



Verein der Eltern und Freunde

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

der John-F.-Kennedy-Schule zu Berlin e.V.

Society of Parents and Friends

of the John F. Kennedy School Berlin e.V.

Sept 25 2024 virtually

Present: Ben Bowers, Robert Lenk, Carsten Casper, Jacqui Bespolka, Theresa Luss, Haley Scribner, Jean-Marie McKinney, John Mask, Lia Rigamonti

Moderating: Robert

1. Approval of agenda: Ben

Approval:

Disapproval:

Abstentions:

2. Meeting Culture: dos and don'ts

- We should respect each other, and stop interrupting each other so often.
- Keep the minutes short and to the point

3. Minutes and minutes for May, June, and August: Ben

- Ben has felt unsupported in doing the minutes. He's prepared to confirm the corrections and post them, and move onward positively.
- John suggests a three-day window so we can check them, after which time they'll be posted. This was agreed-upon by the board.

4. President's report

- Robert has had a lot of positive feedback and energy from teachers, many of whom seem extremely happy to have us being so supportive of them. This leads us into...

5. AQAP: Air Quality Action Plan

- If the Verein doesn't take action, the school will have an extremely hard time in the future.
- We've already improved the air quality and temperature during hot days greatly.
- There will never be a building-wide AC system. We can re-activate skylights, but this will take time. External shades are not functional because of a lack of maintenance.
- Nighttime will never be possible because of security/weather protection, so we can only act in the morning. Cooling via the big doors can't happen because fire safety doors need to be closed at all times when students are present.
- Our temporary solution: one person from 6:30am-8am is required to do this each day. We should consider compensating the person, perhaps as much as 30 EUR per day.

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Fax 030-90299-6377, www.theverein.com, email: info@theverein.com President: Tracey Tober, Vice President: Katrin Drakulic, Treasurer: Buck Chisolm, Secretary: Eva El-Alfy **Bankverbindung: JFKS Verein, Sparkasse, IBAN: DE78 1005 0000 0190 8829 13, BIC/SWIFT: BELADEBEXX**

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- Our costs for actions until now have come to 1469.37 EUR.
- John proposes we can collect data for which days were improved based on our measures, and by how much, so we can take that report to the administration and get their approval/co-operation for further action in the future.
- Carsten proposes we add predictable costs to the budget for future years.

6. Budget for 2024, budget for 2025: Carsten

- Carsten has created a four-page budget proposal based on the treasurer's guidelines from 2020.
- There was a lengthy discussion, including many of the finer details of the budget.
- We cannot hold large amounts of money and make profits from them; we should roughly spend what we bring in.
- We propose increasing the musical instrument maximum budget to 5000 EUR per year; we agreed to add this to the budget, and then vote to approve it.
- Vote to approve budget: yes 9 no 0 abstain 0 *budget approved*.
- Carsten proposes that the budget for 2025 should include input from teachers, admin, and people from such departments as sports, music, and drama, as well as student input.
- Vote to approve the proposal for 2025 from Carsten was delayed until the next meeting.

7. Introducing tools: Ehrenamtszuschale

- We have already filed this for 2024, gaining the Verein the ability to get some help with the AQAP or other projects up to the amount of 840 EUR with no tax implications.
- This discussion about whom we should pay with this money has been delayed until the next meeting.
- Haley added via text that she feels board members should not be eligible for compensation under the Ehrenamtszuschale allowance.

8. Posting positions on our website: a webmaster

- Carsten proposes we hire a webmaster. We want to find a volunteer student for this.
- There was a proposal to put forth a committee instead of finding simply one student. This proposal also includes the idea that we pay the webmaster for the sake of responsibility and also continuity. We used to have a paid webmaster, and Theresa suggested we follow the same model to prevent losing our momentum when our volunteers graduate or have off days.

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- The vote to whether or not we should post a job listing for a volunteer student was changed to form the committee.
- Haley and John have volunteered to overtake the formation of a website committee for the purpose of improving our digital image. This proposal was accepted by the board.

9. Music Fest (Fete de la Musik): release pressure from the board

- Robert feels the board should have nothing to do but arrive and enjoy the event.
- Robert will contact volunteers to discover who is still interested in volunteering.

10. Requests

The following requests were voted upon:

Proposal 1: Roughly 1500 EUR for the AQAP

The board has decided that this is to be voted upon in Jan of 2025

Proposal 2: Breakfast for PD day yes no abstain yes 9 no 0 abstentions 0

Request approved.

Proposal 3: Repair of musical instruments: *pre-approved in proposed budget, max 5000 EUR/year.*

Proposal 4: Withdrawal of US troops ceremony yes 9 no 0 abstain 0

Request approved under the conditions that we support request giver to the amount 100 EUR and the families will have to pay the rest themselves.

Proposal 5: Speaker event: Art Spiegelmann

Vote on this request was delayed to discover if we're paying for the entire class or just the teachers, and how many classes will go?

10. Fun Run report

- We had a very successful event, raised a lot of money, and got an outpouring of communication focused on the same theme: community. Everybody felt that it brought us together as a community and this is what our main goal is.
- We've agreed to give tshirts to all kids/teachers who were there, and have ordered them. We also feel future fun runs should have tshirts for all kids, teachers, and staff.

* Meeting adjourned*

To be carried forward to the next meeting:

- Should we hire someone to open doors and turn on fans from 6am-7am on days when we're

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- expecting heat, at 30 EUR per day, possibly under the Ehrenamtszuschlag allowance?
- Should we approve Carsten's proposal for a committee to influence/form the budget for 2025?
 - On whom should we use the Ehrenamtszuschlag allowance, and for what?
 - Robert had a proposal from June 18 for an incentive budget for volunteers at the board's social events.
 - AQAP: to be voted on in January 2025

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