



## **NM School for the Arts Parent Association Meeting MINUTES - August 6, 2016**

The first meeting of the 2016-17 school year was held on August 6, 2016. The meeting was held from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the NM School for the Arts Cafeteria.

The meeting was called to order by Jamai Blivin, President, 2016-17 at 9:00 a.m. A sign in sheet was passed around, introductions were made, and the following were in attendance:

Dianne Duenzl (Treasurer), Ana Ottersberg (VP), Joey Chavez, Katie Rountree, Patrick McGee-Russell, Terry Selvage, David Selvage, Kimberly Spray, Gerald Spray, Leslie Slavin, Karina Hean, Neil Swapp, Garrett Anderson, Cindy Montoya, Dorothy Wells, Abe Franklin, Amy Sayers, Naseem DeVoe, Wallis Ann Blivin, Lindsey Gardner, Kevin Miller, Julia Miller, and Jamai Blivin.

The draft minutes from the Previous Meeting were distributed, to be approved on at the end of the meeting. The agenda was reviewed, there were no additions. David motioned to approve the agenda, and Patrick seconded. There was no discussion on approving agenda. The motion passed unanimously. Jamai let the attendees know that the ByLaws are online, and anyone wanting to review the bylaws please do so. The executive committee will review these. All parents can vote, and are automatic members.

Treasurers' Report – Dianne provided the treasurer's report based on what she received from David Sandoval (the outgoing). \$14,315.00 was the balance that was provided to Dianne from David. The parking lot fundraiser may not be in this balance. David provided the protocol on working with Larry Pepin. If there are funds in the PA account, each Dept. is eligible for \$1,000. Jamai indicated this could be difficult for a teacher to upfront this much money. Invoices are acceptable and paperwork is required to receive the funds. Cindy Montoya indicated you do not pay the invoice before a service, but we could use a "quote for the service" and then pay once the service is performed. All requests should go to Dianne Duenzl. Requests will be reviewed at the monthly PA meeting, unless there is a circumstance that requires approval before the meeting. Discussions occurred amongst the members on how departments have used funds previously.

Kevin Miller motioned to develop a written procedure for departments to request funds from the PA. Leslie seconded the motion. Dianne Duenzl will develop the written procedure to present at the next meeting in October. No discussion occurred. The motion passed unanimously.

Cindy Montoya presented on the preventative services at NMSA. Counseling is still taking place at school. Multiple services are being provided through different collaborative partnerships. There is training for staff and students across the school. Cindy presented on the need for drug abuse prevention at the school due to the risk for these students at NMSA to become involved with drugs. Most educators have used the "scare them" model. Bryan Serna is the selected plan for NMSA and Cindy described the way Serna Solutions works with schools. There are no funds to cover the drug prevention. The goal is to begin this at "back to school night", then he would work with every grade level, staff, parent and student training.

The topic was opened up for discussion. The request was made by Cindy Montoya for \$3,000 for this service for 2016-17 to NMSA. Discussion occurred around the balance level that should maintain. There is no requirement. A parent asked if Cindy had checked his references. Cindy has checked his reference as well as his effectiveness. He came highly recommended by mental health providers. David motioned to approve \$3,000. Amy seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

**Old Business** –Joey provided the completed forms to Jamai from registration. David Suarez is keynote speaker at the opening ceremony, and all families are welcome. A parent asked about progress of Sanbusco Center. Cindy provided information and updates. NMSA is a public/private partnership. Sanbusco has been approved for school use. Now, the work for this land and property is next phase. Getting feedback from parents and students, envisioning 5 and 10 years from now. It will not happen by August 2017, more likely the following year. But, Prom will be there again this year.

**New Business** -



Fundraiser – Jamai discussed that we need to determine what type of fundraisers we want to have, and who wants to help lead these fundraisers. Frances and Mary oversaw the fundraising events in the prior year. In addition, we have three parking events (Spanish Market, Indian Market and Xmas Eve). Joey described the process, and parking is \$10.00. Jamai has volunteers for Indian Market lined up. Xmas eve is a very easy one as the lot fills up by 6:30 pm.

The other fundraiser last year was **Razoo**. Kids set up their Razoo page, and it is a way for extended family to participate and donate to NMSA. Last year we ended up with only 20 active accounts. It takes time to train them, get their pages set up, and work on them. Jamai recommended we need to engage the students more this year as long as Frances wants to continue this. The stumbling block was that there was never instructional time to support students setting up their pages. NMSA has 200 chrome books and a computer lab, so we could have a specific day/event to do this. We could also do a YouTube for the students. Discussion occurred around whether this should continue to be supported. Joey indicated perhaps every other year is better. Patrick did not think it would be a good idea to skip, since it barely got out of the gate. Cindy recommended that she meet with Frances and they can determine next steps.

Discussion occurred around department fundraising vs global fundraising vs PA fundraising. There is also fundraising for the Art Institute (such as the Gala). We need to work to coordinate activities. Jamai indicated someone must step up to run Razoo. Jamai proposed that Cindy will work with Frances to determine next steps. Then the leadership team will present at a PA meeting. Patrick motioned this, Amy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Other fundraisers will be discussed at future meetings.

**Administrative/Staff Reports** – Cindy provided information on staff changes. NMSA is FULLY staffed! Announcements for PA should go to Gayle. Stephanie is also available to support. Joey will continue to support the PA officers as liaison to Chairs.

The Department Chairs introduced themselves to the PA membership.

- Garrett told a little about his history as a dancer. He has two children, and his wife will also be teaching at NMSA. He is thrilled to be part of the NMSA culture.
- Neil Swapp has been promoted to Dean of Admissions and also the Music Chair. He discussed several new instructors and trainers, a very strong department for NMSA.
- Karina discussed her Chair of Visual Arts and the new teachers and artists that have joined her team.

Jamai Blivin moved to the nomination of a Secretary, and asked if there was anyone willing to be Secretary. Kimberley Spray volunteered. No one else volunteered. The motion was moved by Leslie to nominate Kim. David seconded. No discussion. It passed unanimously. Kimberley Spray will be the new Secretary 2016-17. Jamai offered to continue to do all the printing at her office.

Department Parent Liaison Reports – Jamai identified the liaisons for the PA for 2016-17. Joey described the process – that they disseminate the information and also report back from departments on going-ons, recruiting volunteers for events, etc. They are the communicators to the department Chairs. Very important around performance times as well. 2016-17 Liaisons are as follows: Dance – Holly Baldwin – not here today; Music; Dorothy Wells; Theatre – Lindsay Gardner; and Visual Arts – Leslie Slavin (willing to do this with a Visual Art parent). Karina offered to send out information requesting other parent to work with Leslie.

Joey presented his magnets as fundraiser for the theatre department. Jamai indicated PA was going to get their own swag as well. Jamai will request the high resolution artwork for items. Approval of Minutes – the minutes were reviewed by the attendees. Status of yearbook – Phil Baca is finalizing. The minutes were motioned for approval. David motioned to approve. Lindsay seconded. Unanimously approved. Note: All minutes are on website once approved by the PA.

**Reminder of Next Meeting** – will not be held on September 3 due to Labor Day weekend. The meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 10 (Pet Parade causes conflict in the morning). Meeting in October is October 1 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.