

Spring Garden Waldorf School

Joint Board-Faculty Meeting minutes

February 13, 2023

Attendance: Bridget Ambrisco, Gabrielle Aryeetey, Stephanie Bailey, Karl Burkart, Joanna Caley, Patricia Candela, Rodney Chapman, Tricia Cottrell, Miriam Daniel, Julie Gannon, Michael Gannon, Joyce Gordon-Shapkalska, Edward Grimes, Andrea Haberny, Carolyn Harrison, Amy Hecky, Alyssa Humes, Brenda Leighton, Rocky Lewis, Olga Lyuksyutova, Julie Marchetta, Kate Miller, Sarah Miller, Diane Miskinis, Kristen Oberhaus, Marie Paul, Caty Petersilge, Matt Plevrakis, Sarah Shorten, Kyle Yoder, Dionne LaRue

- Meeting called to order at 6:39pm with the reading of the Opening Verse

Introduction

Board President, Bridget Ambrisco and Parent Council Lead, Tricia Cottrell, explained that the focus of the meeting would be to develop ideas for our dream vision for the SGWS outside campus. The ideas generated will be used to inform the creation of a campus Site Plan. Facility Manager, Matt Plevrakis and members of the Site Committee were present to contribute to the work. In preparation for the meeting, Faculty and Board members were asked to bring pictures representing their vision for the outside campus. Bridget and Tricia worked together prior to the meeting to delineate categories/areas on which attendees should focus their imaginations for group work. Attendees were asked to consider the following categories: Garden; Playground; Outdoor Classroom; Living Things; New Property; Buildings and Structures.

YTD Budget

Julie Marchetta, Director of Finance, gave a brief overview of the columns and categories of the school budget. Line 44 shows that \$42,910 has been received for the Annual Giving Campaign. Julie also stated that about \$47,500 has been pledged overall. Line 14 demonstrates that wages for Aftercare/Beforecare exceed income for that program by \$5032. It may be necessary to increase fees to break even. The YTD handed out at the meeting does not reflect tuition collected for February 2023. The school is still waiting on an Administrative Cost Reimbursement from the State for approximately \$20K, with another approximately \$20K expected in May 2023. The Grand Total is -\$54,031; which is typical for this point in the fiscal year because we are awaiting reimbursements from the State and income from the Annual Auction.

Alyssa Humes asked about the status of the Facility Projects highlighted in orange on lines 97-102. Matt Plevrakis reported that all projects have some percentage of completion. The location of the Storage Building (line 97) may need to be changed because gas lines are located under the proposed building site. There is a bit more work to be done on the Gym Heaters (line 98), but perhaps for less than the \$5K budgeted. The Heat Trace for the roof overhanging the main entrance (line 99) was completed for a bit more than was budgeted. Work on the Outdoor Stage (line 100) is scheduled to begin March 11 with demolition of the current, deteriorated stage. This project will still cost approximately \$5K as budgeted. There have been some repairs to Meadow Structures (line 101) and more work will be done to evaluate the other structures. Work is continually done piecemeal on the classroom heating units (see line 102, 1 Full Heater Replacement) to repair those that have stopped functioning. The units are 30+ years old and finding replacement parts is challenging. In the near future, it may be impossible to find repair parts at

all. Joyce Gordon-Shapkaliska, Board Treasurer, noted that replacement of all heating units is considered in future budgets.

Creating a Vision for Our Outdoor School Campus

Bridget and Tricia divided attendees into groups to create vision boards using the inspiration images each person brought to the meeting. Bridget expounded on the meaning and purpose of a vision board. One member of each group was asked to take notes so that ideas and vision boards could be shared with all following group work. Further, if anyone had a specific contact relevant to site planning, landscape design, landscaping, etc., they were asked to pass that information onto Bridget or Tricia. Diane Miskinis asked if ideas generated by previous Faculty work on a vision for the SGWS campus would be included. Amy Hecky, Director of Administration, stated that Faculty work will be combined with the ideas generated by this meeting.

After working in groups for about 30 minutes, a member of each group presented the vision board and ideas generated to all present. Bridget and Amy asked that any notes taken during group work be sent to Board Secretary, Dionne LaRue, to be compiled into a single document for future use. Amy reiterated that this work was a starting point and represents our dreams for the outdoor campus. As the formal Site Plan comes together, many factors must be taken into account.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm with reading of the Closing Verse.

Dionne LaRue
(she/her)
Board Secretary

Next Board Meeting: March 13, 2023, at 6:30pm