



**General In-Person Meeting
November 3, 2022
Minutes (Proposed)**

Welcome: Jen Banowetz, Co-President

Called to order 7:01 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: September 8, 2022, minutes approved.

Officer Reports:

President Report - Melanie Bottom/Jen Banowetz, Co-Presidents

Melanie reported. Fall is a heavy lift and nine of our committees are now complete. We still have about four or five committees that are ongoing throughout the year including beautification, website, and many others.

Vice President of Communication's Report - Maureen McBeth

Newsletter continues to be sent out. Please send any content to be included.

Vice President of Ways & Means' Report - Maureen Slaven

To close out sponsorship discussion from last general meeting, at this point we have about 98% of all sponsorship that we have commitment on has come in. We brought over \$15,000.00 gross. There were some expenses which is why the figure in the Treasurer's report is a little under that. We are now in the process of going through existing grant requests for the current fiscal year. We have three different grant requests that we are currently considering and working with Scott to help identify priorities for the school. Once those are ready to be reported on we will bring those to the table here. Just a reminder that what we used to call allocations are now called grants.

Secretary Report - Rosie Buchalski

We received a thank you letter from the CUSD200 Board of Education, thanking PAWS for the donations made benefiting the students and staff of Wheaton Warrenville South. At the end of each school year, PAWS has to gift everything to the district and last year that was a \$42,000.00 gift.

Treasurer Report - Chris Pinne

For sports passes although we have collected the \$9,581.93, about 90% of that goes back to the district. We don't pay that amount until the end of the year because even though most of the passes are sold in the fall, they are also purchased in the winter and

spring. It looks like we will be right on the \$1,000.00 we usually get to keep. Fall concessions are almost wrapped up. There are a few missing expenses from the report as there were some checks that were written this week; so we are a little lower than we expected. We knew there would be less than last year because we only had three games this year. The first two games actually brought in significantly more than we had at any game last year but the third game was cold and rainy. Some of the items Tim was able to return and that is included in these numbers and we have some drinks that we think we can sell at cost and get some of our money back or to sell at Spring concessions. For reserved parking, this includes buying the parking pass for the football games in advance and also the committee chair that sells spots for that day. We did come in more than we thought. Also what is not included in this number is that our committee chair is going to be able to get some matching dollars from his company for his hours. Tiger Wear goes up and down a bit during the year. Last year was an unusual year where we ended up negative. Usually we make a small amount and this is negative because we just bought inventory for the Christmas holiday sales and just did a replenishment. On PAWS grants, we did already issue a check for the weight room for the school and now we are working on the money that is for the second half of the year and we are changing our timing of our PAWS grants going forward. Starting in the Spring we will agree to the grants that will be paid for next year and it will just be a once a year thing instead of twice a year.

Principal's Report

Scott reported that new this year, and this will be in the newsletter, that final exams will be the last week on December 20, 21, and 22. The big difference is that a lot of times that last week is traditionally spent like a celebration and elevation and we are going to have to figure out the right balance to still give everybody in the school community the fun aspects that come with their season. There are five weeks left until final exams and this will be in the newsletter, but now is a great time to sit down with your children and talk about how classes are going, look at them in ParentVue/StudentVue together and get a good idea. If you see missing assessments that is something they should make up so they finish the semester with no missing assessments. Every department has the ability to give assessments that kids miss. Axis classes have been really wonderful. They are led by juniors and seniors and they are really seizing the reins and adjusting the lessons. We will hear more about those classes in the next couple weeks about test prep for final exams, self-advocacy, and social emotional mental health. There are five advisories of students, comprised of 150 kids that meet and we talk about a lot of topics. These are students that were nominated by teachers or counselors. We have met once and getting ready to meet again. Twice a year we host a breakfast of champions. Each department nominates students to be a breakfast of champion for something they've done, could be something they've done in class to support another student, could be a variety of things. There are about 13 students and parents and whomever nominated them will speak. From a co-curricular standpoint chess is off to a great start. We have a new sponsor, Mr. Hickman. Band had great success this year, not only performance wise but the program has grown, marching band has grown and so has concert band. We just wrapped up our fall concerts. We started with band, and then orchestra and choir wrapped up this week. Our boys cross county team qualified for state as a team

and their coach, Mr. Kunz, is going to be inducted into the Hall of Fame in January. We also had two of the girls cross country team, two sophomores, also qualified. Swimming/diving sectionals is this weekend and state is the following week and anticipate having a couple kids qualify for the state tournament. The golf team played in the state tournament; our kids went into it really solid and had a lot of tough holes. Soccer won regionals and made sectionals and that was a huge accomplishment. Volleyball made it to regionals.

