

## Friends of Thorp Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2013

Home of Burcu Agar

### Attendees:

Board Members: Katie Madden, Leslie Grimm, Burcu Agar, Michael Shelton, Joe Basilone, Bindu Alexander, Colleen O'Toole, Marian Haas, Janelle Reilly, Elise Duffy

Others in attendance: Mary Nespoux, Kim Clark, Violet Romo and Amanda Roche

#### I. Treasurer's Report:

- A. Joe Basilone reported that we have \$41,247.54 in our bank account.
- B. No money was received or spent since school is out.

#### II. President's Report:

- A. Katie Madden has met with the LSC and has received approval for the upcoming FOT events.
- B. Katie reviewed the new structure and meeting reports of the committees, (Communications, School and Community, Fundraising, Events, and Playground Committee). Co-chairs are to update the Committee Report Google Document one week prior to the monthly meetings to report committee progress.
- C. Katie reviewed her plans to meet with the committee co-chairs in the upcoming month.
- D. Katie mentioned that the PTA has expressed interest in working with FOT for the Fall Festival and Tree sale. She will be meeting with Tammy Woods to discuss the PTA/FOT partnership.

#### II. Playground Update: Bindu Alexander reviewed fundraising efforts for the playground.

- A. Bindu attended a playground meeting on the last day of school with Mr. Toledo, Dr. Chipain, Lisa, Katie and Michael.
- B. The playground committee is making informational packets for soliciting playground funds.
- C. Thorp lies between TIF districts, therefore it is not eligible for TIF money.
- D. Tim Cullerton has been supportive of the playground and is trying to find money to help Thorp.
- E. Thorp will be applying for a Kaboom grant to help fund the playground. Letters may be needed from parents explaining why we need a playground.
- F. In the meantime, Mr. Toledo would like some planters to start the playground process. Designs and placement of planters are being reviewed.
- G. The next playground planning meeting is on Monday, July 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### III. Bindu also discussed the upcoming Fall Festival which will be held sometime in October, possibly 10/12 or 10/19.

- A. There is a ban on bouncy castles used on CPS property.

1. Maybe partnering with side streets, Grace or Warwick to host a block party to accommodate a bouncy castle during the Fall Festival.
- B. Looking into pricing for pumpkins, waiting for response from Farmer's Market.
- C. Possible other activities include: costume parade, food trucks, and haunted house.
- D. May sell Krispy Crème donuts as a fundraiser during the event.

IV. School and Community Update:

- A. Leslie reported that FOT and the PTA are working together for kindergarten/new student play date. It is Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> 10 am – 11:30 am at Merrimac Park.
  1. Coffee and donuts may be needed.
- B. Leslie also stated the FOT and the PTA will also provide coffee on the first day of school.
- C. Business school connections:
  1. It was discussed that FOT may want to attend Portage Park Chamber of Commerce meetings to help fundraise for the school.
  2. It was also brought up to attend a PPNA meeting.

V. Communications: A discussion ensued concerning a classroom directory of e-mails.

VI. Fundraising had nothing to report at this time. Katie will meet with the fundraising committee later in July

VII. Audit: Michael's father may be performing a FOT audit. Mike will check whether this is acceptable to Mr. Toledo.

VIII. Next Meeting is August 15<sup>th</sup>.

- A. Colleen O'Toole will host (address will be sent out closer to meeting).
- B. At this time the board decided to keep meetings on the second Thursday of the month. This may change at a later date.