CCSA board meeting minutes

September 12, 2024

Attending: Andrew Shaud, Tim Eisele, Maria Bergstrom, Haley Fredrickson, Megan Bradley, Leyre Alegre, Traci Yu, Micah Erickson, Sarah Williams, Mary Jo Stimac
Guest: Jared Anderson, Michigan Tech, Visual and Performing Arts

Tim called the meeting to order at 7 pm.
Minutes of the August 8 meeting were read and approved.

Executive Session (closed)

Discussion of staff compensation.

Executive Director report

Financial report

There is $16,133 in banking accounts with $24,008 still outstanding in fall tuition. We have a lot of students taking advantage of Kaleidoscope this year, and those funds tend to come in more slowly.

This year's tuition is about 6% higher than last year's tuition to adjust for inflation. We have had some requests for financial aid. Andrew is encouraging families to apply to the Stark Foundation first (This is a separate application which is on the Keweenaw Community Foundation website. In the future we may have the Keweenaw Community Foundation handle all of our financial aid applications). There are 4 scholarships of $500 each. Generally this is $250 per semester.

Fall enrollment

We have 33 hours of teaching, our goal is 36. This is due to a lot of increase in Jennifer's piano studio. We need more cello and violin students (currently 10 cello, 24 violin, 19 piano). Andrew would like 5 more hours of teaching in cello and Brian has 2-3 hours of capacity. Brian started a homeschool class on a weekday. Andrew and Brian will be at the public library next week recruiting for our Saturday morning violin class.

Music Together is doing well, 8 families with 11 students total for fall. The recommended class size is 12, so we are nearing capacity.

Amanda would like to start a Community Children's Choir for children 10 and up, Thursday evenings starting in October. $130 per student with a discount for CCSA members and siblings.

About $50 for each student will go toward purchase of materials. Micah has a lot of choir music at Lake Linden-Hubbell schools, so this could be a potential resource. Need at least 10 students to make it work. The program will run through CCSA.

Budget

MACC grants are expected to be announced on Sept 24.

We have some equipment, desks, etc. that we need to get rid of. Would there be interest in running a community yard sale? Perhaps invite CCSA members to bring things to sell. Or, we could sell CCSA things on Facebook Marketplace. There was some discussion of a yard sale, but board members thought it might be easier to sell things on Facebook.

We could also focus on Giving Tuesday in December? We aren't eligible for a match from Copper Shores Foundation because of their physical/mental health focus. Some families may have an employer match for donations to non-profits. Giving Tuesday would be an opportunity to highlight this. Sarah will strategize with Andrew about this. She will also help Andrew work on a letter to the membership to lay out our full year of fundraising. It would also be good to ask our members for names of potential contacts for a direct appeal campaign. There is a "donate now" button on the bottom of the website. It might be helpful to have a few specific things that the money would be spent for. The building would be a great opportunity to make a direct appeal.

Open House didn't have many new people attending. Amanda ended up having to move her Music Together class due to family conflicts, so that may have impacted attendance. The rescheduled Music Together sample class had good attendance.

Have we done any press release or media contact about the building purchase? We could promote our events, the space for rental, etc. Sarah will write up a press release for Andrew and get in touch with local media.

Our goal for Fun Cards is to get them out as soon as we are able to get them done. We will try to be ready to sell them by Thanksgiving. Mary Jo will contact the businesses she worked with last year. Haley will contact the other businesses.

Mary Jo moved to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm