

GSF General Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2016

Called to order: John Dasher, 7:03 p.m.

Present: John Dasher, Suzanne Maloney, Karen Russillo, Sarah Brewer, Kim Goodhope, Nicole Klock, Ramina Winton, Jaclyn Guelfi, Tami McCall, Adam Treewater, Beth Sauls, Anne Mueller, Heather Hutchinson, Sondra Lewis

Approval of September 2016 Meeting Minutes: Suzanne Maloney moved to approve, Sarah Brewer seconds the motion, minutes approved.

No new members to induct.

Principal's Report – Kim Goodhope: We are having an initial meeting with the architect for the MPR (multi-purpose room) this Friday to make sure we are the right fit for them. Outdoor Education, where the 5th graders get to go on a 4-day field trip adventure to Walker Creek, is coming up. We had the parent meeting on Monday. Our newsletter was sent out last week reviewing events for the month of September and upcoming events. We will be doing a Halloween celebration on October 31. Kids will change into costumes after lunch and will do a song with Mr. Duffy in MPR after lunch. Green Team has partnered with Zero Waste Marin and they did an audit of our trash. We were at 80%, meaning 80% of our trash could have been recycled. A comment was made that it is hard to recycle if you are in the middle of campus as there are not receptacles there. A solution is on its way; each classroom is going to receive a 3-part bin for each type of recycling – paper, aluminum, glass/plastic. We will also have a composting place. We are also planning an indoor garden tower, where each class will get to grow and observe. The plan is that the food grown will be used by the 4th graders in the Cooking with Heart program later this year. We will be paying for 4 of the 5 weeks and the American Heart Association will pay for the 5th week. SBAC scores were passed out. Glenwood has the highest 3rd and 4th grade scores in all of San Rafael. 5th graders came in 2nd.

Teacher Liaison Report – Adam Treewater: Nick Guelfi installed a garden in the kindergarten area (thank you, Nick!) The kindergartens are enjoying the new IA (Instructional Assistant), and she is helping with assessments and yard duty. 1st graders will be going to the Academy of Sciences. The 2nd graders will be going to Slide Ranch and Guide Dogs for the Blind, and are doing an economy unit. We have had a great response to the request for funding for standing desks. We needed about \$12k and we have \$7400k already on donors choose. It needs to be fully funded by the end of January. We are confident we will have it funded, and it would be great to have it done by end of winter break. 3rd graders are doing an animal adaptation unit. They will be building different types of bird beaks. The 4th graders have our Native American storyteller coming in and are starting Sumdog. The 5th graders went to Legion of Honor and wrote poems and have Outdoor Ed coming up. All teachers gearing up for conferences next week.

President's Report – John Dasher: Our book fair through Scholastic is coming up. Reily Urban is heading it up with Sarah Marovich this year even though Reily doesn't have students at Glenwood any longer. Book Passage has done it since 2013, but this year we decided to go with Scholastic, both because they can provide more inexpensive paperbacks, and because Book Passage doesn't have any time to do it in the fall. We have lots of marketing materials, including class wish lists and displays.

There will be many books available which cost less than \$10. We are good with volunteers but we need a co-chair with Sarah. Last year we got \$1700 from Book Passage but we spent money on decorations and marketing. This year we won't be getting a check but will get teacher purchase credits towards Scholastic books. We are actively looking for someone to shadow Reily who could step in next year. Ideally this person would be here on Monday and Tuesday of the event this year, while Sarah will be there Weds and Thurs.

We will have an iPad scanner for purchases. We are ahead with volunteers to help out, and we have great enthusiasm from younger students' parents.

We want to especially thank Reily for all that she has done for the book fair through the years and to emphasize our appreciation this year since she doesn't even have children here any longer. Thank you, Reily!

VP Updates:

VP Fundraising – Nicole Klock and Suzanne Maloney: – Kids Thrive: We are at about \$94k right now, which includes corporate donations matched and promised. We have approximately 50 days left in our push for participation, and as of now we are at 34% participation. We are working on ways to get through the plateau and increase participation. The good news is that we are about \$14k over where we were this time last year. There is another way to donate this year via an online form on the GSF site under "ways to give." Bocce Update – Oct 22 is the Bocce Tournament fundraiser at Marin Bocce field on B Street in San Rafael, which is sold out. There are still raffle tickets available for some great prizes, including Warriors baskets and a huge Disney prize. Cost is \$5 for one ticket, \$20 for 5 tickets. No childcare is being offered this year.

VP Community Building – Tami McCall – We held our new parent social at the Loch Lomond Yacht Club and though the turnout was not large, it was a fun party.

Old Business – We have an update from the District level. Two women presented on the Ipso School, which would be a new school in the San Rafael school district that would pull funds away from the rest of the rest of the schools in the district. The board unanimously voted to deny the charter petition and gave a great list of reasons it was denied. The Board also said they were disappointed in the petition itself and gave list of why it was defective and why the school would likely fail in the district. The following day the charter school filed an appeal at the County Office of Education. Next month there are 2 hearings, one for public comment, one on October 25 and then on November 8. Even if COE denies, they can appeal at the State level, which will probably happen. They have also started a parent-leader group meeting that includes the heads of all of the PTAs in the district, which is a great way to get information from all of the schools that can be disseminated to parents. There will be 4 more of these through the year. It was noted that \$1M is being cut from high school district and there may need to be more cut backs as property taxes stay stable. They are concerned about a crisis at the high school level. 60% of the kids in our district live in poverty, 55% are English language learners. Summerfest was very successful. He also made a big point about alcohol on campus. One of his driving things for this year is to emphasize no alcohol on campus because it is illegal and it is bad modeling for the children. Kim Goodhope noted that she could lose her administrative license and the GSF can be in big trouble if it is GSF- sponsored event. Finally, we need to have a discussion about how to get more volunteers at our school. We need to work on communicating that we are a community and we want participation and

we should ask directly for more volunteers. Heather Hutchinson – As a 1st grade parent, want to point out that a big barrier to volunteering is that parents can't bring their children and would have to pay for childcare. Maybe we can communicate that sometimes it is ok to bring your kids (i.e. setting up for book fair) vs bringing a kid to do centers, which probably would not be appropriate. Want to echo that we need to work on the messaging and how it goes out. There are a number of communications that go out and it can be confusing – from GSF, from Ms. A at Glenwood, from the class liaisons, and from the teachers. We should also work on getting parents to attend the GSF meetings.

School Programs - Will Klesius – We will be having some author days this year. We are looking at June 5th for Field Day (Becca Mink is working on this). Cash for Trash is temporarily on hold. Yearbook still working on a theme. Speaker Series – Michelle Franchetti is looking into a presentation for 4th and 5th grade girls and their parents. Fitness and Wellness program is being looked into as well. Spirit Wear has been ordered and will be here within the next 2 weeks. We are still looking for volunteers for yard duty. PEP playdate is set for next week. March 20-23 will be used book sale.

Finally, the Dad's Club Poker Night is set for October 29 at the Loch Lomond Yacht Club (LLYCC). The email requesting RSVPs went out. It is a great night for the dads!

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by Sondra Lewis, Secretary