New Business

- Graphic Artist. Jen reported that we are in search of a graphic artist for our activity program. Each season we have an activity program. The Fall one for example went out to 620 families, coaches, sponsors and also available at the ticket areas. They have team rosters and pictures. If you have any ideas, if you are interested or know of anyone interested, please let us know. Scott mentioned there are definitely students that might be interested, kids on the newspaper who do graphic design and graphic design is a big part of what goes into the yearbook. Jen asked that Scott put PAWS in touch with those students. Turn around times are tight with maybe two to three weeks.
- TigerFest. Jen reported that Mike Healy came to PAWS about wanting to do a kickoff to the school year and fall season, dubbed "TigerFest". When the football team does their first scrimmage game, this would invite all the other fall sports teams to come and celebrate and be honored. Kind of like a carnival-like, pep rally atmosphere with all families welcome. It would be the first Friday after school starts. We are looking for a chair and committee. The PAWS board has started a list of some ideas so it wouldn't be completely starting from scratch. If you know anyone interested. There will be a sign-up link in the newsletter and please spread the word that this is a brand new event and a really good way to honor our students.
- Indoor concessions. Jen reported that Mike Healy brought to PAWS that other schools their parent organizations handle the indoor concessions and at our school the athletic department is doing it and he would like to transition it. Scott commented that it would not be run by PAWS that the sports team will still have to staff it. Chris confirmed that PAWS would have to do the money and the ordering which is a commitment of about several days a week. Scott also commented that for context some of this is due to the staffing vacancies within the athletic department.

Committee Reports

- PTA Council Delegate - Alayne Fahrman
Scholarship program has started. We are about 90% funded. This is the Wheaton Warrenville PTA Scholarship that is offered to both North and South through the guidance departments. That process has started and will be due February 16 and then they handed it over to the delegate to review the applications. In our next meeting we will be discussing the guidelines and the explanation and roles of those chairs because there actually is no set guidelines

right now so we want to be as transparent as possible for those people reviewing all of the scholarships. Also exploring getting the process to be digital because right now it's paper. Our next meeting is November 16 in-person and in Zoom. We are also offering anyone that comes in person, we've been holding small raffles. Tentatively the breakfast for all the winners is set for April 26 and the scholarship value is \$500. Melanie added that PAWS also has its own scholarship and this year we have increased those to \$800 for the 10 that we are giving out. There is a common basic application with all the scholarships like student excellence, PAWS, PTA Council, and several other local ones that the kids get considered. Alayne mentioned there is a company called Kaleidoscope that is a scholarship platform that Student Excellence Foundation uses but it does cost \$1,000 to have the scholarship uploaded.

- Directory - Jen Banowetz on behalf of Chris Preede
Alli was not in attendance and a report was not provided. Jen reported that the directory is up and running. Melanie reported that we are going to try to add something specific to the directory that those are for personal use only and not for business. We just want to make sure everyone knows that those are for personal use and that even though everyone is in the directory you have to be a PAWS member to get access to the directory. Any issues with access can be sent to Chris Preede at directory@tigerpaws.org.
- Football Parking - Mike Harbert
Mike was not in attendance and a report was not provided. Melanie reported that we did have new signs out this year and we did have some changes to the price for the day of purchasers and we increased the at the gate price from \$10 to \$20. The season pass remained at \$50 even though we only had 3 home games.
- Football Seating - Andrea Barrett, Cindy Donovan, Sue Sheehan
The committee chairs were not in attendance and a report was not provided. Jen reported that we have a special section that we provide premier seating. In addition to the ticket or pass to get in, you pay \$10 to hold your seat and we have more than a hundred people purchase the premier seating. Melanie reported that we changed our process this year. In the past, you had to come to the auditorium and PAWS would verify your membership and sports pass and you would pick your seat but we had a difficult time getting people in the building. We looked at online apps to try have people pick their seats but we couldn't anything that would justify that cost-wise. So this year we asked people how many tickets they wanted and where they wanted to sit and the chairs worked with those purchasers to coordinate their seating. We sold a lot more and it was a lot easier.

