

## DGN FRIENDS OF FINE ARTS MEETING MINUTES

May 16th, 2023

7:00pm

**Members in attendance at the meeting:** Ziba Irvin, Sharon Gruszka, Mark Pierret, Beverly Cook, Brayer Teague, Heather Pleune, Jen Van Houtan, Jeff Gwozdz, Jessie Gwozdz, Kelly Henrikson, Beth O’Riordian, Michelle Heinz, Jessica Chase, Jessen Smith, Chris Waden, Carrie Swenson

**Call to Order:** Z. Irvin called the meeting to order and welcomed members at 7:04 pm. Members introduced themselves.

**Approval of Last Month’s Minutes:** April’s meeting minutes were approved by K. Henrikson and voted as accepted by all present.

**President’s report:** Z. Irvin referred to her word of the year “onward” and thanked all volunteers and teachers for volunteering. FOFA members have donated more than 900 hours of their time volunteering over this year. We were able to provide funds for our budgeted items, the new scholarship funds and grants, and met the challenges this year with enthusiasm.

Z. Irvin thanked FOFA members B. Teague, S. Gruszka, M. Pierret, and N. Sullivan who are departing FOFA at the completion of this school year.

**VP of Finance:** M. Pierret reported that the audit committee will review the books this summer. Todd Pleune was volunteered to assist.

**Treasurer’s Reports:** B.Cook reviewed the YTD Budget to Actual. Scholarships were given out this month. Plant sale raised over \$1300. Contributing member donations were made. Expenses included Choir hospitality and senior awards and end of year banquets.

**VP of Contributing Members:** J. Chase reported that all thank you’s have been done. Z. Irvin will connect and ensure she has all the forms that were turned in.

**VP Fundraising:** J. VanHoutan reported that overall FOFA has met our \$40,000 fundraising goal for the year. We will begin fundraising earlier in the 2023-2024 school year, and raise the goal to \$45,000.

Plant sale: J. Gwozdz thanked all volunteers. All leftover plants were sold. The same vendor will be used next year.

**VP Volunteer Resources:** Z. Irvin reported that volunteer needs are finished for the year.

**Communications Chair:** C. Swenson reported that more can be done with the scholarship winners. H Pleune will share the names of the winners. Next year committee involvement will be helpful.

**Scholarship Chair:** H. Pleune reported winners of FOFA Scholarships are: Joshua Ho, Claire Gustis, Nicole Moravec, Sarisa Chulanon, Tabitha Irvin, Jessica Gruszka, Robby Boucher. The Brayer Teague Scholarship winner was Hannah Janka. Each scholarship was for \$1,000. Z. Irvin presented a chart with the scholarship breakdown per discipline.

Summer Scholarships: Z. Irvin reported that there were 12 awards for a total of \$8,660.00 and they were evenly distributed throughout the fine arts areas.

### **Teachers reports**

B. O'Riordian said thank you to FOFA, choirs completed end of the year concerts. There are two groups singing with the Downers Grove Children's Chorus. They choir will be singing at graduation.

B. Teague reported that the spring play was successful and sold out all performances. The director and set were recognized as well as the acting company and stage crew. Theater awards were done last week. Visual arts show wrapped up and the Gwozdz family was helpful with the reception. DGN artists did an excellent job in the Congressional Arts Show.

J. Smith reported that the orchestra just finished their last concert and awards night. All went well, A. Zall is excited about her student performance and sent her thanks to FOFA. J. Smith thanked FOFA for their efforts as B. Teague is retiring and thanked volunteers for all the concert support. Band awards night went better this year and will be debriefed for suggestions of improvement. The band is preparing for their graduation performance. J. Smith is laying groundwork for the 23-24 band season.

B. Teague thanked FOFA for all their efforts this year and all they have done to acknowledge his retirement. He is excited for the next Fine Arts Chair to work with FOFA.

**Old Business:** None to report

**New Business:** J. Van Houtan asked for access to the 23-24 Fine Arts Calendar. Z. Irvin will share what she has.

### **Election of Board of Directors and Officers:**

The Nominating Committee has submitted the following candidates for the officer and board positions for the 2023-2024 school year. The slate is presented as follows:

Board of Directors: Sharon Gruzka - Community Member at large, Heather Pleune, Ziba Irvin, Jennifer VanHoutan, Beverly Cook, Chris Waden

Officers: President- Ziba Irvin, President Elect- Chris Waden, VP Finance - Open, Treasurer- Beverly Cook, Treasurer Elect - Open, Secretary- Heather Pleune, VP of Contributing Members- Jessica Chase, VP of Fundraising - Jennifer VanHoutan, VP of Volunteer Resources- Sara Farrero

Nominations were opened, no objections or new nominations made. The nominating process was closed with M. Peirret 1st and B. Cook 2nd. All present voted in favor for the presented

officers and directors with election by acclamation where an “appropriate response is vigorous clapping!” All vigorously clapped!

The 2023 budget will be presented at the September 2023 meeting.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm by Z. Irvin and 1st. C. Waden and .B. Teague 2nd the motion.

.The next FOFA meeting will be held in September 2023.

Respectfully submitted by Heather Pleune