



Verein der Eltern und Freunde
der John-F.-Kennedy-Schule zu Berlin e.V.
Society of Parents and Friends
of the John F. Kennedy School Berlin e.V.

John-F.-Kennedy-Schule Teltower Damm 87-93 • 14167 Berlin

Minutes
Tuesday, October 11th, 2022
JFKS Aula

Board Members Present: Jacqui Bespolka, Lia Rigamonti, Tanja Maka-Magill, Robert Erlbaum, Lisa Ward, Kasia Esteves, Theresa Helou (arrived 20 min later)

Board Members Excused: John Mask (Tanja has proxy), Vanessa Lestingi (Robert has proxy), Eva El-Alfy (Lia has proxy), Shannon Callahan (Kim has proxy)

Members present: Eunnie Seo, Wilfried Wollbold

Meeting started: 19:05

a. Approval of Agenda

12 yes
0 abstention
0 no

b. Approval of Minutes of the last meeting

12 yes
0 abstention
0 no

2. Note from the Administration – Mark Fritzenschaft

[Not present due to illness. This point was skipped during the meeting.]

3. Note from the Student Council – Keyo Casper, Clemens Schmid

- a. They are looking forward to work with the Verein
- b. As Student Council just assembled, they have nothing to present and no requests yet.
- c. Jacqui Bespolka asked the two representatives to invite her to the next Student Council Meeting to present the Verein and to explain how the Verein could support Student Council, classes, and clubs with fundraising, what the criteria for requests to fund projects etc. are and how to compose them.



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4. Report from the President – Jacqui Bespolka

- a. Haus Reil: Mark Fritzenschaft was supposed to report on the finalization of Haus Reil; the Verein supported the renovation and furnitures. A tour of Haus Reil was offered to Jacqui.
- b. On Thursday, 14 October, the Verein is invited to a meeting with the architects looking at the existing buildings and interviewing users of the school to see what their needs and wishes are for projected renovations. Jacqui asked the Board to brainstorm what the Verein would like to see changed: an office space for the Verein (to share with other users of school community) as a permanent representation, where parents, students, teachers could get in touch with Verein, where a xerox machine could be housed. So the Verein would be more visible in the school. Better internet, upgraded shop, better accessible storage for various equipment.
- c. Tuurio App — An app developed for Vereine and other groups intended to help manage the membership database (by outsourcing the upkeep of personal data and membership status to the members themselves), manage communication (reducing input times for mailing out event emails e.g. Board Meetings), encourage participation in group planning for events (through chat groups), as well as management of historical information (by storing documentation within the app/website related to past events for future planning purposes) was demonstrated yesterday evening to Board by App developer. Data protection was a central topic. The data is hosted on a server in Germany, the App does not have rights to the data. The app is currently only available in German; the Board agrees that it must be available in English for the ca. 1500 members. The Board hopes to introduce the App by Christmas.
- d. Short discussion on digitalization after the Covid years, communication systems for teachers, students, parents at JFKS
- e. Verein events—Halloween: Meet and Treat (which was a big success last year) will not happen this year because it is during fall vacation.
- f. Lia offered to organized (with a team) the flea market 2023, since she has experience co-organizing the flea market in 2022, to great success
- g. For summer 2023 Fun Day is scheduled
- h. Jacqui asked the Board to brainstorm event-ideas for this school year. Jacqui can imagine a couple of smaller events to celebrate Verein's sixtieth anniversary in 2022/2023. For example, a small event together with the opening of Haus Reil; an event in the winter (format TBD)

Board and Verein members who were present suggested organizing movie nights, bingo, or trivia events (for students and parents), platforms for JFKS



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clubs, and classes to fundraise by selling snacks etc.

A committee for evaluating the idea of a gala event (for parents) will be formed.

Student Council will also brainstorm for ideas.

5. Report from the Treasurer – Robert Erlbaum

- a. Membership fees will deducted in October

6. Report from the JFKS School Shop – Kim Douglass

- a. Kim reports that the shop made a larger profit from January 2022 to now than the entire year 2021: €8500.
- b. New inventory is being designed and ordered; mugs, fleece sweaters, hoodies — to be in early December for Christmas sales in the shop.
- c. Kim and her team are working on a spring collection
- d. The shop team (6 volunteers that help at events, and shop hours) met for lunch yesterday to discuss shop events and collection

7. Requests

- a. Hollis Ball – Spotlight for fall musical to be used in subsequent performances in large Aula. Total cost of request is €295 (his is half of the amount the stoplight cost, as other funding was also available)

12 yes
0 abstention
0 no

- b. Equity Steering Committee, Sarah Gross – 20 copies of a book for a faculty book club on equity topics to raise awareness. Total cost of request is €340,00 (20 x €17)

10 yes
0 abstention
2 no

- c. PCB treasurer Andrea Adam Moore — reimbursement of Zoom license for the school year 2021/22. This amount was already paid in fall 2021 with the



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personal credit card of Holger Kölling-Orb (chair PCB at the time). Total cost of request is € 830,50

PCB would also like to ask the Verein to consider to fund the Zoom license in this up-coming winter, as Parent Council and Town Hall meetings and several committee meetings will remain online.

The Board decided to ask the PCB to come up with a plan how the Zoom license will be used for the boarder JFKS community: for various committees, Verein, webinars for students and parents, clubs. How log-in information will be handled etc.

The vote will be done after PCB resubmit their request.

- d. Haus Reil, Myriah Day — Pastries for cafe event for new students in Haus Reil, where they can meet student ambassadors and ask questions. Total cost of the request is €100 + €40 (value of 6 prices from school shop)

12 yes
0 abstention
0 no

- e. Timea Vermes – Kids Yoga classes. Total cost of the request depends upon number of participants.

1 yes
2 abstention
9 no

- f. Esther Freymandl (music/violin teacher) — Traveling expenses for Bundeskongress Musikunterricht 2022 in Mannheim (28-30.9.2022). Total cost of the request is € 283.

12 yes
0 abstention
0 no

1. Miscellaneous

- a. In an email vote after the September Verein Board Meeting, the Board voted to increase the funding for request d. from Sarah Martin by €200 in order to cover an increase in the quoted cost of musical instruments. The board vote was 12-0 in favor of the funding increase.
- b. ES religion teachers request for Bubales Jewish puppet theater— The theater was booked out for the requested dates; they will try again for next year.



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- c. Website will be up-dated! The ExCo worked on changes for the website, volunteers are there if needed to execute the changes and to update it regularly.
- d. Reef + Christmas decoration will be organized for upcoming holidays; Menorah is repaired and will be returned to school
- e. Abi committee will have a movie night as fundraiser next week.

Everyone is invited for brainstorming for more event ideas after the Board Meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 20:25