Minutes – Community Council Meeting 9/11/23

Members present: Toni, Lalita, Dylan, Howard, Lynda, Sarah Lilly, Ben, Fanahi, Kirsten, Kathi, Mollie, Sarah,

Kirsten called the meeting to order and attendees did introductions.

Public Comment: Ben Dennis raised the issue of the dragon as the mascot for our school. It was voted on pre-pandemic by the students. Is it still our mascot? If not, what kind of message does it send to the students that their vote can be overridden? He also raised issues about CMCS student store/spirit gear designs.

Toni went over Meeting Norms and we added to respect each other’s time. We reviewed the role of Council. Copies of the bylaws were distributed and members were asked to go over them between now and the next meeting so we can discuss.

Toni went over the officers and their roles. We reviewed Roberts Rules.

Ben nominated Kirsten for Chairperson. There were no other nominations. She was elected unanimously. Dylan was nominated by Fanahi for Parliamentarian, seconded by Kirsten. Ben nominated Fanahi for Vice chair.

The group was asked if anyone would self-nominate for Secretary. The minutes are taken at the meeting, then summarized for distribution by grade level reps.

There were no nominations. We will delay filling the Secretary position until next month’s meeting when hopefully everyone is present.

Saturday, 10/21 is the first Beautification Day and Town Hall Meeting. 8:00 – approximately 1:00. It’s starting early to beat the heat. Sandwiches and water will be provided.

CFF rep, Lynda brought up the issue of shade. The parent group would like there to be more shade up on the upper yard. Getting a shade structure for a LAUSD school is not practical – it’s way too expensive. Howard suggested an alternative to investigate, which is to provide shade between the bungalows. He’s already spoken to an architect. Ben suggested tabling it until next meeting when they can do some more research and report back.

Howard also will explore alternatives to storing lunches in the sun, such as insulated coolers. Fanahi asked if we still have the blue and red insulated coolers from Breakfast in the Classroom. If so, we may have a good solution already on site. Insulation may be adequate, but we can discuss buying ice packs if necessary.

Toni reported we are on a list to get the coated covering on the blacktop. Howard questioned its effectiveness. Can we put another covering?

Another issue raised by CFF is painting of the school. We are on a list, but won’t get painted until 2030 on the current district schedule.

Action item: For building and safety committee is to research next steps for painting, shade and lunch storage.

Lynda addressed the mascot situation and reminded us that we discussed it at Council where it was decided to take it back to CFF. She clarified that CFF is NOT trying to get rid of the dragon as the mascot.

CFF decided that there would be no printed t-shirts or gear without the approval of the board. Perhaps that contributed to the confusion that there was an attempt by adults to get rid of the dragon mascot. That is not the case.

The store has been closed over the summer, will soon reopen, and start working on new designs.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45.