

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 20, 2014

IN ATTENDANCE: Michelle Alm, Brenda Kuryk, Charlene Gosling, Jodi Gingras, Sherry Crowe-Swords, Christine Nunn, Jeff Kearns, Peggy Graham, Chael Wyper, Amanda-Jo Couture, Linda Hopp, Tammy Troute-Wood, Katherine Winkler, Renotta Place, Julie Meier, Bev LaPeare

Chairperson: Michelle Alm

Secretary: Brenda Kuryk

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m..

The minutes from the November 25, 2013 meeting were circulated and read. Michelle Alm made a motion to adopt the minutes as read with one correction: "Casino account balance was \$42,150.67 instead of \$40,150.67". Sherry Crowe-Swords seconded the motion. All in favour. Carried.

Treasurer's Report

Casino Balance is \$41,157.54

General Account Balance is \$11,618.00

Jeff advised that the accelerated reading program was more than we had anticipated. The total cost was \$2,600.00. School Council will pay \$1900.00 and the school will pay the remaining \$700.00 balance. The increase in cost was due to the renewal/update of "STAR" reader and the updated program will result in more access for the school.

Funding Requests

Mrs. Graham made a request for bussing costs for the grade 6 outdoor school. A maximum of \$500.00 was previously allocated to the grade 6 class and funds would come from the balance remaining from that original allocation. Michelle Alm made a motion to approve the funding request. Jeff Kearns seconded the motion. All in favour. Carried.

Trustee's Report

Bev LaPeare was in attendance and presented her report, a copy of which is attached.

Fundraising

Michelle Alm opened the discussion with the fact that fundraising always seems to be a struggle for the School Council. School Council does not currently have an annual fundraiser that parents look forward to. Michelle advised that Andrea has applied for the West Jet fundraiser again, and if approved, the raffle will be held from the end of March to April 17th, 2014. She advised that the price of tickets will remain the same at \$5.00/ticket. She further advised that, pursuant to our gaming license, we are allowed to sell as many tickets as we can, but that we are not allowed to make more than 5X the value of the prize.

Char confirmed that we have a lot of Indus School merchandise (clothing, toques, etc.) in stock.

Jeff is heading up the Coco Brooks fundraiser which we are hoping to run from February 13th to March 7th. Pickup for orders will be March 21st. Jeff is hopeful that a profit of \$5,000.00 might be earned.

We must also stress to families that participation in fundraisers is voluntary and we understand that families need to set a budget and stay within it.

Upcoming Events

Skating is taking place the last week of January. Michelle suggested that it would be nice to have the students prepare written thank you notes to the Bow Valley Ag Society for allowing the school to have access to the rink at no charge. She asked that the Classroom Reps please ensure the suggestion goes back to the teachers.

Staff Appreciation Week will be held March 24th – 28th. The two remaining baskets from Epicur can be giving to the coordinators to raffle off amongst the staff.

Tammy Troute-Wood may be able to bring in an Olympian bobsled athlete as a guest speaker. She will keep the school advised on the possible event.

Principal's Report

Chael Wyper presented the Principal's report, a copy of which is attached.

Nut Free Issues / Hot Lunch Program

Chael advised that, following our last general meeting, a committee was started to review current policies and also requested input from the Superintendent of schools. It was determined that there is a greater liability with "Nut Free" vs "Nut Aware". To be Nut Aware, the school must:

1. Be aware that nut allergies are serious and can kill.
2. Be aware of students rights.
3. Food for sharing must be prepared in nut free facilities

Tammy Troute-Wood has volunteered to assist with the education of nut issues. Lorrie Potter has volunteered to assist with scoping out nut free facilities to purchase hot lunch from. Food with packaging that reads "may contain nuts, tree nuts, ect." is not allowed in the school.

Going forward, hot lunches can be ordered from the rink (Bill Heron) and other previously used vendors as long as the products are nut free and do not have "may contain . . ." packaging.

Jodi Gingras has graciously volunteered to finish out the hot lunch program for the school year, but will officially retire at the end of June, 2014. She has offered to train the new person(s) taking over the position.

Student Council

Mrs. Graham reported that the student council is continuing to meet on a weekly basis. The council is supporting “spirit days”, they hope to hold a jersey day in January and a Valentine’s activity in February. The senior classes are hoping to hold a winter formal. The student council will be organizing a winter fun day on February 7, 2014 to kick off the Olympics. They are looking for parent volunteers to assist with the various stations that will be set up. Michelle Alm suggested that if student council was to sell any “Indus School” clothing, they should receive a cut of the profits.

Mrs. Graham also advised that the children in the grades 4, 5, and 6 classes have the opportunity to be “peer helpers”. The peer helpers go out at recess to help kids that are alone make friends. The peer helpers also report any unwanted behaviors to supervisors in order to help keep peace in the playground.

Other

For future council meetings, childcare will be available, but only on request. A request for childcare must be made prior to the meeting so we can arrange for same. It should also be noted that the childcare providers are paid.

The next meeting is March 24, 2014 at 6:30 pm.

The AGM will be held on May 12, 2014 at 6:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Chairperson

Secretary