

Havens Parents Club Minutes, 2/7/17, 7:00-8:30, Havens Library

Attendance: Rebecca Thornborrow, Dana Lung, Christina Wagg, Eileen Kwei, Frances Chin, Katie Gudiksen, Laura Amen, Jen Rego, Heather Meil, Anne Peterson, Alissa Welch, Liz Tahawi, Doug Ireland (School Board Liaison), Anne Dolid (Principal)

7:05 Call to order

Giving Campaign Report (and reminder of extended K day discussion tomorrow): Eileen Kwei — Giving Campaign goal was 1.85 million, as of today our community has raised over 2 million; huge effort of all involved, campaign officially wraps up in June but most funds have come in already; School Board Meeting tomorrow and on the agenda is discussion of an extended Kindergarten day — anyone interested in this topic, please attend meeting and/or write letters; Doug — in theory we are in favor, need to hear the details, always happy to receive letters from interested parents/community members.

Vice President's Report: Dana Lung — working on board for next year; tell Dana about your plans for next year and your ideas for new board members.

Dress Best for Less Report, Liz Tahawi — DBFL has the marking room near the pool, and a boutique that used to be on Piedmont Ave.; now have a new lease on Lakeshore, at the former site of Posh boutique; need help with electrician and handyman expenses; can Havens help with funding for some of those expenses? maybe 10 hours at \$45 per hour? Looking for more volunteers and looking for new board members. (N.B. DBFL later decided not to ask the parent clubs for funding.)

Hospitality Report, Jen Rego — 4x per year we provide treats for the teachers; we decided to try fewer food-focused treats starting last year, and instead are looking for other ideas. Starting last year, brought in On the Spot Massage to give 15 minute massages to the teachers and staff (approximately 65 people) — they love it and were tremendously grateful. Bringing them in again this year on February 13. Teacher appreciation luncheon will be in May.

Lunch Service Report, Frannie Chin — Lunch Service running smoothly now, kids seem happy with food, would love to have a better system from the vendor, still waiting on his system update. We always need more volunteers. Question about having fruit available for free at lunch — we have tried to make it happen but there isn't an easy way that is both cost effective and conforms to school/state food safety standards; open to new ideas.

Lunchtime Activities Report, Heather Meil — starting after ski week when weather might be better, same offerings as in the fall: art/science/engineering; held outside so kids can see it and be accessible to all; always need more volunteers; always happy for new ideas.

Lost and Found Report, Rebecca Thornborrow for Christina Vo — weekly sorting process is working well, volunteers sort the clothes that have name labels and those that don't — anything labeled is returned to the child by our 5th grade students. Unclaimed items go to DBFL once a month. Always need more volunteers, it only takes about 30 minutes and you can do it with a friend.

Science Report, Alissa Welch — STEAM expo coming up; starting to publicize it and the kids can start work on projects, Tracy Broback is organizing a mini-golf-themed mini makers event this Sunday, 2/12; also working on Earth day events and lunchtime science; a garden clean-up was completed recently and it looks much neater now.

SERVES Report, Katie Gudiksen — Read-a-thon will begin on 3/2 (Dr. Seuss' birthday): kids read for 2 weeks and fundraise for 2 weeks; money goes to the Oakland Public Library — \$5400 donated last year; that money will go to furnish a children's space and teen zone; Other events: family night at Alameda County food bank; Earth Day clean up; and Earth Day event at the Oakland Zoo.

Spring Fling Report, Jen Rego and Anne Peterson — Co-Chairs Michelle and Sarah are "in it to win it", lots of committee leads, envelope stuffing on 2/8 and 2/9, Anne and Jen in charge of live auction, Greg McCord donating a vespa, will have a drawing — 2 tickets for \$100, 5 tickets for \$200; other prizes as well; tickets sold in advance only, need not be present to win, help spread the word! Live auction: fly fishing adventure, three night stay with fly fishing guide/instruction; private chef dinner, top gun fighter jet ride again, lots more.....looking for more ideas and Hamilton tickets.

Website Report, Rebecca Thornborrow for Barbara Dickason — HPC will have it's own website very soon; thank you to Laura Remer for posting on information this year on the Havens school website; thanks to Barbara Dickason for working on the new website.

Principal's Report: Anne Dolid

School Board meeting tomorrow night:

Principals and K team will be presenting about extended-day K.

The principals and Cheryl Wozniak will present a progress report to the board on the new schedule, specifically on parent feedback; teacher feedback was presented at last board meeting. The Parent Ed Night got great feedback — rotated parents through each of their child's specialist taught curriculum classes; fun way for parents to experience what their children experience. We would like to do same event each fall since it was a big success; overall feedback has been mixed, but no surprises; looking to expand art; lots of questions about what tech looks like; new, updated communications will be coming to parents this spring; this is year one, we knew we would be making tweaks; right now some kids have three different PE teachers, and that's not ideal, so working to fix that; trying new things in the next 6 weeks or so; will go back to school board in

March with some ideas for changes to try next year; will try three weeks on, three weeks off for music and art (trial at Beach only); thinking about the common prep time and making a few tweaks but not a full overhaul; happy to be able to continue to make changes for the good of kids; come to the board meeting for more specifics; feel free to discuss with Anne if you have ideas or concerns.

Gate for Highland Avenue: Mark Becker donating his time for the engineering and the design. Large central gate (i.e large enough to drive a fire truck through) will be locked **open** when school is not in session; there will be two stucco pillars at the edges of the main gate, and on the sides of that main gate will be walk-through gates; buzzer/camera system will be in place. Reasons for the gate: 1) Safety — K kids come into office from music classroom to use bathroom, for example, and we need to keep the library and Ellen Driscoll as secure as the rest of campus. 2) Space — If the space is secure, we can use it for lunch seating and outdoor classroom space (art lessons, science lessons, for example); hoping to have a drawing of the gate by Open House so people can come by the office and look at the design; Anne will request funds from parents club; in addition there is some money in a Havens account (at Anne's discretion); the district may be able to make up the difference — still waiting on the final numbers of the cost; gate will match the aesthetics of the rest of campus.

Question about the gates by the between the two classroom buildings — A: we won't take them out until we are sure we want them out; so the plan is to secure the gates open so that the flow through campus is smooth once people are inside the main gates.

President's Report: Rebecca Thornborrow

Role that parent club can play in the plan for a gate at Highland Avenue: HPC has a \$37,400 Facilities Reserve that we could vote to spend on the gate. It would not cover all of the gate, but we hope that our funds, plus funds that Anne has at her discretion, plus possible funds from the District would be enough. We hope to have a more precise cost estimate soon. Even if we use the full facilities reserve, we have plenty left in our general reserves and would not be impacting our yearly budget. The gate was not on the H1 list of priorities so we would not be able to use an H1 funds.

Question: Do we have any sense of the cost? A: We had an original estimate of \$48,000 but labor and materials have gone up since then, and stucco columns were added to the design. It could be an additional \$40,000-\$50,000.

Question: Would Mark Becker do the contract work? A: He will do the design but PUSD will need to engage a firm to do the construction/installation.

Question: Are there other projects on which we could use the facilities reserve? A: We did not complete Phase II of the garden, but that project is currently on hold. No other projects have been proposed.