

ASHPAC Monthly Meeting Minutes 2/12/18

Attendees: Kristine Kaveney, Jill Fulhan, Diana Davis, Nancy Schooler, Elizabeth Souppa, Kathy Bates

Board member update: Nancy Schooler asked to speak at the start of the meeting to announce that she is stepping down from her position on the ASHPAC board. Nancy provided her fundraising contacts in written format along with info about a potential fundraiser, brought WAITT checks and asked that a new WAITT contact person be named. ASHPAC respects Nancy's decision and gave thanks to Nancy for her 5+ years of volunteering with ASHPAC, mostly in the role of fundraising chair and most recently as member-at-large. Nancy, you will be missed.

Meeting voting: As Nancy left after her announcement, it was agreed that remaining 4 board members present constitutes a quorum for later voting.

January meeting minutes: to be voted on in March

New sign-in sheet: JF presented updated monthly meeting sign-in sheet which includes information about meeting attendees names typically appearing in minutes unless an attendee opts out, as well as info about terms of membership and voting privileges. Board reviewed sheet. JF proposed vote, KK seconded it, vote was unanimous to accept sign-in sheet with new logo added.

Topics with Kathy Silva from Office of Students Services and Kathy Bates from School Committee:

As Kathy Silva was absent from this meeting, following topics are moved to March agenda:

- Mindess (new building and OT/COTA positions) and Preschool updates (KS)
- DBT/The Bridge update (KS)
- Special Olympics update (KS)

Social Media in the classrooms follow up

- KS followed up prior to meeting via email to board and relevant school staff/families

**Bridge: DD will follow up with KS this week about how ASHPAC can help with promotion of Bridge event as well as calendar conflict noted with upcoming March 7th date.*

**OWL: JF to follow up with KS*

Kathy Bates:

APS Fundraising policy: KB provided update about fundraising policy that she and Paul Kendall (school committee) are working on. Policy is being simplified and will be given ample time to be written to consider all aspects. Town groups including ASHPAC, AEFI, PTO will be asked to review it before final policy is put to vote at school committee meeting. ES asked if groups would be able to read it first prior to meeting where it is reviewed. KB to follow up with this.

Budget time: KK expressed thanks to school committee for prior/continued support for SPED and ELL and recognized work that goes into APS budgeting. Board noted that Mindess COTA is retiring and OT/COTA staff there is maxing out. Important for budget to consider increasing OT/COTA staffing at this school.

ASHPAC 'gifts and donations': Accepted at January school committee meeting.

February workshop was cancelled due to snow and early school closure on February 7th.

(Special Needs Financial Planning with Michael Golosovker, JD)

Speaker provided additional dates, however these conflict with other Ashland events and are not possible. JF to ask if he can speak for us next year.

Subcommittee reports:

OSS/ASHPAC (KK, JF)

1. After parent asked board, KS stated there are no strict 'office hours' for OSS. Typical hours that the office is open and staff are available are school hours, 8-4pm. Parents can call ahead for appointment as needed to ensure appropriate staff is available at time needed.
2. Social media in the classroom discussed briefly as KS was still looking into it. She pointed out that if it is to be used in a class, it should first be ensured that all parents of children in the class have access to it.
3. Special Olympics update – Friday 3/23 from 9-1pm in Medway with soccer theme. Signage to be included on bus ~"Go Clockers" that takes students to event.

Superintendent's meeting: (KK) - none

ASHPAC status update:

As above, ASHPAC 'gifts and donations' accepted at January school committee meeting.

State Conflict of Interest Law Training Program:

All but one current board member has completed this training. Certificates will be turned into the town clerk by JF and need for further/updated trainings will be reviewed.

Visions Conference with FSCN: JF unable to go, JF initiated vote for new representative to be chosen, ES seconded. Unanimous vote for DD to go if she is able.

Outreach and Collaboration:

DAET: POWER talk March 26th – A Positive Passion and Will

Event discussed. Board felt ASHPAC should support this talk. KK initiated vote to donate \$200 to event. DD seconded. Unanimous vote for donation made. KK to follow up with email stating as such to DAET and processing of the check.

WAITT Update: none. DD to take over as WAITT contact.

Scholarship: CK unable to attend meeting; forwarded scholarship form to be reviewed. Updates to include current dates and adding new logo and anti-discrimination sentence. JF to finalize and send to AB for website and CK to share with AHS team. Scholarship application due date: Friday, April 27th. Reminder to AHS to go out 4/23. ASHPAC review and vote 5/2. Graduation (6/3) announcer TBD.

Speakers/Topics for next year ideas:

- Michael Golosovker: Special Needs Financial Planning
 - FSCN talk collaboration with other local SEPAC: *Effective Communication: Teaches communication and conflict resolution skills for parents in their roles as IEP Team members.*
 - College Planning (plan this for ~every two years)
 - Brenda Dater – Parenting without Panic
- New idea to discuss with KS is a Q&A with her, interview style, in the OWL. Topics include effective communication with the team; how to get supports and services after diagnosis.

Treasurer's Report: None (AB absent)

Fundraising:

- Forms have been completed for locker organizers, bracelets, blankets, DD to do WAITT
- KK to request donation check for Special Olympics donation

Public comment/topics: included above

Adjourned at 8:50pm.

Submitted by: Jill Fulhan