



# Hill View Montessori

## Minutes

### Development Committee Meeting

---

#### **Date and Time**

Tuesday November 12, 2024 at 6:30 PM

#### **Location**

Remote

---

#### **Committee Members Present**

A. Kwiatkowski (remote), L. Plourde (remote), P. Arnold (remote), S. Brush (remote)

#### **Committee Members Absent**

R. Turner

---

### **I. Opening Items**

#### **A. Record Attendance**

#### **B. Call the Meeting to Order**

S. Brush called a meeting of the Development Committee of Hill View Montessori to order on Tuesday Nov 12, 2024 at 6:30 PM.

#### **C. Approve Previous Meeting's Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes from.

The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

### **II. Updates**

## A. General Updates

### I: General Update

- Tai was not at the meeting, but did send the following notes in advance (highlighted in yellow):

#### **Alumni Event Planning:**

Participants: Tai Polanco, Corinthia Steele (staff member and HVM alum), McKenna Jennings (Capital Campaign Specialist at YMCA of the North Shore and HVM alum)

- **Alumni Networking Social:** Casual evening mixer at a trendy bar, rooftop venue, or lounge.
- **Event Purpose:** Build a sense of community, create supportive alumni network, career and network connections
- **Details:**
  - Offer appetizers in ticket pricing
  - Encourage mingling with icebreakers and/or networking games
    - Collect small gift cards as prizes
  - Discuss collaboration opportunities
- **Date:** Originally planned for a December date before the school break. However, given the holidays & busy undergrad/graduate schedules, mid-January is a better option.
- **Time:** Evening
- **Location:**
  - Tai, Corinthia & McKenna all agree that [Wicked Axe](#), in Haverhill will be a perfect venue as it is centrally located, has a variety of activities, good food and ample space.
- Send invites early December
- **Costs (in negotiation stage)**
  - \$900.00 – food
  - \$250.00 – lounge reservation
  - \$1,050.00 - \$1,440.00 (axe throwing – *negotiating*)
  - Gratuity is included
  - Zero taxes
    - Determine cost per attendee
    - Determine fundraising for balance

#### **Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce (MVCC)**

calendar: <https://web.merrimackvalleychamber.com/events>

- Tai and Phil will be attending the MVCC Holiday Party on Thursday, December 5, 2024, 6-10p, \$55.00: [More Information](#)
- [Holiday Networking Mixer](#), Tuesday, December 17, 2024, 5-7:00p, \$10.00 (Tai scheduled to attend)

### **Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce (GHCC)**

calendar: <https://haverhillma.chambermaster.com/events>

- Haverhill YMCA Educator of the Year celebration, Wednesday, November 13, 2024, 5-8p at Renaissance Golf Club, \$55.00:
  - [More Information](#) – Online tickets are sold out. Tickets may be purchased at the door at the same price of \$55.00. They will have a QR code that links to the event landing page to purchase a ticket at the door. The website accepts all major credit and debit cards, including Visa, Discover, Mastercard, American Express, along with Apple Pay. They will also be accepting cash.
  - Becca Paul has been nominated.

### **HVM's 20th Year Anniversary:**

- **Tai proposes that we invite/involve:**
  - **Mayor**
  - **City & State Representatives**
  - **City Councilors**
  - **Alumni**
  - **Current Families**
  - **Founders**
  - **Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce**
  - **Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce**

### **Tai's Development Efforts:**

- Grant Applications (If you come across any grant opportunities and/or resources, please send them my way, and I'll review and apply!).
  - Ongoing efforts to identify, apply for, and secure additional funding opportunities. For example:
    - Invited to apply for the Cummings Grant (currently in progress)
    - NMEF Grant (awaiting response)
    - Highland Street Grant (denied)
- Attend Networking Events at least once a month
  - The goal is to establish strong connections with representatives from local businesses to:
    - Build relationships with potential donors and sponsors
    - Strengthen school-community ties

- Identify collaboration opportunities
- Gain insight into community trends and needs
- Create fundraising opportunities
- Community Service
  - On 10/31/24, Tai began volunteering at Somebody Cares New England
    - This effort aligns with the goals of attending networking events
    - Nomsa Ncube, the Food Pantry Director & Community Liaison, is a key community leader and is excited to collaborate with HVM, bringing many valuable connections
- Meet with State Representative, Andy Vargas (December 13, 2024). The goal is to:
  - Advocate for funding and resources
  - Build community partnerships
  - Access grants and special initiatives

## B. New/Other Business

- Anniversary Event Update
  - Waiting on Haverhill to confirm availability of date and next steps
  - Date: May 17th first choice
  - Timing - mid afternoon was discussed
  - Will email group as soon as date is confirmed
  
- Any interest on behalf of Founders -
  - Ryan will reach out once we have a more concrete plan of when the event is and how we plan to recognize founders
  - Andrea pointed out the sooner we can reach out to Founders the better. Sarah will email confirmation on date as soon as possible so we can plan.
  - Janet will be a good advocate to help lead other Founders if we can have her attend.
    - Preliminary ideas for recognition discussed last month
      - Dale Rogers sculpture with plaque
      - Tree planting
      - Art gift from students
      - Student perform a song
    - Discussed Dale Rogers contribution to Rock and Roll Bingo (2 statues - usually \$100 auction amount) and whether a big ask would be worth it to give up those items

- Still open to discussion, would like to discuss with Ryan and Tai present
- Still planning for bring your own picnic, HVM to provide treat (popsicles, ice cream, etc)
  - Rosemary Smith - Alumni - owner of Green Goddess Facepaint
    - Check availability
    - Cost involved?
  - Do we want to involved lawn games/entertainment or is playground enough?
- Other - Do we want to invite mayor, state reps, city councilors?
  - Tai provided a great list of invitees, also discussed adding:
    - Mass Charter School Association
    - Pentucket Bank
      - Jean McMann (formerly of Pentucket Bank)
    - Cedars (probably won't come, but an invite might be a neighborly gesture)
    - Former Board Members - ACTION ITEM for Andrea
- Rock and Roll Bingo
  - Planning meeting Thursday 11/14
  - Location for Event: Renaissance Country Club
  - Continued increase in cost may result in increase in ticket prices

### III. Closing Items

#### A. Next Meeting: December 10, 2024 at 6:30 via Zoom

#### B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
S. Brush

---

<https://app2.boardontrack.com/org/GqCfpR/attachment/download/349689>