

Valley Prep BOT Minutes 2/27/2023

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Mon 2/27/2023 7:16 PM

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Meeting of the Valley Prep Board of Trustees - February 27, 2023

Present: John Black, HOS; Mary Jo Holmes, Bob Horrigan, Caitlin Arakawa, Al Duerbig, Buddy Feldkamp, Audrey Andrade

Absent: Cheryl Flynn, Brenna Karr, Denise Bourne, Adrian Stevens, Genevieve Isidro, Kathy Jiffry, Arshad Jiffry, Farzad Farroki

Call to order: 5:36 (Holmes)

There was not a quorum; therefore, no business could be conducted. However, it was deemed appropriate to hold open discussion on the topics that follow.

Minutes: No objections to the minutes of the January meeting were sent; therefore, they were approved as emailed.

Discussion:

Attempted alumni event ended up being cancelled due to lack of interest. Mary Jo expressed appreciation to Caitlin and Genevieve for their perseverance and dedication to the project. As it turned out, there was a group of people who gathered at the Holmes residence for the proposed alumni night, all personal friends who in total had enrolled 16 students in past years at VPS, as well as a long-term sub teacher and her husband. There was casual conversation about the merits of VPS, the coming Gala, and hints at financial support. Very low key.

Chamber of Commerce - Formerly VPS hosted chamber events, though we have not done so for years. John and Karen have attended in the past, but not recently. It was suggested that we reach out to the chamber and offer to host a meeting of the group in the future.

Service clubs - Both Rotary clubs, Kiwanis, Lions, etc. always need programs. It was suggested that we reach out to those organizations - including the retired military group, Inland Empire retired officers' association, to present a program about VPS. Bob Heinze, a former VPS board member, is programs chair for the military organization.

Redlands Bowl - Suggested we reach out to Bev Noerr and/or Valerie Peister about being an intermission speaker at the Bowl in the coming season; also ushering.

Website update - Lots of discussion about how we can improve the website home page and landing page to better serve our needs, encouraging interest among those who visit the website.

8th grade fundraiser - Lengthy discussion about how this event impacts gala reservations, annual fund, etc. Apparently the Colorun and other fundraising this year has raised a lot of money for the 8th, including subsidising the costs of Disneyland outing and post-graduation lunch, entertainment. **Bob Horrigan suggested that a better way to serve the school as a whole would be to impose a "graduation fee" for 8th graders John will send suggested verbiage for motions to control costs of both 8th grade and K graduation ceremonies, which**

Audrey seconded, and the board will receive the motions and an opportunity for voting via email at a later date.

Gala - Anticipate 90-100 attendees on March 10, down about 25 from last year. The live auction will or will occur depending on the reservations (personalities) that are made. Online bidding as well as bidding on site will be available. There were suggestions of altering the present gala format to something less extravagant, something similar to the Fall Fest, possibly called a Spring Fling, that is on the school campus and is "family friendly" and inclusive.

Development - Caitlin requested that any innovative ideas be sent via email to her and/or Genevieve for consideration as we move forward with school wide fundraising opportunities.

NEXT MEETING: Due to spring break dates, we will not meet again until Monday, April 24, 2023. Format to be determined. All agreed that the free and open discussions at this meeting were helpful as we move forward, using the suggestions gathered this evening as boilerplates for several topics.

Adjournment: 6:42 PM (Holmes)

Mary Jo Holmes
Scribe

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