

Vistas for Children, Inc.
Minutes for General Membership Meeting
April 28th, 2021 6:00PM
Via Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5292568118>

Presidents Report

1. Welcome and Thank you(s)

Josephine Balzano

Josie started the meeting at 6:01 pm by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending the meeting. She is excited about the in-person fun wine night meeting for the new Provisionals and Perspective members that will be held tomorrow. Last year there were 18 Provisionals and hoping next year we knock it out of the park again.

Philanthropy VP

1. Guest Speaker – Pediatric Therapy Network, Gina Gillum Gail Marcone, Catarina Jang

Gail introduced Gina Gillum, Institutional Giving Manager who has been with Pediatric Therapy Network (PTN) almost 4 years.

Gina thanked Vistas for all the support over the years. PTN is important to Gina as she has a cousin with autism who she lived with and grew up together. She wished her family had access to a PTN group while growing up.

Video – PTN is a non-profit and has been around for 25 years with locations in Torrance & Long Beach. They had to adapt last year and the pictures show people wearing masks. Some of the programs they offer are as follows:

Leaps & Bound

Early Head Start

Early Start Denver Model

Social Skills Programing

Individual Therapy

Family Center Clinic Programs for Parents

Camp Escapades is the program supported by Vistas. It is a summer camp for kids with special needs and recently started including siblings. Last year there was no in-person camp, therefore they developed a camp at home program. They created a weeks' worth of video and activities for families. They are currently at about 40% - 50% in person services with the majority still being done online. They are hoping to have an in-person camp this year, but if it's not possible they will continue with the at-home version.

Gina introduced Catherine a former parent & Palmer, former camper. Catherine was excited to share her experience with the program.

Palmer grew up with PTN. They offer year around support while he was in school. Then when the month of June came around, they did not know what to do. PTN offers the summer camp which is two weeks. The kids look forward to going back every year. Palmer met his best friend at camp. One of the greatest things at PTN is the ability to feel normal. They feel like they fit in. Public and private schools do not understand. Camp helps them relate to people and share a bond. Every year Palmer and his brother start planning in December for their June Trip. At camp they have the big buddy system where they help the new kids. Palmer was bummed last year that there was no camp and that he was not able to see his friends. Palmer looks forward to working as a big buddy at camp. It gives him the opportunity of growing and learning about his abilities and challenges.

Palmer was accepted to UC Berkley and other colleges. However due to the pandemic and health issues he was not able to attend. Instead he accepted the John Greenleaf Scholarship from Whittier College and will be attending school there. He wants to be able to help people who are neuro-diverse. Palmer gave a big thank you to PTN for all their help because without their help he doesn't think he would have been able to get into college.

PTN was founded by four directors. Terri Nishimura was the CEO and has retired. They are looking to partner with United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles. Lori Anderson will be the CEO of the entire program. By the end of the year they will be under United Cerebral Palsy, but they plan on keeping all the PTN. Officially they will be taking over effective July 1st. PTN will keep Vistas posted as things change.

2. Grant Survey! March 1st

The results to the survey were received. There was more participation this year. A big thank you to Amber Krogsrud and Antonia Lavender for putting it together.

3. Philanthropy Committee

24 grant applications received this year. The Grant Committee will be meeting on May 7th. The amounts of the grants will be decided on May 7th. The data will be presented to the Board the following week. Then it will be presented to the Membership for final approval. After that there will be an announcement to the organizations letting them know they will be receiving a grant. This year the presentation of the grants will be done on zoom again and it will be scheduled for the month of June.

A big THANK YOU to Gail and Catarina for all their hard work.

