover Best Buddy outing costs. ... Bill for Coonley teaching assistant salaries (\$411K) came and FOC needs to send check to CPS. ... All the gym equipment has been installed, just making final adjustments, nets are still on order. FOC needs to send check (\$6.4K) for that. ... B. Roark made motion to approve admin's request to pay CPS \$411,400.24 to cover our 2019-20 teacher assistants. B. Odem seconded. All approve.

Spring Fling (B. Odem): Two weeks away. Have sold about 400 tickets. Still have \$150 tickets outselling \$50 tickets. Will cut off early-bird sales this Saturday. Will be only at \$150 after that. Need to give numbers to the caterers. Capacity at Rockwell on the River is 600 for a seated dinner, but for our standing event could hold up to 1,000. Program is coming together and going to print soon. C. Kriedler getting set to start promoting the Principal for a Day raffle. Cash raffle is off to a slow start, but it always is. Going to also do a campaign for K parents on why they should attend Spring Fling and some FAQs.

Free cash for Coonley (C. Kriedler): Sent in all the clipped ones on Monday at the deadline – about 2,000 Box Tops. Only about 70% of the classrooms turned theirs in. Since Oct. the Box Tops app has brought in around \$300. Maybe we can get out in community and explain to people how to use the “give credit” button.

8th grade luncheon (B. Roark): Sign-up Genius has already gone out from Renee Girardin to 7th-grade parents to help with the 8th grade luncheon.

Ribfest (B. Roark): Ribfest is June 12-14. They've sent out the signups for our days but they didn't send the info to Friends of Coonley, they sent it to the volunteers from last year. We've found out a lot of the slots we've had in the past are already gone. We have about 50 slots on the Sunday date. R. Girardin is coordinating.

Teacher appreciation (E. Van Awken): Did a Load the Lounge in Feb. with Grades K, 5, and 7. The final Load the Lounge is in March and will be Grades 2, 3, 6. A parent suggested maybe having some of the kids from the grade levels help to load the lounge. Maybe get 5 of the older kids to help us in the morning from 8-8:30 a.m. Could add a note on the Sign-Up Genius reminder asking if any middle-school parents/kids in that grade can help set up. Or a general message that parents and kids are welcome to stay and help set up. ... After last Load the Lounge, focus will turn to Teacher Appreciation Week. Will be a Sign-Up Genius for people to buy gift cards for a staff grab bag. We will check with Maribel on staff count. ... C. Kriedler got some suggestions from teachers on how to improve the lounge. Already moved the toaster oven to a different place. Teachers have suggested we might be able to help get a three-pronged outlet in a wall where there's only two-pronged outlet right now. Currently they can only use two outlets instead of all three. Can see what the electric implications are of changing it.

3-5 Dance (I. Cherry): 340 people came to the dance. Last year was 480. Maybe Valentines dance didn't appeal as much as Glow theme. But also could just be that some years' classes are less enthusiastic than others. The parent/child ratio also seemed down as more parents supervised groups of kids. For 6-8 Dance we still need a co-chair. Will send something out after Spring Fling. Dance is on Friday, May 8.

Coonley Cares (B. Roark): Had successful event with Simpson Academy, bringing together 19 Coonley moms with teen moms. Jenny Schaffer organized the event with Embarc.

Spring Fling committee members chose Embarc as the recipient of the Coonley Cares Spring Fling fundraiser. This year, people who donate \$30 to Coonley Cares at Spring Fling will receive a wine carrier. Those who donate \$60 will get a double wine carrier. B. Roark makes motion for \$1,200 for approval to purchase the wine bags (150 of each) to be distributed to Coonley Cares donors at Spring Fling. K. Morris seconds. All approve.

Coonley Core (K. Lish): No report given.

Insurance (B. Roark): We are going to get dropped by our current insurance company because we won't meet their demands to background check every parent. Our agent said not to worry -- he will not let our coverage lapse and he has another carrier who will carry us through November. If all the carriers do end up going to those strict rules after that, then we may need to find another way to organize our volunteers. Perhaps through Coonley. Can see what insurance groups other Friends of organizations are using.

Diamond Project Cubs grant. (B. Roark): B. Roark meeting with Djana Sterpin next week. We have a letter of recommendation from Lil' Sluggers. Admin is working on a wish list. Want to refurbish turf and add benches. Grant isn't due until April.

Speaker series (B. Roark): Kathleen Hayes working with Kym Hughes on speaker series. They were wondering if they should plan something for spring. Or maybe a smaller event, like a book talk at a Starbucks. They shared the results of the areas of interest survey; Safe social media and teaching kids about equity are the top areas of interest.

Adjournment: B. Roark moved to adjourn meeting at 8:18 p.m. I. Cherry seconded. All approve.

Minutes prepared by K. Morris. Next FOC meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2020.