

YACA Board Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2010
Java Train, St. Paul
FINAL

Ms. Parish called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Board Members Present

Tess DeGeest, Susan Green, Todd Harmsen, Wendie Lindberg, Ana Ly, Coley Murphy, Jean Parish

Board Members Not Present

Naomi Mueller, Sandy Norris, Ruth Straub

Visitors

Alison Parks, Yinghua Academy Volunteer Coordinator

Agenda

Ms. Lindberg made a motion to approve the agenda; Ms. DeGeest seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Minutes

Mr. Harmsen made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 15th meeting as corrected. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion; the motion was approved unanimously.

Public Forum

No one attending.

New Business

None.

Standing Reports

Chair/ Co-Chair:

No report (topics covered in other categories.)

Secretary:

No report.

Treasurer:

Mr. Harmsen distributed the Treasurer's report for Ms. Norris. There were no changes from the last report.

Volunteer Coordinator:

Ms. Parks is looking for volunteers who can sew and assist with building props for the school's Chinese New Year celebration.

Classroom Coordinators:

Ms. Ly and Ms. Parks reported that about \$1,400 has been collected to date for teacher appreciation gifts. They are waiting to get feedback from Ms. Mueller and Mr. Schlueter regarding suggestions on what type of appreciation gift the teachers would most welcome. Ms. Ly and Ms. Parks will be meeting next week with all the Classroom Coordinators. In the future it was suggested that money collection not be handled by the Classroom Coordinators and that teacher appreciation be funded by YACA.

School Board Liaison:

Mr. Murphy reported that some communication from Cindy Moeller would be coming out regarding a parent letter writing campaign to state representatives regarding charter school legislation. Ms. Parish will follow up with Ms. Moeller to see how YACA can help.

Subcommittee Reports**Fundraising****Red Envelope Campaign.**

Ms. DeGeest reported that the Fundraising Committee met January 11th and developed a timeline for the campaign and assigned tasks. She and Mr. Harmsen are drafting the letter and brochure. Other committee members (Ms. Lindberg and Ms. Norris) are handling various tasks. The timeline targets are:

- 1/15/10 - announcement about the campaign in this Friday's YACA newsletter
- 1/22/10 – formal kick off with an announcement in the students' backpacks
- 2/5/10 - First Friday coffee. An special invitation will be extended to new and kindergarten parents to learn more about the campaign
- 2/12/10 – Chinese New Year celebration at Yinghua; YACA will take this opportunity to remind parents and families about the campaign
- 2/27/10 – YACA General Membership meeting – celebrate success of the campaign!
- In addition, YACA will plan other reminders such as notes in backpacks, signs at drop off and pick up, distribution of a fun and inexpensive reminder such as fortune cookies, and using the large thermometer sign if possible.

Ms. DeGeest will email the timeline to Ms. Lueth, Mr. Schlueter and Ms. Kreitzer.

Ms. DeGeest requested the Board or others provide quotes by students about Artistic Partnerships and photos of students involved in the activities to include in the Red Envelope Brochure.

She also noted that last years' gifts averaged \$93 per child and \$120 per family.

She requested help from anyone who is able, with stuffing the packets next week.

Used Uniform Sale.

Ms. Ly reported that there wasn't much in the lost and found right now and proposed having the next sale in May at the General Membership meeting or the spring Book Fair.

Education

The next General Membership meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 27th at 10:00. Ms. Parish confirmed that Mr. Schlueter will be the speaker and the topic will be character education. She requested that this be noted in the February Newsletter.

She also reported that Yinghua's childcare providers will not be able to staff childcare at this meeting. Marsha Anderson, Yinghua Care Coordinator, referred YACA to an organization that can handle this and Ms. Parish will follow up. The next newsletter should include the childcare sign up form for this meeting.

Ms. Lindberg agreed to coordinate the refreshments for the meeting.

Ms. Parish will follow up with Ms. Moeller and Ms. Lueth to ensure a state of the school talk for the meeting.

Ms. Parish also agreed to follow up with Ms. Lueth to invite a different school administrator to each First Friday Parent Coffee.

Artistic Partnerships

Ms. Parish reported that in her regular meeting with Ms. DeGeest and school administrators Ms. Lueth and Mr. Schlueter, they agreed that administration of the Artistic Partnerships programs could now be transitioned to Yinghua. Mr. Schlueter will coordinate these programs which currently include the Science Museum, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, The Children's Theater, Young Audiences, and the Northern Clay Center. YACA will continue raising money for the partnerships and getting volunteers. An Artistic Partnership liaison on the YACA Board was suggested for the next group of Board members.

Newsletter.

Covered under Red Envelope and Education reports. The February newsletter will need to go out on February 12th or the week before.

School and Family Events and Grounds

No reports.

New Business

Ms. Parish noted that we all need to start recruiting for future YACA Board members. The positions open will be Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and General Representative.

Adjourn

Ms. Parish adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Next Board Meeting date is scheduled for 6:30 pm, Tuesday, February 16th, at Yinghua Academy.