

Southeast Alaska Friends of Montessori Board Meeting

December 3, 2014 5:00 – 6:30pm, Montessori Borealis Classroom

Approved Meeting Minutes

SEAFOM Board Members Present: Lupita Alvarez (LA) Stephanie Kohlhase (SK), Rebecca Stenson (RS), Abe Levy (AL), Annabel Rondeau (AB), & Cory Crossett (CC).

SEAFOM Members Present: none

- 1. Establish Quorum (current board = 9 members):** Quorum established.
- 2. Review Minutes from September 10, 2014 Quarterly Board Meeting:** AL moved to approve the minutes. LA seconded.
- 3. Review Minutes from October 1, 2014 Special Board Meeting:** AL moved to approve the minutes. LA seconded.
- 4. Membership Update:** An updated membership list has recently been provided by CC. LA noted that thank you letters should be sent to anyone who provides contributions to SEAFOM. AB reported that SEAFOM currently has 101 members. SK asked that all SEAFOM Board members have access to the membership list.

5. SEAFOM Liaison Updates:

A. Site Council: SK asked for a volunteer liaison from Site Council for SEAFOM, and no liaison has been determined yet. LA reported that Site Council has been primarily working toward Montessori Borealis's Children's House proposal this fall.

B. Juneau Montessori School (JMS): SK spoke with Sharyln Smith at JMS prior to the meeting. The fence project is moving forward. JMS would also like to collaborate with Montessori Borealis (MB) or SEAFOM on the pansy sale in the spring. SK said that if anyone knows of anyone who wants to be involved to help coordinate, let her know.

6. Treasurer's Report: AL reported that SEAFOM is currently a little under budget because the Children's House was not moving ahead this academic year, yet there is a provision in place that allows the funds to roll over for next year, when the Children's House may be implemented. AL has been working with SM, the previous treasurer, and all treasurer duties have now been transferred over to AL. AL plans to distribute all paychecks to SEAFOM contractors by Dec 31, 2014 for their work completed thus far. SK will forward all contracts to AL.

7. Children's House Update: LA reported that the School Board met recently, which included the first hearing for the Children's House proposal. Prior to that, MB held two work sessions with the School Board and responded in depth to all of their questions. The next meeting with the School Board will be held on December 16 at 6:00pm at the Thunder Mountain Library. This will be the second reading of the proposal, and there will be the final vote. At this time, MB encourages people to submit letters of support for this proposal and attend the meeting. Some key speakers at the meeting would also be beneficial, people who represent different groups that support the proposal, such as Site Council, SEAFOM, and families. SK emphasized that the impact of the proposal on JMS is a concern for SEAFOM. LA agreed that SEAFOM should do what it can to help mitigate any potential impact to JMS, perhaps with additional scholarships for next year. RS asked about the timing of scholarship requests and the MB lottery. LA said that the applications happen about the same time as the lottery, yet scholarships are usually

distributed in August or September. LA noted that one major benefit to attending JMS is that it offers year round schooling, while MB is only available during the academic year.

8. Hidden Treasures In-service: LA presented a PowerPoint on this topic for board member education.

9. 2015-2016 Budget Requests: Due March 13, 2015. SK requested that LA update last year's teacher training application on the SEAFOM website so that interested teachers may apply. SK will update the General Funding Request Form and have it available on the website also.

10. Communication: SK asked that LA make some changes to the website so that the next meeting date is always posted on the home page. In addition, SK asked that a new tab titles FORMS be created so that searchers can find their forms easily (Teacher Training application, General Funding Request Form, and the Interim Funding Request Form).

11. Next Quarterly Board Meeting (Annual Budget Meeting): Wednesday, April 1, 2015 5:00pm MB Classroom.

12. Other Notes: Board Members need to submit bios and photos to LA for the website.

Meeting Adjourned, 6:30pm.