

Sherwood Montessori Parents Organization
Monthly Meeting November 10, 2015
Minutes

Dark was the night, and quiet and serene was the classroom. The only low point was the secretary realizing that it was hot water hiding in a coffee container but tea was welcome and appreciated. After some banter, Romie laid down the law and began the meeting.

General Announcements!

Sherwood Board of Directors (BOD) committee meeting will be on the 19th of November, please consider attending.

There is now a “Community Bulletin Board” by the kitchen. Note to Richie, this is for parents, please be kind. This led to an animated discussion about cork boards. Sara Richmond will continue to take care of lost and found. Interesting, the changing weather leads to more clothes changes and more items end up in the lost and found. Jeannette led a discussion on the ethics of pre-screening the items before they went off to charity.

New this year, send photos to Sherwoodyearbook2015@gmail.com. Be sure to include metadata on who, when, where, why so the folks making the yearbook will know who is in the picture. A question was raised about privacy issues and a simple solution is to send out a e-mail about whether or not folks want their kids in photos in the yearbook. There was a discussion of the possibility of looking into a later printing in order to get Sherwoodstock in the yearbook.

Michelle’s Report:

This is the transition from the Fall into Holidays, so parents, please take the survey to help the school understand how the academic plan is doing. It is taken seriously by Michelle! And lots of stuff is going on, lots of exciting changes at the school. Michelle visited a CHELPA meeting in Emeryville with other charter leaders and was very impressed with El Dorado CHELPA. In particular, they want us in a partnership, not just for the money advantage—which is significant. The CHELPA works by consensus, not just a vote.

Volunteer Opportunities:

1. As always, please attend the BOD meetings; remember every other month is a committee meeting though some important action items will occur as well, such as the growth model.
2. Need someone to paint Michelle’s office and Girls’ bathroom (yes, those are two different rooms). Materials have already been purchased so the school just needs labor. Your labor.
3. Parents are needed for sweeping the walkways, and painting the poles. Look for various brooms, brushes, etc. with helpful “Use Me!” signs on them and take the initiative!

Committee Reports:

Green Committee. Danielle, the Supervolunteer, reported the committee fixed the sprinklers, fixed leaky faucets, reprogrammed the irrigation control, and loaded up Greg Newhall's pickup truck for the dumpster. The committee still needs help with recycling education. Perhaps Butte Environmental Council? AS Recycling Program? Still looking for someone to take up the Bike to School event, anyone, anyone? Once again, the request for a covered bike shed has gone out. Hey, it could be as simple as canvas! Will try for monthly Bike to School events.

Site Committee. Following Danielle's humbling report, Russell looked at his shoes and mumbled that the committee doesn't seem to be doing anything. There was a repeat call to build a bike shelter so maybe there will be a report next meeting.

Volunteer Tracking Committee. Stay tuned! The committee notes that it still needs a smoother transition on how to report hours.

Event Reports:

1. Art Fundraiser (due November 16th). If it seems a little vague, ask the front office if you have questions.
2. Feast of Gratitude on November 20th. Very exciting but need more volunteers, particularly someone to manage the cash box.
3. Winter Festival (December 15th). It is likely the event will be at the El Rey. Instead of food, there will be a restaurant takeover at Woodstocks. Big news, there may be the Yule Logs as an after show!!
4. Logo. Will discuss the Board's ideas at the next meeting.

Thank Yous!

Matt Struyf the master painter! Patrick Christiansen, Jennifer Onstot, and Julissa Winton for coordinating the Read-A-Thon. Derek Sayre, Melissa Struyf, Jamie Hughes, Nikole Enns, Julissa Winton, and Travis Ulch for coordinating the Fall Festival. Chris Dawes for locating and delivering a free refrigerator for the After Care program.

Open Forum:

Mark Reiser was here to comment from the Board of Directors on the need to improve communications. The Communication Committee will work on this, including improving the website.

Many hours are being invested into finding a new site, reaching out to investors, agents, and 'boots on the ground.' It is complex but there is still hope. (Hey folks, get real, the Board is trying very hard, please be patient.) The Unitarian Church is still an option.