

Winterberry Parent Guild Meeting

October 5, 2017 6:00 pm

Location – Winterberry Charter School

The mission of the Winterberry Parents Guild is to support the Winterberry Charter School and its teachers for the betterment of the children attending the school.

1. Welcome song “Come Let Us Gather” and check-in

Attendance: Molly Towner (recording secretary), Eric Andersen (principal), Sam Beckett (vice-principal), Steve Rafuse (2nd grade parent), Sara Garsha (3rd grade rep), Jessica Gardner (2nd grade parent), Julie Pepe-Phelps (Hybrid), Barbara Amy (treasurer), Iris Hilsinger (1st grade parent), Kim Spillane (2nd grade rep), Lalia Bunn (6th grade rep), Jessie Menkens (WCC liaison), Allison Koos Fox (Kindergart rep), Oona Martin (5th grade rep), Sue Armstrong, Amanda Banker (7th grade rep), Donna Mears

2. Approval of Agenda --- 5 minutes:

Julie: would like to add a discussion item- teacher training

Change: Crystal Reeves is the chairperson of the Enchanted Village

Jessie 1st/Kim 2nd

Unanimously approved

3. Approval of Minutes for August 3, 2017 --- 5 mins

Oona moved/Jessie 2nd

Unanimous approval

4. Reports/Questions regarding reports---20 minutes

(Admin, Faculty, WCC, WEP, Treasurer)

Admin (copy from email)

*The October student count began this week. Our student count is currently 241 with the possibility of a few more within the month.

*The conex will be arriving Friday the 6th at noon. Thank you to Neal Stanbury for clearing the area!

Discussion items: What to do with the yurt? Letter from Cheryl Silcox (moved to action items)

Events:

*Please come and join us for an evening with Torin Finser this Saturday at 6pm.

*Inservice days Oct 20 and 27.

*Parent/Teacher conferences are the 17th-19th and school will release at 12:30 those days.

*Eurythmy is October 23-Nov 17

*NVC community work with Karl Stayaert will be on Friday the 27th from 1-5

*Enchanted Village is October 28, 11-4

Faculty- We encourage participation at the NVC workshop with Karl Stayaert on October 27, 1-5pm

WCC (Jessie)

The charter was approved for submission to the ASD. Many thanks to the members of the WCC who put a lot of time into this. We will also go ahead with an amendment to formally acknowledge the Hybrid program. Darrel Vincek, from ASD, and our mentors, George Hoffecker and Donna Burgess, were in attendance at the last meeting.

WEP- (Julie) has a letter from the muni. Programs are only allowed to remain inactive 99 days. Winterberry needs to send an official letter letting them know we are officially closed.

Treasurer (Barbara Amy)- won't turn off the intuit payroll info until the year-end payroll taxes are paid. There is a committee working on ideas to lower the electricity bill.

The bill for waynescoating was taken out of last month's facility fund

Action Items

1. WPG Officer elections: President, Secretary, and Fundraising Chair need filled---15 minutes
Oona Martin ran for president and was elected unanimously
Jessica Gardner ran for fundraising chair and was elected unanimously
Short discussion about adding duties to the secretary role (updating social media, tracking teacher requests)
Sue Armstrong ran for secretary and was elected unanimously
2. WEP Vote---5 minutes
Jessie moved to dissolve the WEP program. Amanda 2nd
The motion was passed unanimously
3. Building Maintenance---5 minutes: No action needed
4. Yurt: It must be moved because of fire code.

Jessie moved/Oona 2nd that the yurt be taken down and the dispersal of the yurt be decided on by the outdoor site committee. They will report back to the WPG with their decisions for formal approval. and almost unanimous approval (less one).

*This came up during “future agenda items” and needed to be voted on tonight because of the fire code.

Discussion Items

1. Garden Initiative (Lalia)---5 minutes

The website platform is remodeled. The initiative will kick off next week. She appreciates the great feedback from the teachers. We are expecting about the same amount of financial need for teacher training (just over \$40,000). She’s setting the GARDEN target for \$20,000, which is pretty consistent with what Rayna set last year.

(Julie) We have a budget shortfall and will be requesting money and air miles for the Antioch teacher certification program. Several of the teachers are in year 2 of 3 of a certification program. The school paid for it last year, but does not have enough money this year due to lower enrollment numbers.

Julie and Lalia will talk about it (and the possibility of raising the target)

2. Enchanted Village- need a committee/chair --- 10 minutes

Crystal is home with a sick child

Laura Krip is working with vendors. Each of the grades 5-8 will have fundraising tables.

Jennifer Porter is doing the play and needs actors.

Does anyone know where the PVC pipe is for the gnome stomp/fairy walk?

10 vendors have signed up

Several people volunteered the night of the open house

Many helpers will be needed the evening before Enchanted Village.

3. Setting priorities for distribution of funds ---5 minutes

Three people attended a committee meeting this past month. Another meeting will be set up for this month. Information regarding the next email will go out from the Winterberry Business account. Sam would like to see the WPG set some money aside so it has a savings and can budget for teacher training a year ahead.

4. Fundraising discussion(Allison)---10 minutes
She wondered about doing some small pop-up style fundraisers (ie BurgerFi).
We are on Amazon smiles, Fred Meyer rewards, and collect box tops.
We need a list/poster compiled of these
How can we welcome more fundraising ideas?
We are still in need of event chairs for the auction and Winter Faire
Donna talked to a woman this summer about designing a custom fabric for Winterberry. Headbands made with this fabric could be sold as a fundraiser
Discussion about educating parents about how important fundraising is to our school (the WHY)
5. Site Committee discussion(Oona)-10
They are meeting on Monday to discuss the outdoor site. The committee goal is to include an outdoor play space with some natural play equipment with the expansion.
6. Julie- Request for funding for the Building Bridges program, created to provide Waldorf certification to some of our teachers. A letter by Alicia Besh-Barber was handed out, explaining the Building Bridges program. The actual costs requested will be available by next meeting.

Information Items

1. Charter Renewal --- 5 minutes

The charter renewal is ready for ASD. After a process of questions and clarifications, it will go to the State Board of Education.

2. Community General Comments --- 5 minutes

Lalia: read a text from a 6th grade parent who would like to purchase a “hot station”, which will provide more power from fewer outlets for the fairs.

Kim: Our water filters were donated by a small business and Neal Stanbury installed them.

Last year, we agreed that the reps would take turns writing a summary. 3rd grade will do it this month. ‘

Molly: Brought information from Emily Baker about a possible presentation about Mexico and one of the towns that was hit by the earthquake.

Julie- wants to publicly thank the parents who have been providing us the wonderful gift of lunch on Thursdays.

Oona- The Harvest Festival of Courage was a wonderful event.

Input for future agenda items --- 5 minutes

*Water filters

*Roles and Responsibilities/work that has been done in the past/historical knowledge

*funds for headbands

*funds for Antioch teacher training

*WEP materials- what to do with them?

Move for Adjournment and closing song “This Pretty Planet”

Come Let Us Gather

Come let us gather 'round to sing
Sing from the heart, Great joy you'll bring
Everybody, all together, come let's sing

This Pretty Planet

This pretty planet,
spinning through space,
you're a garden,
you're a harbor,
you're a holy place.

Golden sun going down,
Gentle blue giant

spin us around
All through the night
Safe 'til the morning light