

Jackson Family Project Committee
Minutes
March 7, 2024
Recorder: Susan Larson-Fleming

Attending (Zoom): Jerry Stein, Susan Larson-Fleming, David Frank, Lynn Von Korff, Kaia Young-Burns, Amy Kaminsky, Cathy Fitch

1. Spring event: May 17 at Pratt. Kaia, Pratt 1st grade teacher is coordinating the Pratt teacher activities . As of now each teacher will pick a Jackson topic and create a piece of learning. There will be a gallery of work in the 1st floor hallway. 2nd grade is doing a mapping project. 5th grade is looking at the Harlem Renaissance. 1st grad is doing word art, using “An Earth Song” by Langston Hughes. Kaia will meet with MPS Social Studies Dept. to update them on Pratt plans. Kaia is putting together a list of resources needed. We have money left in our budget to fund. Kaia has updated her Jackson documents and will share with committee. There may be another all school auditorium/gym event depending on what has been created. The committee is in favor of designating the annual event to be held in May going forward. Cathy noted that parents are interested and would like to volunteer. Cathy will communicate specific requests for volunteers.
2. Other Jackson events: Family will visit Lakewood Cemetery to set the stone for Amy Jackson. Family may meet with the Wilkins Center at the Univ. of Minn. Jerry and Susan spoke with playwright Harrison Rivers about possible play about the Jackson story.
3. Some oral histories with Judith Clayton and Sharon Peters, daughters of Helen Jackson, were done last year. Melvin Peters, retired Professor of African American history is another potential interview. He is hoping to come to Minneapolis for the May event.
4. Neighborhood events may coincide with the visit. Susan will check with PPUMC for availability for a small low key neighborhood meet and greet with the family. The Pratt 2nd grade mapping project may also be used for a community activity.
5. Pratt playground. MPS architect for project has created signage about the Jacksons to be included on the new playground. He has modified the 4-mula design, with their input. Capacity to link a QR code to proposed Jackson website at a later date, will be explored. 4-mula is redoing their Jackson budget to remove playground equipment, now being funded by MPS.
6. Alison Bell used Jerry’s calendar of Jackson activities to create a graphic overview. It was thought that this would be particularly helpful long term but not as workable short term.
7. Fundraising: GNF due March 30. PPA can approve draft at the March 25 meeting. Committee budget will be reconfigured. Jerry will circulate draft to committee.
8. Jerry, Cathy and Susan will meet about working with a graduate student to create/design the Jackson archive and also about signage and plaques.
9. Misc.: Susan will contact Pam Harris about outside flowers for Pratt events.
10. Next meeting: April 4, 2024.