

Kinderhaven Parent Board Meeting 1/15/13

Present: Sarah Lockhart, Suzanne Sands, Jane Duncan, Julie Sakici, Julie Sommers, Emily Houlihan, Penny Robbins, Joe Mobile, Amie Marks, Lindsey Ragsdale

Absent: Molly O'Neil, Debbie Silver, Jennifer Goldman, Lisa Silvers, Nicole Phelan

Happy (and Busy) New Year – Sarah

- Thank you to everyone (Room Parents, Nutrition Parents, Board Members & Teachers) for working so hard over the past couple months. The Winter Shows for all the of classes were awesome and very representative of the Kinderhaven values.
- Bulletin Board discussed at our November meeting is up and updates are being posted. Hopefully between this and email we won't need to distribute as much paper.
- We acquired more permanent vinyl Open House signs for the community boards which can be used from year to year with the appropriate date being laminated and taped on. Next year it is something to consider doing for the Drop-ins as well.
- Shopping Night had a low turnout likely due to holiday time and proximity to the nail events.
- UB Nails Events raised \$78 for us. Every bit helps.
- We are going to be reminding people that they are welcome to volunteer at any point in the year. Soon the Red and Purple class may need some extra help with a few major art projects.
- Board members please remember to keep track of what you are doing in your role in some form so you have a complete position log to pass on at the end of the year.

Giving Tree Gathering Update – Lindsey & Emily

- RSVPs will go to Amie. She will provide the co-chairs with weekly updates once they start coming in. The idea of a shared document was discussed and they will figure out the logistics with Amie.
- Things are moving along otherwise.
- Save the Date went out via email.
- Invitations are prepared and being proofed.

November Meeting Notes – no changes or questions

- Board members were reminded that they can request changes to their portions of the website at anytime by contacting Suzanne.

Director's Update--Penny

- Dr. Robbins, Ms. Sindt, and Mrs. Orsini are joining the "Benny's World" team for Step Up for Kids 2013. Kinderhaven families have been invited to participate. The event is being held on Sunday, January 27, 2013, at 8 a.m. at the Aon Center in Chicago. Participants will climb the 80 floors. Here's a link to the [Benny's World donation site](#) for the event. Rather than asking for donations Dr. Robbins, Ms. Sindt & Mrs. Orsini are asking people to consider making a \$25 donation in exchange for an upcycled t-shirt scarf made by Ms. Sindt and their neighbor Napoleon. Contact Dr. Robbins if you are interested.
- City of LF is redoing their website which means Kinderhaven's school page will redone as well. Dr. Robbins mentioned really liking the website for the [MacDonald Montessori School](#) (see Grants below).

- Thank you to Jane, Molly, Sarah and the entire Board for a very successful Open House. Between the Open House and the Fall Drop-Ins over 20 families have visited Kinderhaven this year.
- Penny has written up detailed logistical information about how registration will happen on January 29th when it opens beyond returning families. She has tried in meeting people to be very honest with them about the fact that we will likely have very few spaces once returning families register. PLEASE REMEMBER TO REGISTER IF YOU ARE A RETURNING FAMILY. REGISTRATION FOR RETURNING FAMILIES BEGINS ON JANUARY 22ND.
- Space – There was a brief discussion about the critical need for more space. There is concern that the community will become frustrated with how difficult it is to actually get in. We have really gotten the word out so effectively and the interest in Kinderhaven is very high. The Waveland space was briefly discussed as well as looking for space outside the Rec. There was discussion about revisiting the issue and making a case for space to the Rec Department after registration is complete.
- GRANT PROPOSAL – Staff Development Workshop at MacDonald Montessori School for 5 of the staff was presented and unanimously approved. See attached.

Treasurer's Report—Amie

- Updates for both accounts were shared. Our current balance on the Parent Board account is \$3868.62. Our current balance in the Friends account is actually \$15347.64 but taking into account one outstanding approved grant the potential final balance is \$14,410.14.
- She is working on the possibility of Kindershop being able to conduct a pre-sale online with an electronic payment option. (See Kindershop below)

Survey Results – Suzanne (on behalf of Debbie)

- Survey results were shared with the board. Specific feedback and comments related to the classroom and staff was only shared with Dr. Robbins to pass along to the staff. Generally, people are very happy with the Kinderhaven experience. Our community is also generally very pleased with the work of the Board. Lots of valuable and specific feedback was shared with regard to the photographer. That feedback has been shared with him and if he is used again next year we anticipate an improved experience.
- See attached.

Friends of LF Parks and Rec – Julie Sakici

- They are aware of our space issues and Julie reported to them about the various compassion projects that are and have been taking place.
- They are looking for new Board members with young children, in particular they need an assistant treasurer.
- 4th of July entertainment is undecided. They are seeking sponsors.
- Golf Classic will be on June 7th and they are seeking players and sponsors.
- There will be a Golf Forum on January 30th.
- Forest Park Fundraising is on the horizon.
- They are working on building a relationship with the new District 67 & 115 Superintendent, Michael Simeck.

Kindershop - Julie Sommers

- The storage unit is FULL. An additional unit is in the works. Please hold donations if possible until further notice. If that isn't an option contact Julie or Nicole and they will work something out.
- Stacey Kroner is working with Suzanne and Amie on setting up a pre-sale for select items on our website. At this time payment and pickup will be arranged by contacting us directly. At some point we may have an electronic payment option on the site.
- See website for more details.

Open House & PR - Jane

- The event was a big success. Everything else has been touched on above.

In Other News

- Someone volunteered to set up a Google Calendar for our parent community in the comments section of the survey. We don't know who it was as the survey is anonymous. If you are interested in doing this please contact Nicole Phelan at nicoledb1@gmail.com.

Upcoming Important Dates MARK YOUR CALENDAR**2013-14 KINDERHAVEN REGISTRATION**

January 22nd for RETURNING families

January 29th for LAKE FOREST RESIDENTS

February 5th for NON-RESIDENTS

February 12th Next Kinderhaven Parent Board Meeting CROYA 9:30 AM

APRIL 27TH GIVING TREE GATHERING

MAY 18TH KINDERSHOP