- **Sport Passes—Judi O’Connell**
 Judi was not in attendance but a report was provided. For the 2022-23 sports passes, as of November 3 we sold to 233 total households, 420 adult passes which is down from 439 last year. 182 kids passes which is up from 171 last year. Approximately 98% passes were bought before the first football game on 9/16. Total cost for this year’s sports passes is \$244.87. 1,000 passes printed plus purchasing return address stickers for the next two years \$94.39, 12 books of stamps was \$144, and envelopes were \$6.48. Changes for next year. Looking at the changing the graphic look on the back side of the passes. This years was too much like last year. Also, maybe market more to junior high families or the Wheaton community to see the savings for a family to join PAWS and buy a family Sports Pass.
- **Landscaping/Beautification—Katie Potts, Janet Kurinsky**
 We had five bricks installed on the pathway. We had volunteers help us change out the planters for the Fall. We will be doing some cleanup before Thanksgiving and then over Thanksgiving break will swap out the front for holiday. Still trying to figure out what our responsibilities are in terms of the courtyard. The courtyard that is completely internal is not the responsibility of PAWS. Jen mentioned that the bricks go in our tradition trail which is up front of the school that recognizes teachers that are retiring and this year we also had a brick for Holden, and we will be notifying his family about that too. There is a local Wheaton family, Strong Landscaping, that offers their time to install the bricks. A PAWS thank you will be sent to them.
- **Membership—Sarah Johnson**
 Membership is going great. The majority of the membership drive is completed. We will see a little uptick probably right around the middle of this month when winter sports start kicking off. We currently have 386 membership households about 40% of those are member only, 60% are with sports passes. Membership has increased 9% from last year. With the football season over the sports pass sales were very near to last year’s totals. We have had no new patron donors so we are still at 34 family donors for this year. Five additional parking passes were sold online. The approximate membership total as of November 1 at about \$22,000, exceeding our membership goal. Continue to send volunteer lists, one to the post prom committee and continue to keep the directory chair updated on new memberships. Volunteer lists will be sent to the winter and spring committees before they become active and continue to be in touch with Judy about distributing sports passes.

- **Outdoor Concessions—Tim Hertz, Jannelle Oehrlein**
Jannelle reported on concession volunteers. We running them on sign-up genius about 72% filled; however, that is not accounting for the key club members that show up or our grill masters. It's a well-oiled machine and I would encourage anybody if you haven't been out it's such a fun Friday night. We also started using social media to get our volunteers and we have now started reaching out to Hubble and Edison to get our future Tigers. We did get two junior high families to volunteer. Melanie reported from Tim this year we had a new ice machine; previously we had an outside ice freezer from a vendor and the vendor decided they wanted it back. The new machine makes the ice so no longer are we having to receive ice and put it in the freezer. We also added a drink only express area just outside the side door and is cash only and just for drinks for some line management. We also added some new menu boards with digital TV menu boards inside the concession hut that use QR codes so people in line can use the QR code and see the menu. Also new from last year is the card payment and that continues to be a great addition. We also added Apple pay and tap-to-pay. We added some new food items - nachos with cheese, pretzels with cheese. We have two full coolers of 20 oz. bottles of Pepsi products and Gatorade. They can't keep out there because of the freeze. Wondering if indoor concessions would be interested in them although they currently sell cans. Scott mentioned to reach out to Mike Healy to see if they might be interested in buying them. Chris mentioned Hubble might be interested in the Gatorade but they do not sell soda. Scot also mentioned that Hubble is hosting the Special Olympic basketball at the end of November. Katie Fils mentioned Edison is also hosting a chess tournament at South and doing concessions and trying to do that as a fundraiser. Some clubs are interested in running the concessions to earn money for their clubs and maybe would be interested in it as well.
- **Tiger Merchandise—Dawnelle Muff, Catherine Glover, Molly Korb**
Rosie reported spirit wear has brought in some new merchandise for the holiday season. There are five sales remaining before the end of the year. The online store is open. The link is currently in the TigerPaws email and will be up on the TigerPaws website soon. Orders will be packed on Thursday and available for pick-up during the lunch sale or available for local delivery for a small fee, with delivery on Friday.
- **Seasonal Activity Programs (Fall)—Kelly Styrkowicz**
Rosie reported that the pictures for winter sports will be on November 16 and the program is expected to be available two weeks after that.

- PAWS Sponsorships—Suzie Weber and Sean McCumber
Maureen reported on sponsorships as part of the Ways & Means report.
- Media Relations—Whitney Fleming
Rosie reported that the social accounts are growing. Sue reported on the website. We put stuff up for the volunteering and for senior signs and various things. If there is something you'd like to get out there just let her know.

Announcements

Next PAWS meeting will be February 9 in this room.

Adjournment of Meeting: 8:14 pm