

LNS Board Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2023 (Second Meeting of the 2023-24 Board)

In Person

Attendees:

- **Present:** Emily Lines, Raleigh Werner, Kate Brooks, Caroline Fiore, Jenny Rogers, Andrew West, Liz Curtis-Bey, Laura Mellen, Nancy Fincke, Greta Kaplan, Anique Lebel, Colleen Bixby, Christina Hempton
- **Absent:** Brian Wynn, Aidan Flanagan, Vickie Slingerland, Abigail Flanagan, Akemi Martin
- **Also present:** Paula Hinchliffe

Welcome

President: Emily Lines

- Jenny Rogers introduces new option for board meeting attendees to leave anonymous feedback
- Review of several key events & initiatives of the fall so far:
 - Magical Encounter
 - Open House
 - Implemented floating teacher model
 - Completed 5-year strategic plan; abbreviated version to be sent out shortly
 - Internship with Baptiste in Studio Purple and Extended Day
- Updates from Nancy Fincke
 - Next LNS community event is the Lantern Walk
 - First professional development day was last week
 - Speech & language therapist led a session
 - Rubi led a music & movement session

Approve September 18, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Secretary: Raleigh Werner

Andrew West motions to approve the minutes, Emily Lines and others second. September 18, 2023 minutes are approved.

LNS's Future Board Structure Proposal

Steering Committee

(see attached PDF of slides)

- Core challenge is the board is too large to operate efficiently and fill positions each year
- New proposed structure & schedule is presented (see slide entitled "Proposed New Board Structure")
- Recommendation of a two (2) year trial period with the new proposed board structure, to be reviewed at the end of the two years

- Questions from Colleen Bixby and discussion around how new structure would impact the operations and decision-making dynamics of the board

DEI Committee Update

Andrew West, DEI Chair

- Review of four primary initiatives to focus on this year:
 - Reverse Book Fair, owing to last year's success; aiming to make it a more social event this year
 - Use budget for DEI activities to have someone come to LNS lead a professional development session with faculty & staff
 - Reach out to local schools to learn about their DEI activities; find opportunities to collaborate (co-sponsoring events, etc.)
 - Build a set of DEI-related resources to make available to the LNS community (literature, websites, toys, etc.)

Development Update

Kate Brooks, VP of Development

(see attached PDF of slides)

- Overview of the 2023 Annual Appeal
 - 71% participation last year; aiming for higher participation rate
- Why is fundraising important?
 - Salaries and benefits, Financial Assistance, Materials, Rent and Utilities
- Overview of total 2023-24 fundraising goal

Gala Update

Caroline Fiore, Gala Chair

- Overview of planning
- Proposal of new name for the event: the "Playdate"
- Request for suggestions for auction items & potential sponsors

Call for Updates/Questions

- Laura Mellen provides brief update on enrollment; request for the community to continue spreading the word about LNS