



## **FOS Meeting Minutes**

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, June 16, 2014

**Meeting Location:** Pompei Restaurant

**Members (BOD) Present:** Daryl Harper, Jackie Marolda, Sadika Langston, Jeff McCarter, Catherine Sollman, Maria Amoruso, Deidra Harper, Yara Haddad, Cynthia Gulley

**Call to Order: 5:45pm**

### **Agenda Item #1: Welcome**

Discussion: Daryl Harper opened the meeting with a welcome to the new incoming officers for Friends of STEM: Bill Benton, incoming President; Dawn Bublitz, incoming Vice-President (not in attendance); Lupe Valdivia, incoming Secretary. Jackie Marolda gave a special thank you to Daryl Harper and Zach Abel for their two years of contributions to Friends of STEM – acknowledging the challenges of starting a new organization. A cake (privately donated) was presented to be shared at the end of the meeting.

### **Agenda Item #2: Financial Report**

Discussion: Jackie Marolda, FOS Treasurer presented the latest financial information. As of the end of May 2014 the checking account balance was \$25,890.76. The end of the year included income and expenses around The Spring Gala, the Walk-A-Thon, the Gift Card Promotion, the Calendar Promotion and general donations and operating expenses. After all outstanding and expected business, including long-term funding, uncommitted funds are \$27,069.46.

### **Agenda Item #3: Feedback on Walk-A-Thon Crossing (M. Guzman)**

Discussion: M. Guzman was not in attendance. Sadika Langston, chair of the Walk-A-Thon shared M. Guzman's concern that the return route from the Walk-A-Thon should be a shorter, more direct route to the school, because the students, especially the younger students, were tired on the

return walk.

**Agenda Item #4: Walk-A-Thon Debriefing/Literacy Program Funding**

Discussion: Jackie Marolda shared that the Walk-A-Thon raised \$1500 in non-pledge income (specifically designated to t-shirt sponsorship and activity sponsorship) and \$6,575.17 in pledge income, as of 6/17/14. After expenses and funding of the long-term fund, the available funds from the Walk-A-Thon are \$3,898.57

Additional discussion included the time duration of the Walk-a-thon – perhaps 9am-2pm is too long, maybe it should be 10am – 1pm; whether or not FOS should be paying for and donating T-shirts; having indoor space or additional tents where kids/parents can get out of the sun; and giving additional thought to not scheduling the Spring Gala and the Walk-A-Thon so close to each other.

Note: Sadika Langston indicated that three canopy tents have been donated to FOS.

When asked, Ms. McManus indicated that all STEM students, except three, attended the Walk-A-Thon, and confirmed that the message was clear that everyone was welcome to participate, regardless of their pledge donations, as long as they turned in a permission slip.

Daryl Harper offered congratulations to Sadika Langston and Yara Haddad on a successful Walk-A-Thon.

Literacy Program Funding Discussion: Sadika Langston reiterated that she had sent the proposal to all Board Members via email prior to the meeting, and had fielded questions via email. Maria Amoruso indicated that in the future she would like to have the teacher/special who is requesting the funding make a small presentation to FOS so that all board members are properly informed about the request and how it will impact the students.

MOTION: Friends of STEM will provide \$11,863.83 to STEM Magnet Academy for the purchase of Literacy Funding as outlined in the proposal submitted. Motion made by Sadika Langston; seconded by Daryl Harper.  
MOTION PASSED: 9 in favor; 0 oppose; 0 abstain

**Agenda Item #4: Future Meeting Length (C. Sollmon)**

Discussion: Catherine Sollmon suggests that in the future general Friends of STEM meetings should be kept to only 1 hour, with a very tightly controlled meeting and agenda. On several occasions this year motions were submitted to the BOD via email prior to the meeting, which helps keep discussion tight and short – this worked well. Also discussed was that the meetings rarely started at 5:30pm, because it was difficult for people to arrive by then after work. However, changing the meeting time to 6:00pm causes concern to some parents because they wait around after school...3 hours wait may be too long and some parents may choose not to attend. Some schools vary the times of the meetings so that parents can attend the meetings that meet their schedules.

**Agenda Item #5: Open Discussion**

Bill Benton talked about FOS working more to decide what the goals of the organization are and building a donation portfolio at the start of the year. A survey of the parents that would both rate and rank their interest and desire to fund different types of projects would be helpful. A purposeful plan at the beginning of the year will be beneficial. Daryl Harper indicated that there is a team in place working on the survey.

Yara Haddad indicated that she would like to see additional effort to get more people involved and extend the community of involved and interested parents in FOS.

**Meeting adjourned 6:35pm**

**Minutes Prepared By: Jackie Marolda**