

Coulee Montessori Governance Board Minutes

August 20, 2015; Northside Elementary

Call to order at 5:35

Attendance: Ann Epstein, Erin Hoy, Bennett Myers, Michelle Sulentic, Kim Shively, Roger Staffaroni, Laura Huber, Tyler Striebel, Fern Neisius, Laura Huber (teacher reps) Nikki Rislow, Sara Jorgenson

Guests in attendance/Public Comment: Vie

NOTE: Nikki asked that teacher reps ask parents of preschoolers who participate in meetings to sign in. She provided a sign-in sheet. This is a new requirement for Children's House.

Secretary's Report:

1. May minutes were approved

Treasurer's report:

Beginning balance:	\$11,953.89 (May)
Total deductions	\$ 5,611.55
End balance:	\$ 6,342.34 (August)

Principal Murray's Report: no report

Principal Huber's Report:

- New modular walls are arriving on Friday, can be used as boards (white boards and bulletin boards). A concern: will they stand up to children writing them? How do revolving doors work? Laura reported that they should be secure and pivot well.
- Request for around \$75.00 for ice cream social, approved.
- Laura thanked the board for supporting her during the spring with her illness.
- She also acknowledged Kim's excellent work since she is completing her second term, recently as board president. She also thanked Danielle for her work as treasurer.
- Laura thanked Kim and Danielle (in absentia) for their contributions as board members. She noted that as president, Kim brought the board to a new, more professional level. She thanked Danielle for maintaining clear, accurate reports of the board's finances.

District-Wide Parent Committee: no report

Fund Raising Committee: Erin

1. Erin reported that we will focus on area restaurant (e.g. Culver's) fund raisers and not have egg roll event. She noted that 2014-2015 was a successful fund-raising year.

Outreach Committee: Michelle

1. Looking for new members
2. Committee will continue providing meals during parent/teacher conferences
3. t-shirt sale (\$200.00 profit), will have order forms available during Open House, discussion regarding acquiring additional red shirts so students can wear them during field trips (specifically, those who outgrew their shirts)
4. Will connect with La Crosse Montessori preschool
5. Thinking about events for Montessori education week (February 22): promote your school and peace, perhaps invite media

6. First Outreach meeting is Thurs., Sept. 17 at 7:15

Education Committee: Ann

1. Paul Epstein, national Montessori consultant and frequent conference presenter/keynoter, has been invited to provide professional feedback for two days in December. He designed a self-assessment form for teachers. He will observe classrooms and meet with teachers to assist them in meeting their own Montessori-teaching goals
2. UW-L will host a second regional conference on Saturday, January 9. The conference will feature two morning and one afternoon breakout sessions (no keynote). Tentative theme is sharing creative ideas for classrooms. Fern suggested a “Montessori 101” session for families. **Please let Ann know if you would like to present a favorite topic.**

Old/Unfinished Business Kim

1. Meeting guidelines: no longer than 90 minutes, submit committee reports ahead of time especially if there are items that need a vote, agenda will go out 2 weeks ahead of time, minutes sent within a week.
2. Reminder to follow established procedures (e.g. giving reports)

New Business

1. MSP to provide \$400.00 to Mariah Bigelow, new classroom teacher
2. Election of officers.
 1. Roger Staffaroni: interested in being president, MSP
 2. Vice president: runs meeting if president is not at meeting, usually becomes president next
 3. Secretary: Bennett Myers offered, his offer was accepted
 4. Treasurer: Becky Misch is interested, MSP
3. Meeting Dates/reschedule – Kim emailed dates to members, October date conflicts with parent conferences. Thursday, October 22 was approved. March also has conflict, members agreed on Thursday, March 10. No December meeting. Board/CM will not host a Family Fun Night in December. No February meeting; Soup Supper/Silent Auction to be held on February 11.
4. Visitation for Children’s House: December 8
5. 2015-2016 goals: attendees worked in two groups to address proposed goals. They will report recommendations at September meeting.

Announcements:

1. Welcome to new E2/CMAP teacher Mariah Bigelow.
2. Change staff emails to @lacrosse.org
3. Next meeting Sept 17 at Lincoln (in 3rd floor Montessori classroom)

Meeting adjourned at 7:20