

Friends of Catalpa PTO Monthly Meeting

01 February 2024 / 6:00 PM / CATALPA ROOM 201

Introductions/Attendees

Rachel Hawley

Jen Rosenthal

Katie Krance Schreck

Ashly Gryglak

Brianne Duncan Fiore

Christina Guillen

Lynn Sevandal

Stephanie Creely

Liza Reed

*Virtual attendees not recorded

Call to order 6:15 pm

Officer Nominations and Elections

- President: Prior - Stan Hansen - Vacant
- Vice President - Katie Krance Schreck (unopposed)
- Secretary - Brianne Duncan Fiore (unopposed)
- Treasurer - Prior - Elise Percy - Vacant

Old Business

Committee Updates

1. Garden Committee: Jen Rosenthal, co-Chair
 - a. January meeting goal - find an org to partner with for consulting/design. Committee is sourcing designers for a long-term plan, to be broken down over so many years/phases.
 - b. Will make a list of grants with due dates, so far looking at Possibility Place, West Cook Wild Ones.
 - c. Determined needs: outdoor classroom, pollinator/native garden, focus on conservation, sensory garden.
 - d. Garden will consist of 3 main components: nature play space, pollinator class space, raised garden space for planting.
 - e. Garden Vision: colorful, native perennial pollinator garden, small vegetable/herb garden, learning circle space, sensory engagement, nature play.

*Fence needs to be installed prior to installation; the fence will enclose the entire front triangle. Committee will follow up with Dana Galati about the installation date (possibly April?)

*Rachel Hawley will make introductions to Good City Group, and suggested tapping into Gardiner and Nugent for additional funding and support.

- f. Next Meeting: Feb. 8th at 6 pm
2. Community Committee: Christina Guillen, Chair
 - a. Tried to meet over break, but it did not happen. Christina sent notes.
 - b. Committee completed the plant sale, it was a huge success!
 - c. Goals for future events:
 - i. Keep equity at the forefront.
 - ii. Assign a point person for parent/caregiver questions.
 - iii. Make sure nobody is missing (missed finishing a planter for one child).
 - d. Contacted some community partners - see attached.
 - e. Next Meeting: Feb 19th at 6 pm
3. Gala Committee: Stephanie Creely, liaison
 - a. Gala Location Options: Colletti's or Moretti's are best in terms of price
*Rachel Hawley recommended Edison Park Inn - committee will look into for Gala or night out.
 - b. Sourcing silent auction items, will request space in Pre-K Press for donations
 - c. Week of May 6 and May 13 as options for potential dates
 - d. Will contact Ms. Jen for ideas.
 - e. Considering tabling the Gala for this year due to time constraints, and connecting the Silent Auction with the End of the Year Celebration (food trucks, kona ice, ice cream place, etc.)
 - f. Considering securing a Block Party permit through Alderman's office for extras like bounce house, police dogs or horses, fire truck, etc.

Fundraising Update

- Plant Sale - \$640
- BAC Committee Movie Night - \$192
- Change for Change - \$213.69

- Total Funds: \$3,896.29

New Business

1. Catalpa Yearbook - tabled due to time
 - Volunteers needed to create, format, etc.
2. Next year's membership fee - tabled due to time
3. Teacher appreciation week is May 6-10 - tabled due to time

Meeting adjourned 7:04 pm