

Friends of Fireweed Minutes

Date: **Thursday March 27, 2025**

Time: 3:15pm-4:45pm

Location: Mo's Classroom at Little Fireweed

FoFA's Purpose: To support the educational purposes of Fireweed Academy

fireweedpto@gmail.com

Present: Mo, Allyson L., Tessa, Kyle, Travis, Allison G., Ash-Lee, Greta, Lisa

FoFA's Mission:

- Community building with Fireweed Academy's students, teachers, families, and the broader Homer community.
- Fundraising for Fireweed Academy
- Volunteer Coordination
- Staff Partnership and Appreciation
- FUN!

All individual time commitments and talents are greatly valued and needed.

Upcoming Fireweed Academy & FoFA Sponsored Events

- HoWL Dirtbag Fundraiser 4/21-4/26
- Peony Fundraiser: April
- Sea of Strings Concert April 10
- LFW Beautification Day April 26, 27 with follow up, as needed May 3, 4
- FWA 6th Grade Trip: April 30-May 2
- May Day Celebration: May 10, 2025, seasonal community celebration
- Graduation/Step Up: BFWpromotion and 6th grade graduation- possibly at Porcupine Theatre: May 16 12:30. Then following Monday, 5/19, LFW promotion- maybe 1pm
- End of the Year BBQ: Thursday, May 20th

Updates

- Kyle: school updates, district/budget info. 3/26 Kyle was in Soldotna for district admin. Meetings. No concrete numbers or info. Tangible action item: reach out to Borough Assembly and ask them to "fund to the cap." If you send one email to assemblyclerk@kpb.us every assembly member will get your message! It can be a one liner, quick.
School will have Title 1 Funds next year. If pupil:teacher ratios change in the district, it will not impact ratio at FW since we have set class size in charter. COULD impact FW if tenured teachers are cut from other district schools, they could displace FW non-tenured teachers.
Goal of district is to have \$4 million surplus to refill the hail mary account.
IDEA: postcard campaign for borough, FW logo one side, have them available at LFW pick up for parents to fill out if they want.
- Mo: Does Bunnell have money for Artist in the Schools or will LFW need \$ from FoFA: Bunnell has \$ and will cover artist and match supply budget.

- Greta: Shirts and Bags (people at meeting looked over the shirt options: Adult shirts: purple frost, ½ white ½ clear ink, red frost red frost same ink choices. Kids: red frost and blue frost). People liked the large green totes. Kyle and Allison suggest VistaPrint may have more affordable bag options, people like the shirts we've been getting and will stay with Ink to Press for shirts.
- Anyone: One Campus- committed group gathering steam. No details reported due to time constraints.

Ash-Lee: Financials

710 Accounts AS OF 2/27/25:

- Field Trips: **2/27/25** \$1,323.68 now 7/27/25: \$840.51 (paid for a couple of busses since the last meeting)
- Art: **2/27/25** \$10,844; **3/27/25** \$11,719.14
- General Fund: **2/27/25** \$5,926 . **3/27/25** \$5,926.93
- Grade 6 Special Projects: \$1,072 (will be getting \$5,000 grant from PWSRCAC for the field trip). 3/27/25 \$1,272
- PTO: \$0 on 2/27 and 3/27

FoFA's Global Credit Union Balance on 2/27/25: \$12,233 3/27/25: \$12,135.20

Discussion Topics

1. Peony Fundraiser:

- 2024 total sales: \$1,713, minus the cost of supplies (-\$1,043.50), total of \$669.50 for FWA
- Allison from the peony co-op: FW has done 2 fundraisers, FW gets items at wholesale and FW keeps the profit.
- [Google Form](#) for the order
- Tessa made some fliers- we can add QR codes/work w Leah from the peony co-op to get the google order form linked up w QR code so people can pay directly to FoFA when the order is placed.

2. HoWL DirtBag Clean Up April 21-26, all around town and the beaches

- 6th trip fundraiser→ refill the account to carry funds to next year's class.
- Molly from HoWL connected to the meeting by speaker phone
- Allison G is willing to make a "Team FW" of 6th graders and - ask businesses: 2 Sisters, Homer's Jeans, Allison will get kids out a few days next week.
- Kids age 8+ can do clean up with a HoWL chaperone, if <8, kids need a family member to go with them on the clean ups
- 3:30-5:30 after school, snacks provided by HoWL, WHE kids could walk to Bishop's meet up after school, get a snack, then participate in the clean up
- [HoWL Pledge sheets](#) can we add a Fireweed Logo on the ones our students use to collect pledges?
 - When/how is \$ collected: one way: if you fill out the form for pledges (can say the group has a set goal # bags-maybe 1.5-2 bags/day =40-50 bag goal for the school) participate in the event, after clean up week kids return to pledgers and tell how much was collected.
 - Participation waivers needed for each student - can do at the event or electronic waiver option (Molly will send out to FW)

- Safety talk given daily before clean up: Gloves and picker uppers are provided, no collection of sharps, no trash collection in the roadways
 - Can we make a QR code for 6th grade \$ to FoFA
 - Add FoFA logo on the top of the page -can add a blurb about FW adventure

3. Beautification Day, Spring Planning: April 26, 27 with follow up, as needed May 3, 4 LFW

- Time: 10am-3pm- give options both Saturday and Sunday, outdoor work can be done any time, building will be open for indoor work 10a-3pm. (people to open and close the school)
- Garden box rebuild, weeding, bed prep. Rebuild one of the garden beds. Oceanfarm offered potato starts; will plant carrots and peas. Travis taking on the garden project.
- Make the garden beds a board higher?
- Greta will donate soil testing- Homer NRCS office \$35. Need the soil to be thawed.
- Review the list and make a Sign Up: projects with specific time frame -all tasks, building task list
Travis will look over the need list and figure out what supplies/tools we need. Then tell the Sign Up-generating person the format of the requests/slots.

4. May Day Planning: May 10th 1pm-4pm, LFW.

- Separate planning documents to be handed out at meeting
 - [2025 Planning Grid](#)
- [Sign Up Genius](#) print out of slots
- Spending:
 - E-Z Up tent (Greta can pick up in ANC in April, unless one comes up used before then)
 - Proposed Spending:
 - Discs for cake walk
 - Sound system→ FWA bought a battery operated sound system!
 - Spent \$98.76 on raffia, other crown stuff, and one face paint kit

5. Staff Appreciation: Catered Meal

- Latitude
- April 11 early release (Also Kindergarten Round up 1:30pm at LFW)
- Jonathan will get orders and deliver -LFW 1pm, BFW 1:30

6. OPUS

- Sea of Strings April 10th, [Sign Up Genius](#) for help w set up/snacks/clean up is complete and will be sent out in OPUS communications - not just FWA