

Morningstar Mystery School

Board of Directors

September Meeting

Minutes

9/11/21

Present: [Jenn, Katie, Laura, Louise, Sandra, Ealasaid

Facilitator: Katie (was supposed to be Jenn, though)

Called to Order at 10:02am

- Brief checkin while we wait on Breven.
- Facilitator leads everyone in taking a breath together and reciting the Holy Mother prayer
- No Breven
- Approve minutes from previous meeting (taken by Laura since Ealasaid was out)
 - Yes
- Pillar and other standing reports
 - Teaching & Curriculum Pillar – not here
 - Research & Alumni Pillar (Katie)
 - Haven't met.
 - Katie will be leaving pillar and board at end of terms, will post asking for R&A volunteers.
 - Temple & Tech Pillar (Laura)
 - Discussion around supporting, all pretty maxxed up.
 - Lyssa posting newsletter this month – forum post
 - Next meeting a working meeting on the broken wiki
 - Keeping them pretty short.
 - Retreat Committee (Laura)
 - Nothing to report
 - IRS/Business Stuff (Sandra)
 - Paid annual dues, everything on track.
 - Nothing major right now.
 - Registrar (Louise)
 - Will go over during action items
- Updates on action items from the previous meeting

- Louise
 - Remove Karen from active students – done
 - Drafted email to Ryan, sent around yesterday, asking us to take a look at it and give comments by email.
 - Not sure what process is for when students can't pay – bylaws say to talk to the board but that's it?
 - Laura: looked for draft stuff, it's super old. So, let's use this work to build a process.
 - Looking at Active Members vs Alumni – we have members who aren't exactly active. We have Active Members and we have Alumni, but not anything in between.
 - Sandra: in bylaws, thought we changed it to read as just Member, not Active Member. We have a copy of the current bylaws in the Google drive, which might be easier to review than the wiki.
 - Laura will find link and put in chat.
 - Sandra: Had a huge discussion around more kinds of members but the legalities got complicated and we wanted to get our 501(c)3 filing so we kept it simple.
 - Louise will make revisions to email from our discussion and send around for approval.
- Sandra:
 - Task from last month: mine previous meeting for tasks, newsletter info, etc. Thought it would be cool to have a bit of the discussion available in the newsletter. Wants to keep transparency so members know what we're doing. Sent that around.
- Katie:
 - Look at dates for everything leading up to March all-school chat – not done
- Laura:
 - Fee calendar (with John) – not done
- Sandra:
 - Write brief intro post for Kevin to coincide with sending him the login (waiting to hear back from him) – no word from him yet.
 - Bylaws amendments – not yet
 - Putting accounting stuff together for The D&O Insurance - yet
- New Business
 - Sandra: Three main things from minutes in July that we talked about implementing
 - Mentoring program – needs a lot of scoping out, what tools will be needed.
 - Jenn: the R&A pillar has mentoring process for a research project, but it hasn't been used. For students that need help/engagement, maybe that should be a Teaching Pillar. Might be better than creating a new subcommittee.
 - Sandra: Might be good for us to give some more clarity in our ask to the pillar.
 - Jenn: Wasn't there an offer for something like this from Tony and Starr?

- Sandra: We had a buddy system partially set up but it petered out. Thinking the subcommittee would draw from the pillars. But we should scope out what we're thinking the goals of the program would be.
- Laura: keeps seeing this come up and not get results, it just peters out. Has an Elements student who might be ready to join, wants to have her set up for success. Knows her transition from Elements to the School was rocky. Everybody's plate is really full, we need to plan accordingly.
- Sandra: we should come up with an actual proposal to send to Teaching. Lot of different pieces/types of mentoring. Is this one mentoring program with lots of parts? Lots of programs with each one part? Maybe good to have, like, new students assigned to have an experienced student contact.
- Laura: so the ask is the board figures out what a mentorship vision would be, we draft something, start a google doc, review in next meeting, see if we want to send to the other pillars for input?
- Jenn: would feel more comfortable if we ask pillars for input first – there's stuff that's already been tried, but we don't know how it went. Then if we want to draft something we can.
- Sandra: Tony and Starr aren't on pillars anymore though. If we reach out to the pillars we have to wait til we get a response from them before we can respond back, adding in months of back and forth before we even start.
- Katie: if we're worried about the potential new student, he's a friend who lives like a mile from her and they hang out a lot, so he's probably covered.
- Laura: going slow and steady is the way, here's concern about delay. We gotta be clear in what we are asking the pillars for, and send the same email to each pillar. What kind of mentoring have you done? What worked, what didn't, etc. ask for info by Friday of next meeting or something. Will draft an email for us.
- Mission statement review
 - Laura: maybe have next meeting can focus on that? Share a screen and go through it together.
 - Sandra: the mission statement was a product of the school in its entirety, which is part of why it reads the way it does. Not something would feel comfortable handing down. We need to lead but not dictate. There are two prongs:
 - ★ Suggestions about changes
 - ★ How do we involve the rest of the school? What process will we use? Need for people to feel like they have ownership of the result.
- Elections schedule – Katie working on it, will send dates.
- Action Items
 - All
 - Look at Louise's email re Ryan and respond
 - Look at Sandra's email re newsletter and respond

- Look at the mission statement closely
- Laura
 - Fee calendar (with John) – not done
 - Draft email about mentoring problem to the pillars.
- Katie
 - Dates for election leading into March all-school chat
- Sandra
 - Write brief intro post for Kevin to coincide with sending him the login (waiting to hear back from him) – no word from him yet.
 - Bylaws amendments – not yet
 - Putting accounting stuff together for The D&O Insurance - yet
- Confirm next month's call – October 9, 2021
 - Jenn's 50th birthday weekend!
 - Laura may have to miss.
- Facilitator leads everyone in taking a breath together and reciting the Holy Mother prayer.

Email from Breven with the Teaching Pillar update:

We have two classes going on right now : Demon Work, which is in its 6th month, and Morningstar Gods.

The Guardians class, taught by Tony, will begin in November or December. We're currently discussing with Tony about the right moment to start it.

After Demon Work, the Self Possession class should be offered. It could be interesting to take a few months off after the Demon Work class and before Self Possession, so we don't have a starting date yet. This will be discussed during the next Demon Work chat.