



## **MINUTES TO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

**June 3, 2020**

**Lesley Prowda's Back Yard**

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Patti Ayer  
Molly Coté  
Marisa Gandler  
Jenn Caiazzo  
Barb Condon  
Heather Schaefer  
Lesley Prowda  
Darlene Howland  
Shari Prussin

Patti opened the meeting by noting that the minutes of the March meeting were posted online. Darlene moved to accept the minutes and Marissa seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the minutes were accepted.

### **Treasurer's Report**

**Jenn Caiazzo**

Jenn stated that the approved grants had been awarded. She noted that a little money had come in from mail-in and Amazon donations and that the CD for restricted income was all set and that otherwise there was not much change since March.

Marisa let the group know that the check from CPK fundraisers had not been received yet but she was confident it was coming in.

Patti noted that nothing happened this year for Senior Awards given the circumstances but hopes that they will be back on for next year.

More detailed information can be found on the Treasurers Written Report.

Heather made a motion to dispense with the reading of the entire treasurer's report and to accept it as is. Lesley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the report was accepted.

### **Co-Presidents' Report**

**Patti Ayer and Molly Coté**

The report was posted before the meeting.

Molly noted that there are open positions for next year, including Vice President, Print Publicity, Social Media Publicity, WMS Reps for Drama, Tech and Orchestra, Banquet Coordinator, Holiday Party Host, Article Writers and reps for Hardy and Upham.

There was a discussion regarding the senior recognitions that were being done in lieu of a banquet for the graduating seniors, including the video that was posted and sent last week and the delivery by teachers to their students of a special signed poster.

The next topic discussed was goals for next year, understanding that the school year will look different and that not all POPS jobs will be the same.

Patti led a discussion about fundraising in the next year and noted that a committee will be put together to examine whether we will be able to hold a gala next year and if we even want to. Discussion followed regarding doing something every other year or maybe doing something on a smaller scale with the goal of making \$2,000 to \$3,000.

Jill Adams will be leading a POPS focus group on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to explore how POPS can support such efforts.

### **Director of Performing Arts Report    Mike LaCava**

Mike joined the meeting via Zoom to provide an update. Because of the pace of things happening and changing in anticipation of the upcoming school year, Mike did not have a written report.

Mike noted that there have been a lot of ups and downs in Performing Arts. There was a focus on seniors right away, knowing that they would not have a banquet. The signed poster is the start of a new tradition which can be continued at future banquets. Teacher compilations videos being sent out at many levels.

Mike assured the group that although we do not know what the new normal will look like, performing arts will still be part of the curriculum in Wellesley. He is monitoring the surrounding communities some of which have already cut performing arts to focus on STEM. Mike is part of many local and national groups that are brainstorming and coming up with best practices. He is also part of the Wellesley Advisory Group subcommittee that includes teaching and learning for all grades. He assured us that to this point there have been no conversations regarding cuts to performing arts or changing staffing or programs. He noted that staff is nervous because they are hearing of colleagues losing jobs but Mike is reassuring them that this community supports the arts.

Pattie mentioned that parents would love to hear from Mike directly regarding the conversations that are happening. Mike said he would speak with the subcommittee chair. Darlene suggested that links could be provided to the Swellesley Report so that the whole community knew what was happening.

Mike stated that the IVEP program went all online in the spring and that 80-85% of the participants got all of their lessons. Positive feedback was received. Darlene noted that keeping the program remote so that people do not have to drive to lessons might provide a broader appeal in the future. Marisa noted that this could tie in with diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives.

Mike stated that he believed it was a good idea for him to send out a statement regarding the fall through POPS and he would check on if he could do this.

## **New Business**

Heather noted that there was no decision on what the fall musical would be or if it would even be in the fall.

Lesley asked if there was a fundraising position that needed to be filled to which Patti said someone was needed to brainstorm for the year and think about future fundraising. Lesley volunteered to do so and to be on the Board.

Darelene will no longer be sitting on the Board and so there will be no Past President position.

Darelen moved to nominate the as listed in the meetings agenda with the addition of Lesley serving in a fundraising role and Susan Calcio. Heather seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

It was noted that Barb, Laura and Marisa would not be coming back to the board. Patti and Molly stated that the upcoming would be their last as co-presidents. Heather stated that it would be her last year as WHS Drama Rep.

Molly asked the group to think about recruitment for the fall for open positions.

Darlene made a motion to adjourn which unanimously approved.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Shari Prussin, POPS Secretary.*