

Fernwood Fund
Board Meeting Minutes (08/27/2018)



Date: Monday, August 27th, 2018 at 6:00pm
Location: Milwaukee's Craft Beer Garden at Humboldt Park, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Attendance: Mel Limas, Lorinda Flores, Benjamin Stocks, John Sanchez, Amy Joyce, Tara Baszler, Matt Ray, Eric van Schyndle, David Eskra
Absent: Sean Kane
Guests: None
Facilitator: Mel Limas
Note Taker: Benjamin Stocks

Meeting Notes (actions are assumed due at next meeting unless otherwise stated)

- Meeting called to order by Mel Limas at approximately 6:05 pm

- Standing agenda topics:
 - Meeting Minutes - minutes from last meeting (6/11/18) approved.
 - Treasurer's Report - no financial update but there is a new MPS foundation board chair for this year.
 - Principal's Report - the amphitheater has some punch list items the contractor will need to resolve but should not involve additional funds, and Principal Sanchez reviewed the fund and grant proposals with the staff.
Action: Ben will review existing grant proposal template to confirm lessons learned from last year are incorporated and distribute to board.

- Proposed meeting schedule for the 2018 / 2019 school year:
 - Tuesday September 11th
 - Tuesday October 9th
 - Tuesday November 13th
 - Tuesday December 11th
 - Tuesday January 8th
 - Tuesday February 12th
 - Tuesday March 12th
 - Tuesday April 9th
 - Unless otherwise announced, time and location are 6:30pm in the Community Room.
 - For all dates at Fernwood, enter at Falling Heath entrance using intercom system.

- Landscaping Projects:
 - A volunteer group did some grounds maintenance over the summer but need to find a leader to better organize effort going forward.
Action: Lorinda will contact parents who have expressed an interest in a group to provide ongoing support of landscaping and review possibility of student or classroom involvement.
 - A "planting day" event was tabled in favor of a "beautification day" to help weed and prepare the grounds for the upcoming winter.
 - Given attendance concerns from last year's "planting day", the "beautification day" will be scheduled for a Sunday morning with a target of 8:30 or 9:00 until 11:30 or noon on October 7th.
Action: Lorinda will contact same parents who have expressed an interest in supporting grounds to determine if they can help coordinate volunteers for this event.
Action: Principal Sanchez will coordinate with Lorinda and Matt on a plan of what would be done

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- during the “beautification day”
- The west playground landscaping was highlighted at the last June Beers and Cheers but the board needs to review the overall plan again to confirm the plan still holds for 2018 / 2019.
Action: Lorinda will bring the master plan to the September board meeting and an agenda item will be added to review.
- Urban Ecology Center Trips for 2018 / 2019:
 - The Urban Ecology Center eliminated the program previously used to send students and replaced it with NEEP (acronym of unknown origin).
 - New program will offer 20 sessions at no more than what was already earmarked by the fund.
 - Primary students will still have the opportunity to go to the Schlitz Audubon.
 - Minor changes to the syllabus or location may still be coming but for the already earmarked money students will still have two opportunities to attend an outdoor education facility.
- Fall Fundraising Opportunities:
 - Concern raised that the fall and early winter time before Beers and Cheers gets rolling in earnest could be used for a small, additional fund raising event.
 - Ideas include pie sales, spaghetti dinner or something involving the Humboldt Park Pumpkin Pavilion.
 - Time is quite short before Beers and Cheers ramps up so ideas will be reviewed at September meeting.
- Any Other Business:
 - Beers and Cheers is tentatively scheduled for June 2nd pending feedback from Principal Sanchez.
- Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45 pm