

# Petoskey Montessori Children's House

Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting

October 10, 2023 Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:08 pm

**In attendance:** Russell Carpenter, Nicky Byron, Jessi Kuhlman, Sarah Agurcia, Rebecca Roth, Amber Neils, Natalie Walts, Angie Moulton, Anna Collins, MaryJo Alshab, Virtual: Lauren

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by Walts, 2nd by Collins, unanimously carried

**Approval of April Minutes:** Motion made by Walts, 2nd by Collins, unanimously carried

## Administrative Update

- Journey Night was a great success! P/T conferences coming up this week, October is fire prevention month, planning for harvest feast to begin, family education night in the works for November
- Angie and Sarah are planning to visit Leelanau Montessori next week for a tour, meet Arden and set up additional visits from PMCH staff
- School directory will now go through Brightwheel
- Enrollment: Two new elementary students will start December 1. Another inquiry incoming about a 7-year-old interested. Discussed concerns about the overabundance of 3 year olds and how that will effect classroom balance moving forward—waiting list policies are now set up to avoid such a scenario in the future.
- Discussion of behavioral problems and confirmed that disciplinary policy is being followed.
- Regular license in good standing reinstated!
- An anonymous complaint was filed with the police that may result in an investigation into classroom conduct. None of the staff or administration are aware of any misconduct and have no major concerns

## Financial Update

- Nothing remarkable to report
- IRS denied abatement that would eliminate penalties, letter sent to Stabenow who will appeal to IRS for reduction. Awaiting response – If unsuccessful, we will pay in full.

## Committees Update

- Maintenance: playgrounds completed but following up with tie-downs; look into Culligan for drinking water since it is discolored; next on the to-do list is gutters and wrapping up misc. outdoor tasks before weather turns
- Fundraising: 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary party - low ticket sales for auction, will continue to push and advertise; 50% to our goal; quite a few sponsors and auction donations; dueling pianos video will be coming soon; off Paul Retherford a ticket to be a photographer; thank you postcards; cookies and swag with new logo
- Social: no plans currently; floated idea of maintenance committee bonfire party

## BOT Updates

- Management agreement: expired end of August, negotiations between lawyers, PSP decided to not renew after this school year; looking into continuing the conversation and requesting to be on the PSP school board agenda in November; discussion to be had with parents to help lift up the importance of Montessori in the community and at PSP school board meeting. Nicky will seek clarification in writing via email with Jeff Leslie. Research into alternative funding sources is ongoing.
- New logo was sent to the web designer, we should see updates to the website soon!

Adjourned at 7:32 pm

Next Meeting – November 14, 5:30 pm

-Respectfully submitted by Amber Neils