

Elgin Street Parent Council Meeting – March 26th, 2013

Attendance: MJ Tremblay, Erik Husband, Scott McKenzie, Sacha Singh, Judith Lamarche, Connie Too, Lorrie Beaton, Barbara Johnston-Iafelice, Doris Zastro, Jim Costello, Sheila James, Catherine Pacella, Michael Bonser

Special Guests: none

Absent Members: Susan Fisher, Diana Mills, Samanch Lolabar, Heather Lindsay

1. Welcome, Introductions and Agenda Approval (Sheila James)

MOTION: To accept the agenda – Motion approved by Sacha Singh, seconded by Jim Costello; passed by Council.

2. Approval of February Minutes and review of Action Items (Sheila James)

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the last meeting – Motion approved by Jim Costello, seconded by Connie Too; passed by Council.

- Review of Action Items by Sheila James.
 - Update on volunteers; Barbara currently has enough volunteers, but will consider our offer of sending out an email to the Google Group if more volunteers are required in the future
 - Update on union reps; Sheila provided via email the representatives' emailed response.
 - Update on receipts; Catherine has submitted them to Erik.
 - Update on awards; Catherine has circulated the information.
 - Update on PRO Grants; will be discussed later in the meeting.
 - Update on receipts; Catherine has submitted them to Erik.
 - Update on Google Group; Sheila attempted to reach Samaneh today – no response as yet.

3. Principal's update (Barbara Johnston-Iafelice)

a) REN Account (with Erik Husband)

- Summary of actions in the account: started with \$5400.00, minus \$2192.20 for the landscaping = \$3207.80, plus an HST refund of \$210.28 = \$3418.08, minus \$3559.50 for soccer posts = -\$141.42 (deficit).

MOTION: To balance the REN account in the amount of \$141.42 for the soccer posts, which will be reimbursed when the HST rebate is received – Motion approved by Scott McKenzie, seconded by Erik Husband; passed by Council.

b) Wish List

- Barbara has developed a draft three-year plan for wish-list purchases, which was provide to the Council

- There was discussion regarding whether the Council should be funding 'infrastructure' items (ie. computers, keyboards, etc)

- The role of the Parent Council as an advocate to the school board is to be discussed at the next Constitution Review meeting and explored at OCASC.

ACTION ITEM: Barbara to share the school board's Tech Strategy, via email.

ACTION ITEM: Barbara to ask Dave Miller to present to Council in the early fall of 2013.

MOTION: To approve the first year of the three-year wish list plan, at a cost of \$5775.00 – Motion approved by Sacha Singh, seconded by Connie Too; passed by Council (one member abstained).

c) Other items

- Barbara thanked Sacha Singh for today's dental presentation to the students.

- Volleyball starts next week, and basketball tryouts are the week after.

- Teachers have resumed training activities, and are bringing in new ideas.

- Lorrie Beaton is helping with the Knitting Club once a week.

4. Co-chairs report- a) Near West accommodation review, b) Constitution Review

a) Near West accommodation review (Catherine Pacella)

- No update at this time - first committee meeting is scheduled for tomorrow.

b) Constitution Review (Catherine Pacella)

- No update at this time.

ACTION ITEM: Catherine and/or Sheila to schedule the next meeting of the Constitution Review committee.

5. Financial summary, overview and statements (Erik Husband)

a) Projection of expenses – wish list

b) Update of fundraising letter contributions

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- Erik reviewed this month's revenue and expenses (all financial reports had been provided via Google Groups before the meeting)

- Total available funds at this time: \$11,247.53

MOTION: To reimburse expenses for March movie night (\$110.00 to Connie Too, and \$45.01 to Sacha Singh) – Motion approved by Michael Bosner, seconded by Scott McKenzie; passed by Council (two members abstained).

MOTION: To reimburse the school \$305.50 for the remainder of the arts programming (due to audit of an arts programming provider) – Motion approved by Jim Costello, seconded by Sacha Singh; passed by Council (one member abstained).

MOTION: To accept the financial reports – Motion approved by Scott McKenzie, seconded by Michael Bosner; passed by Council.

- Erik reported that so far, the fundraising letters have brought in approx. \$1780.00.

6. Committee updates

- a) **Movie Nights/Fundraising**
- b) **Playground/Trees**
- c) **Google Group manager**
- d) **Website**
- e) **Update on PRO Grant funding**

a) Movie Nights/Fundraising (Sacha Singh)

- Movie nights are done for the year – raised around \$1500.00 in total.
- Book sale and auction; work has started, and Sacha provided a new draft form letter for the auction to the Council members via email just before the meeting.
- Student book drive is new this year; draft sign was provided to Council at the meeting.
- John Higgins will be providing assistance at the book sale, due to Sacha's anticipated absence during the time of the sale.
- Canadian Tire money collected at the movie nights was calculated at \$26.80 plus \$2.00 in cash

MOTION: To donate to the school the Canadian Tire money acquired during the movie nights (in the amount of \$26.80 plus \$2.00 in cash), and Barbara will report to the Council on how it was spent – Motion approved by Jim Costello, seconded by Scott McKenzie; passed by Council.

b) Playground/Trees (Scott McKenzie, and Sheila James for Susan Fisher)

- A draft plan of the proposed Jack Purcell Park Phase 2 Redevelopment was distributed to Council members via email before the meeting.
- Changes to the plan that were proposed by Council include movable soccer posts and line to create a second field, and the addition of lighting on the path next to the tennis court.
- On Tuesday, April 30th, 2013 at 14h00, two trees will be planted – both the Jack Purcell Recreation Centre (JPRC) and the school staff are aware of this.

c) Google Group manager (Samaneh Lolabar)

- Again deferred to next meeting, as Sheila had only attempted to reach Samaneh

today.

d) Website (Catherine Pacella)

- No updated information at this time; the website will be used to promote the book sale.

e) PRO Grant (Michael Bosner)

- Michael had reviewed the grant to see what items could be covered:
 - Books for parent library – yes
 - Babysitting at the school during Council meetings – yes
 - Photocopies – yes, but for parent resource material, not for general use
 - Council insurance – no, but could amend request for next year’s application
 - Movie night – probably not, but could try in next year’s application
- The next grant application is due May 21st, 2013.

ACTION ITEM: Have a discussion at the next meeting on potential outreach activities for parents.

ACTION ITEM: Michael will provide for the next meeting to the co-chairs a list of items that we can spend the PRO grant on.

ACTION ITEM: Erik will total up the expenditures under the PRO grant so far.

ACTION ITEM: Michael will provide a draft of this year’s application.

8. Other business

Arts programming (Lorrie Beaton)

- Lorrie is working with Andrea on the arts plan for next school year.
- Need to make parents more aware of what the Council funds in the arts at Elgin St P.S.
- Could teachers get the students to mark arts presentations in their agenda books?

Impact of Elgin Street restaurant patios on the school (Doris Zastre)

- Deferred to the next Council meeting.

9. Next meeting date: April 9th, 2013, and Meeting Adjournment (Sheila James, Catherine Pacella)

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting – Motion approved by Michael Bosner, seconded by Jim Costello; passed by Council.

LIST OF ACTION ITEMS from the March 26th, 2013 meeting

ACTION ITEM: Barbara to share the school board’s Tech Strategy, via email.

ACTION ITEM: Barbara to ask Dave Miller to present to Council in the early Fall of 2013.

ACTION ITEM: Catherine and/or Sheila to schedule the next meeting of the Constitution Review committee.

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