

Morningstar Mystery School

Board of Directors

April 2025 Meeting

Minutes

4/12/25

Present: Doneby, Ealasaid, Jenn, Laura, Sandra

Facilitator: Doneby

Called to Order at 10:05am Pacific

- Facilitator leads everyone in taking a breath together and reciting the Holy Mother prayer, inviting Lux
- Brief check in
- Approve minutes from previous meeting
 - Approved, unanimous
- Updates on action items from the previous meeting
 - Everybody
 - Look at conflict resolution doc and comment
 - Sandra: We set up Cedar, Starr, and Nancy as our conflict resolution board but they didn't actually create the policy. This could work as that policy.
 - Doneby: do we want to bring it up on screen now and go through it?
 - Laura: would like to do it after we hammer out the election timeline.
 - Sandra: has anybody not reviewed it? [silence] Can we put it in for next meeting's agenda? [general assent, E to do that]
 - Look at the mission statement doc and comment
 - Doneby: Didn't get to it. Where are we with that?
 - Laura: emailed it to the group, Sandra put in comments. Concerned that our website doesn't seem to have a clear concept of what we are. Feels important.
 - Sandra: The school signal chat seems to be working pretty well, would it be appropriate to have one for the Board as well? That way it doesn't get lost in our email inbox and we don't have to go to the forum.
 - Laura: willing to give it a shot, but struggles with reading long things in the chat. Is the idea to send stuff by email and by signal?
 - Sandra: idea is more to use it the way we use the school one. Informal, quick comms. Also for little nudges like "I made comments to the doc did anybody see them?"

- Laura: would you be up for doing that?
 - Sandra: willing to try
 - Discussion around importance/urgency around mission statement / election timeline / conflict resolution doc
- Jenn
 - Meet w/John and determine who has paid/not paid dues – not yet. Emailing today to set up a call – emailed John this morning. Once have it sorted who's active and who's paying will reach out to check with people.
 - Follow up with John re: unclear money in/out – same
- Laura
 - Talk to friend re working with kids – not yet
 - Google doc for mission statement - done
 - Update topics document and include next meeting we will dive into mission statement – can walk us through that. Shared screen.
 - Are there ways we can be more tight with checkins on progress on things so we have more time for discussion?
 - Sandra: should there be no discussion during checkins on progress?
 - Laura: sometimes we need discussion on things.
- Sandra
 - Minutes correction to Ealasaid, cc board
 - Sent correction in a comment on the PDF to E and cc'd board
 - Draft policy around age and teaching
 - Drafted policy and shared, it's in our shared folder. Basically says non-emancipated minors need parental permission,. Membership and retreat attendance are adult-only. Proposed elements be open only to people over 16.
 - Laura: sounds very reasonable. Next steps – we review it, make any changes, present to school?
 - Sandra: might also be useful to reflect on feedback from your contact who works with kids to make sure there aren't any red flags
 - Laura: also knows a person who offers religious teaching through Quaker church.
- Old Business
 - Election Timeline
 - Laura drafted one. Pulled up info from previous years.
 - Does anybody want to leave the board? No.
 - Discussion around how long people have been on the board, anybody want to take a break? No.
 - We can revisit this next year, would be good to find ways to support taking time away from the board.

- Sharing her doc. Discussion. In the bylaw revision, made changes to streamline process. This year we'd only have an election if someone wants to join.
 - We can use newsletter email list to send updates outside of newsletters, could do an ask in May to see if anybody wants to join. If not we don't have to have an election.
 - E to send email calling for pillar reports, treasurer report, registrar report. All School Meeting is 5/25/25. Ask for who will do pillar reports for each pillar.
 - If someone steps up to join the Board, surveymonkey set up by 6/1, election done by 7/1, their first meeting in August
- Social Media – we talked about writing a statement but that kind of fizzled out
 - Laura: maybe we hammer out the mission statement and get the site cleaned up, then we do a statement.
 - Jenn: holding pattern for now is fine. But not sure we can abandon those platforms since so many people are still there. Got a message about whether we are offering classes. So maybe we post something about the channel being open but not creating content for Meta.
 - Laura: we could start a doc fiddling with language on this but not hammer it fully out until later
 - E to do initial draft for statement and send it around
 - Discussion
- Mission Statement Rewrite
- New Business
- Action Items
 - Everybody
 - Look at Mission Statement - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rkuxnlySJKqfIE2BVT4hl8AuK0aAdFpx4IFZ56YNjyg/edit?usp=sharing>
 - Look at teaching children policy - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VVYO6umd8WuTQfCAKwXxNRaS-B2cK_PCQ4KbE7tIO1c/edit?tab=t.0
 - Doneby
 - Ealasaid
 - Add conflict resolution doc to June agenda
 - Add Mission Statement rewrite to June agenda
 - Add link to deep dive topics sheet in Drive to the notes (it's <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/18zrVGXf6sRY8xBXfqv3vdK8WVmrZY5uUvXkvelGQoGw/edit?usp=sharing>)
 - Make Sandra's change to minutes
 - Email re all school meeting
 - Set up draft for social media statement re: Meta presence
 - Add retreat reports to agenda going forward

- Jenn
 - Meet w/John and determine who has paid/not paid dues
 - Follow up with John re: unclear money in/out
- Laura
 - Share link to doc with group
 - Talk to friend(s) re working with kids
 - Share election timeline doc
 - Bad Cop Signal message
 - Check if we have an announcements list for classes
- Sandra
 - Set up signal chat for board
 - Email Tony to thank for his advertising us, offering support
- Confirm next month's call – 6/14/25 10am Pacific
- Facilitator leads everyone in taking a breath together, thanking Lux, and reciting the Holy Mother prayer.