

SunRidge Educational Foundation
Meeting Minutes for **Friday, 08/25/17**

Meeting Location: **Library**

Roll Call

8:35am

I Establishment of Quorum:

Present: Cheryl, Dale, Gene, Hassanah, Nell, Robert, Willie

Apologies: Francois

Guests: Kalen

II. Approval of minutes from 06/16/17, Hassanah/Nell, 7/0 / 1 absent at time of vote

III. Approval of agenda, Nell/Willie, 7 / 0 / 1 absent at time of vote

IV. Correspondence: Mr. Volonts would like to purchase cellos and violins for loaners and also needs a rack constructed for storage in the music room. An inventory of instruments would likely strengthen commitment for parents who don't have or cannot afford a cello, for example. **Action:** Before determining funds potentially needed, music enrolment numbers need to be finalized and Kalen / SunRidge will reach out to parents for donations of or to purchase pre-loved (no longer used) instruments.

Open Session: **No one spoke.**

Public notice: Audience participation is welcome and encouraged. The President will recognize those members of the audience who wish to speak, and may set a time limit on each person's remarks if necessary. Usually the President will ask the audience for their remarks after individual Board members have had an opportunity to speak.

V. Business

New actions items from this meeting in the minutes below.

1) Follow-up on Action Items

Middle school hallway lighting: **Willie** has installed the wood framework in the hallway for the lighting. Electrician has advised we need more transformers, 6 not 2. Estimate is still within the \$8K allocated. Timeframe is unknown, but perhaps 2 full days will be needed (when school is not in session).

Action: **Willie** to review timing of installation with Kalen and engage O'Rourke to install the lights, transformers and switches. Cost of the project is not to exceed \$8000.

Cargo Net: Email from Eric Kindseth to Robert on 8/24 following up if we still want an estimate. Chris Rucker conversed with Robert about installation (compact the hillside considerably) however has not yet been able to provide an estimate. Timeframe would be over a school break of a week or two. **Robert** contacted **Cheryl's** contractor for another construction opinion and possible estimate and he was somewhat cautious about providing a quote as he is not familiar with school playground code requirements.

Action: **Robert** will follow up with Chris and Erik to provide estimates for the project.

2) Reports on New Projects

Track around field - Chris Pellicini (SUSD) approved field track project. Construction progress has been made already, with Jeremiah working on Saturdays and after school. ¼ of dig has occurred, inspection for electricity line done, and irrigation line relocation.

Action: Willie will continue to work with Jeremiah to complete the project before the rainy season if possible.

Lights from the Community Center

The lights still need to be hung and caged for protection. We received free lights from the community center which was preferred over the Analys lights as the electricity design works better for our school. Infrequent use offsets less efficient costs of running them.

Action: Nell will follow up Baron Coenen for his advice on a cage (\$300 is what we're hoping) and installation (may need to hire a portable lift). Also hope to get laptop / tablet software to run the lights. Costs to protect the lights (cages) will be advised before the lights are installed as Board will need to approve any installation costs.

3) **Funding allocations for 2017-18**

Cargo Net:

We have not approved an amount as we do not have a final estimate yet.

Teacher Training budget for 2017-18:

Hassanah wrote checks for remaining teacher training requests for last year.

Robert contacted Meriah Smith about the funds from the photo day being applied toward KJP teacher training to which she agreed.

Baffles:

Installed in Dragonfly and it sounds much better in the room.

PC, Parent Ed & Site committee budgets:

None have yet been provided to the SEF for approval.

4) **Fundraising, Funds and Revenue for 2017-18**

2018 Auction:

Robert emailed the message drafted by Autumn for parents to help with auction procurement over summer to 20 parents who have helped in past years. One response. Auction runs March 8th to March 22nd, 2018

Action: Robert, Cheryl and Autumn will present at parent meetings throughout the year to further encourage parents to support the auction.

SunRidge Alumni / Wider Community:

Kalen would still like to reach out to past families and community members who would be interested in supporting the school financially.

Action: Kalen and Gene will draft a message to past parents.

Whole Foods Scrip / Amazon Smile: Programs are dormant, providing only around \$200 - \$300 annually in revenue back to the school.

Actions: Nell will continue to try to find someone to manage these which would include helping parents at pickup to register their support. She will also consider also posting messages in the bulletin early in the fall.

Grant Writing:

Continue to focus on garden needs. **Vanessa** has expressed an interest in writing grants and **Dale** and **Robert** can help. An impulse to have grant-writing as its own section in future agendas for the year was made and to further develop our abilities in this area.

Action: **Robert** and **Dale** to meet with **Vanessa** to look at grants and structure.

Other Revenue ideas:

Action: **Hassanah** will propose the following ideas to the PC for review in their next meeting;

- Renting out 'tent space' at school fairs / events to raise money
- Back to school party with food trucks
- Plant sale / garden produce sale at May Fair?

5) **SEF Website**

Heather Thurber met with Nell and Robert over the summer and progress was made.

Action: **Nell** will follow up with Heather to determine when we can publish the site.

6) **Site Committee Update / General Maintenance / School Lease Issues**

Dragonfly loft still needs construction; Morningstar drainage holding off; Sheds have been purchased (2) for K-yard, and also a shade structure for woodworking; decorative rocks, and soil amendments have been added to depleted earth. A fountain in the memorial area is supported by a parent and also to remember Mr. Jensen's contributions to school history.

Erosion in area west of slide in low bushes is becoming an issue needing addressing. Looking at control measures, such as a rope or creating a path. The green bench areas under the sycamore needs a redesign, perhaps into a seating area or outside the amphitheater and this is possibly a safety issue.

The lease with the SUSD provides the landlord a 4% increase annually, about \$4200, in rent each year, more than an ADA 1 day/1 student. There is no recourse for SunRidge until the end of the lease.

No actions for the board until the Site Committee requests funds for projects and identifies an annual spend estimate.

7) **Insurance cover for Parent Ed Courses?**

Kalen asked if it were possible for the board to increase its insurance to include after school activities. Robert did not believe the Foundation had ever previously offered this.

Both Spanish and Eurythmy instructors are wondering about offering classes after school. The community center charges \$15 per hour per class to carry a course (provide insurance) which is deemed too expensive. There could be different coverage situations based on nature of offerings, however more investigation is needed.

Action: Kalen will do more investigation with insurance company and other models before reverting at the next Foundation meeting.

8) Pledge program for 2017/18

Nell presented a graphic she had designed by hand showing where pledge funds go. Kalen suggested some enhancements.

Action: Nell and Kalen to finalize this and one other design and post in visible locations.

9) Sebastopol Time Bank and the SEF

A way for volunteers in the community to help one other and earn time for helping. Time is the currency and the more time earned, the more services you can “buy” with time. Could we use this model at SunRidge?

Deferred Action: Gene will speak with Gayle at the Sebastopol Time Bank (STB) to see if it may be possible to establish a relationship between the STB & SunRidge resources (use of field or the library for example by the STB) that could then be exchanged to buy volunteer time from the STB community. If this is practical to implement, Gene shall explain in the September meeting.

10) Next Meeting / Close

September 29, 8.30am in the library

Post meeting conversation

There is strong interest in making the back to school paperwork faster to complete by using form-fillable PDFs or having the entire process on line. Kalen will ask Steven Loveday of THUSD which of our forms can be electronically enhanced to be more convenient to fill, as the requirements for data can be made easier for parents. Kalen also suggested any parents could contact Barbara Bickford, THUSD supervisor to make the case for improvements to the current slow and manual method.