

# FoWY Monthly Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2022 / 6:30 PM /WY Library

**Absences:** Patty Andrade, Danielle Craan, Suzie Desai, Laurie Mullick, Melanie Neely, Nadia Roberts, Yescenia Sanchez, Molly VanDerMeid, Leah Welty

**Guests :** n/a

**Call to Order:** 6:41 PM (Lynne Radomski)

**August minutes reviewed/approved:** n/a

**October agenda reviewed/approved:** (Stephanie/Yolanda)

## President's Report (Arlyne Chin)

\*Conflict of Interest form reminder; please submit to Arlyne or Lynne

\*Neighborhood social: Northside (Jet's Public House) hosted by Ms. Boyle was a success. Looking for hosts for Wicker Park (January - Jenny Necheles), Austin/Humboldt Park (February), Hyde Park (April - Scott Clayton), and South Loop (May - Natasha Solis). Another Lincoln Park gathering was also suggested and could be hosted by Jenny Necheles and Elana Tennenbaum. The next scheduled neighborhood social is in Beverly on Wednesday, Nov 9 at 6:00 PM @ Horse Thief Hollow. Suggestion to invest in signage to assist people attending the events

\*Fall Gathering is tomorrow night 6-9 PM @ Park Tavern; we really would like a good Board attendance so hopefully we will see many of you there. Around 100 attendees expected.

\*Open House is Sunday, October 16; if you can offer some time to volunteer, please see the sign-up.

\*Spring Bash has been officially set for Saturday, March 25 at Venue West. The contract is signed.

\*Changing NEXT FoWY meeting on November 9 to 12:00 noon to allow for people to attend the Neighborhood Social that evening.

## Committee Reports

### 1) **Alumni** (Stacey):

-Stacey has met with Mr. Harris to discuss expanded efforts to connect with our Alumni. There are several alumni groups that host events, and several social media pages committed to alumni, and we would like to assist them and invite them to be a more important part of our school community.

-Stacey is continuing to reach out to those groups and will meet with Mr. Harris again to support any efforts. She is brainstorming ideas that go along with Mr. Harris's themes this year: "Dream Big" and "Don't Stop Believing."

-Community committee member Karen Stanton has offered to assist in any efforts.

-discussed an Alumni Mentoring Program, where current students could be matched with alumni in career or academic connections.

-So far 30 students are signed up for 1:1 mentoring with an alumnus, for career and/or academic assistance/advice. Danielle will keep the Board updated.

### 2) **Annual Fund/Grants** (Arlyne):

- **Annual Fund** was launched last week. It is FoWY's largest fundraising campaign of the year. We used promotions and announcements to initiate the donation drive. Theme is "Dream Big" to support Mr. Harris, who has been an energetic advocate for the success of our campaign.

- AF supports our fall and spring grant requests, and for the first time this year, a portion of donations will go to fund Dolphin Depot, our efforts to assist students in need.

- There is a 3-tiered financial goal: we are communicating \$135,000 to the WY community but driving for \$150,000 total. The committee agreed to hire a videographer to make marketing/campaign videos for us; his pay structure is directly tied to donations received, meaning he will only be paid if we reach an internal 3rd tier goal of \$175,000.

- All AF proceeds will fund next year's budget.
  - **Grants**: Committee has met to determine the budget, and a decision structure was discussed.
    - Launch date of October 14
    - Review meeting scheduled for November 14
    - Communications plan in place to notify community of process
    - Arlyne reminded us that committee has the autonomy to decide this process and determine awards; anyone can join this committee if they wish to take part
- 3) **Communications** (Yolanda):
- The committee has met and discussed process for assisting communication strategies for the board and other committees.
  - Yolanda searching for assistance with social media to create effective scheduling of posts.
- 4) **Community/Volunteer** (Lynne):
- Committee has met and has divided their efforts into the following endeavors:
    - Community Events and Community Building
    - Dolphin Depot
    - Volunteer Drive
  - Community Events:
    1. Community Meetings - 1st one held 9/14 in partnership with LSC; 3 more will be offered this school year. Eleanor and Alison will assist this effort.
    2. Faculty/Staff Appreciation Luncheon (spring)
    3. Community Spotlight - Karen Stanton will lead this effort to highlight Dolphins positively impacting their communities
    4. Alumni Committee assistance - as requested by Alumni Committee
  - Dolphin Depot:
    1. Met with Counseling Department to discuss student needs and how to prioritize funds.
    2. A portion of Annual Fund donations will be directed to DD
    3. Amazon wishlists will be created to meet specific material needs
    4. Community partnerships are being explored
    5. Idea to create a "Vintage Vault" of gently used Whitney Young spiritwear or basic clothing items for students to access
    6. Discussion of offering prom services (attire, accessories, hair/makeup); Stacey offered to look into a local organization that provides this assistance to see if we can duplicate..
  - Volunteer Drive:
    1. Megan Schumacher has taken the lead to encourage volunteers to sign up for Level I or II.
    2. She reported on her efforts to streamline the process for becoming certified and hopes to find a permanent place for it on the FoWY website and possibly the WY website.
    3. She is pursuing a connection with Administration to assist us.
  - Budget: we will be discussing as a committee, and proposing a budget increase at the next meeting for Dolphin Depot
- 5) **Development/Fundraising** (Arlyne):
- still discussing budget for the year
  - rolling out marketing strategies for both Annual Fund and Giving Tuesday; Spring Bash brainstorming will commence after Giving Tuesday.
  - discussing additional fundraising ideas and drives for all these campaigns
- 6) **Finance** (Stephanie/Stacey):
- Stacey has drafted a procedure for handling funds, both payouts and receipts; committee to discuss its implementation
  - no reports to distribute, but Stephanie announced our account has \$475,000. \$280,000 of that is restricted to clubs.
  - Stephanie is currently working on the budget, and is processing many check requests.

-Stephanie also announced the audit is complete and will send the results to the Board.

- 7) **Student Report** (Victor/JiaMing):
  - reported on many Student Council efforts: Homecoming, Spirit Week, Open House
  - discussed organizing Halloween door decorating event, and offered ideas on 2nd semester events
  - announced other dates for student involvement: recycling, 10/13 Art is for Everyone; 10/19 Mr. Rehak talk; 10/22 HBCU College Fair
  - reported clubs are starting
  - addressed Homecoming comments about DJ and other topics with administration
- 8) **Nominating** : NO REPORT
- 9) **Policy** (Yolanda): NO REPORT; committee will meet to discuss needed policy changes in the coming months
- 10) **LSC** (Arlyne):
  - Security and Safety is being discussed, primarily on Jackson with traffic during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up; cameras for traffic were considered.
  - "Hot Topics" event focused on "Writing the College Essay" was offered 10/3 to the community.
  - Next LSC meeting will be 10/19 at 3:30 PM

**New Business:** JiaMing presented an off-cycle grant request of \$400 for the Book Drive; there is a time constraint that requires funding before the grant process opens. Arlyne directed JiaMing to contact the Grants Committee with her proposal.

Arlyne suggested that committee presentations rotate among committee members each month.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:20 PM (Lynne/Stephanie)

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, November 9 at 12:00 pm (virtual)