Nominating Committee

1. Motion to approve 2021-2022 Board

Dawn Anfuso, Priscilla Hanudel, Gail Marcone, Teri Carpenter, Roxane Bakerjian

The email sent regarding the meeting had an attachment with the slate of the nominating committee that will be presented to the General Membership for voting. Following is the 2020-2021 Slate for Board of Directors:

Title	2020-221 Nominees	2020-2021	2020-2021
President	Josephine Balzano		
President Elect			
Past President	Teri Carpenter-Nelson		
Philanthropy VP	Susan Ramirez		
Membership VP	Kim Bright		
1 st VP Fundraiser	Rene Mizaguchi	Nadia Elgraby	Teri Carpenter-Nelson
2 nd VP Fundraiser	Megan Dufresne		
Secretary	Claudia Dickins		
Treasurer	Julie Christian		
Junior Vistas	Golnaz Eslami		
Sponsorship	Suzi Winkler		
Standards	Brenda Beatty		
Publiciy	Olga Arana		
Marketing	Lisa Lazar		
Hospitality			
Database Administrator	Rene Mizaguchi		
Historian	Priscilla Hanudel		
Social Director	Katrina Goldberg		
Chosen Family	Gail Marcone		
Corresponding Secretary	Irma Levine		
Website Administrator	Lisa Lazar		
Grant Writer	Anne Lampe		
Alumni	Lisa Smith		
Tennis Tournament			
Bylaws	TC Sayles		
Children's Production	Golnaz Eslami		
Social Media	Melia Ewing		

There are 3 positions still open, President Elect, Hospitality, and Tennis Tournament. There is also a need for a 2nd VP of Philanthropy and for the Spring Fashion Show. If anyone is interested or knows of somebody please let the nominating committee know. Priscilla Hanudel was added to Historian and Katrina Goldberg to Social Director.

A motion made by Roxane Bakerjian and second by Gail Marcone was made to accept the proposed Board of Directors for the 2021-2022 Vistas for Children Board of Directors.

A question was asked about the process of filling the empty positions after the nominating list has been approved. Answer: The name(s) can be added independently. The Nominating Committee would have a discussion and then present it to the Executive Board for approval. Once approved it would be presented to the General Membership. It follows the same process but can be expedited by email, no need to wait for a meeting.

Secretary Report

1. Minutes for March 24th, 2021 Board Meeting

Claudia Dickins

A motion made by Claudia Dickins and seconded by Marcia August to accept the minutes was passed with the correction of the spelling of Marcia's name.

Treasurer

1. Financials, Current Balance on Hand

Dawn Anfuso

Profit Wellness Walk \$ 42,850

Shopping Event - \$2,743

Net Profit - \$110,000

Dawn, Josie, and Gail will be meeting to figure out the exact number to grant. Last year there was \$120,000 granted. Despite Covid this year there will be approx. \$110,000 to grant.

Marcia will turn in some check with donations from Mahjong.

Other Business

1. In person shopping and luncheon date at Riviera Village Success
Big kudos to Julie Christian and Lisa Lazar for the shopping day. Vistas received 20% of the sales from the Riviera Village collecting \$2,700. Julie announced how excited shop owners are about doing another shopping event in December.
2. New Member Wine Night April 29th Balzano Home outside – Kim Bright
3. Tomorrow is the wine night at Josies home from 4-6pm. There are 25-30 attending with about 10-15 new Prospective and several Provisionals from last year. Dr. Amber is bringing 4 Prospective members who are in their 30's. Alumni and Actives should attend as it will be helpful in getting new members to sign up. Appetizers or wine is welcomed.
Cindy's Jewelry will be there selling and will donate 20% to Vistas
4. In person May Luncheon with 3 vendors for shopping at PVGC in the Rose Garden
In order to attend the function. You must email and send a picture via text of your vaccine card or negative Covid Test result. Josie will hold on to the information. This is in case there is an outbreak Josie will have the information ready if necessary. Set-up starts between 9-9:30. You must be seated in order to be served. Mask should be worn while walking around, once seated they can be removed. Meeting will be from 10-11:30 and the food will be served at 11:30. The meeting will be available via zoom for those who cannot attend in person.

Member Dues should be paid by May 15th

- a. Cindy's Jewelry
- b. The Greenhouse
- c. Elizabeth Grace Florals

Meeting adjourned at 6:55