

LNS Board Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2024 (Third Meeting of the 2023-24 Board)
In Person

Attendees:

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

Welcome

President: Emily Lines

- Fully enrolled for 2024-25; thank you to Laura Mellen and her team for all their work
- Hiring process has been very encouraging so far
- Gearing up to launch parent survey, teacher survey & job preferences forms
- Thanks to Katherine Ruhl for refreshing job descriptions of all the roles
- Thanks to Jenny Rogers for working with Room Parents on encouraging more ad hoc gatherings and to Nancy for more faculty gatherings
- Will complete long-term lease negotiations with Trustees this Spring
- Thanks to Bryan Wynn and Sisy Thomas for leadership in aligning LNS budget to 990 and Quickbooks accounting.;
- Thanks to Kate Brooks for leading a successful Annual Appeal; hitting goal

Approve November 14, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Secretary: Raleigh Werner

Emily Lines motions to approve the minutes, Kate Brooks and others second. November 14, 2024 minutes are approved.

Staffing Update

Nancy Fincke

- Hiring for three (3) teachers
 - Have received robust response, which is atypical in this environment
 - Twelve (12) candidates so far, some of which have been screened out, but several promising candidates going into next phase of process
- Goal was to have offers by April vacation; we appear to be on track for that goal

Playdate Update

Caroline Fiore, Gala Chair

- Nearly at \$20K for sponsorship level (currently at ~\$18K)
- Looking for additional auction items (experiences, items, etc.)
- Virtual invites coming out shortly
- Trying to offset costs by looking for product donations (beer, wine, etc.)
 - Anyone with connection to brewery for potential donation, please let Caroline know
- Introducing dynamic, new programming to help create connections across families
- Goal is to raise \$50K between auction & “live ask”
- Looking at ways to include alumni families next year (event is at capacity this year)
- Question from Akemi Martin about where the funds raised go
 - Kate Brooks responds that funds raised from the Gala are unrestricted

Nominating Process Update

Emily Lines, President

(see attached PDF of slides)

- See slides for details
- Emily Drazen will serve as Nominating Committee Chair
- We ask Board to help communicate our new Board structure to the community
- Self-nomination for board roles is more important than ever
 - Emily Lines encourages anyone who is interested to self-nominate
- Introduction of new “co-op community meetings” (3 per year)
 - Attendance will be encouraged for all in the community to really get a broad range of input

Call for Updates/Questions

- Question from Caroline Fiore re: what are the three (3) open positions
 - Mark Weltner (Studio Blue)
 - Diane Greeley (Studio Blue)
 - Changing Studio Red from two (2) teachers in the morning + two (2) in the afternoon to three (3) throughout the whole day
- Update from Nancy Fincke on Trustees budget cuts
 - DeCordova hit particularly hard; entire learning & education team (conduit to LNS) was cut
 - LNS has created a part-time Art, Environment and Pedagogy Coordinator position to fill this gap
 - Will be hiring for the position in the coming weeks
- DEI Reverse Book Fair will be from April 10-14; more details coming soon

2024-25 Budget Review and Contingent Approval (Executive Session)

Bryan Wynn, Treasurer

- Emily Lines motions to invite Nancy Fincke to stay for the Executive Session. Raleigh Werner and others second the motion.
- Emily Lines motions to approve the 2024-25 budget. Andrew West and others second. 2024-25 budget is approved.