

# A.M. Cunningham

## Parent Council

Meeting Minutes: Wednesday May 6



In attendance: Chris Upshall Jodie Whitley, Meghan Lloyd, Lauren McLean, Joanne Gibson, Ian Stuart, Amanda Rankin, Peter Maliphant, Sylvia Jarrett, Yvette Cowe.

Regrets: Dr. Bowler

### **1. Welcome and Bouquets**

- 45 new trees planted on school grounds over recent months – they look GREAT and will serve the community well in the years to come. Thank you to the City and the Trees Please program for all of the trees!
- Book fair – thank you to Jillian Toplack-Watson and her family, and all other volunteers that helped with the bookfair.

### **2. Passing of Previous Minutes**

- **April minutes passed by Ian, seconded by Lauren.**

### **3. Treasury Report**

- busing: \$129.23 Choirfest
- snack bin: \$74.46
- Hip Hop workshop: \$542.44
- CPF membership: \$150.00 (3 year membership covering the entire school)
- Balance remaining: \$7073.19
- 20 teachers have used their \$50 allotments – Last Call for any teachers who would like to use theirs.

### **4. Families in Motion**

- Event is coming to an end. Next is an Info Fair at the family Picnic.
  - Lauren & Laura working on putting together the picnic

- Budget \$1000. money spent on Brains In Motion.
  - \$350 of the budget will be used for facility rental to cover a part of the rink rental.

## **5. PROGrant 2016**

- Theme: Mental health, anxiety, coping skills & strategies
- Grant will be written and submitted by Meghan
- Ideas: “cafes” – meetings supported by Public Health
  - outdoor activities ie gardening
  - suggestion by Lauren: gay/transgendered kids awareness day
    - could tie into anti-bullying day
  - name: “Pursuit of Happiness”
  - parent library with wellness books & media
- **Motion passed by Lauren, seconded by Yvette & Sylvia**

## **6. Year End Picnic**

- Action: Lauren to touch base with Laura
- Date: 17 June
- \$500 budget already in place. Expenses must be labelled for the picnic
- planning to offer pizzas for dinner as last year
- Splitsville already booked
  - Action: Chris to confirm
- Thomas McKechnie will be coming with his Beavers & Scouts
- Bikes, Blades & Boards – plan to be there with info on helmet safety
  - Action: Jodie to confirm
- Parks & Rec people with the rec centre will be manning a table with information
- suggestions for others: Hamilton Conservation Authority, “waterfall guy”, Josh & Josh

## **7. CPF**

- Frenchapalooza – good attendance
  - Public Library had great info & French resources
  - book sale – school received \$72 worth of books
  - French camp being offered – reasonably priced, located in west end. Highly recommended by AMC families that have previously attended.
  - annual general meeting taking place in May at AMC
    - date: 21 May, 7-9pm, in gym

- All welcome.
- Franco Fest – takes place first weekend of July at Gage Park – 2 days this year (ordinarily 1 day)

## **8. Garden/outside**

- 20 trees planted around perimeter, +1 in learning garden and another 24 trees on the playground
  - trees placed to eventually provide shade for playground & swings
  - some work still to be done to complete the installation
  - watering – logistical problem – water source is at front of school building
  - the Board has not yet indicated what it is willing to do with respect to the kindergarten play space. All we know is that the fenced in area will be increased. Not expecting the Board to provide much extra so it will fall upon us to fund-raise for any upgrades to make the space more enjoyable for the children.
  - needs: 12 more stakes to finish off the protective cages.
    - fertilizer (13-13-13) needed for the front garden.
    - long hose to help with the tree watering
    - existing “soccer field” now requires reorientation and goal posts because trees were planted where the kids have traditionally played.
  - **Motion to allocate \$600 in Council funds for needs list passed by Yvette, seconded by Meghan.**

## **9. How to utilize balance of year’s funds**

- \$1000 “float” for next year’s “Stag & Doe”-type fundraiser – for up-front expenses
  - **Motion to take \$1000 from Council funds passed by Ian, seconded by Joanne**
- Discussion regarding using council funds to offset agenda expenses
  - Action: Mr Maliphant to check into possible revisions to format of agendas
- technology purchases
  - suggestion by Ian: “Mimio” – magnetic tech that makes a whiteboard interactive

- suggestion to purchase headphones with built in microphone to allow for better “speech to text” abilities– 5 units per classroom would = approx \$2000 total
- Discussion: should technology purchases be funded by popcorn sales?
- Agreed to split headphone cost with the popcorn sales money.
- **Motion for \$1000 for headphones passed passed by Meghan and Lauren, seconded by Ian.**
- Discussion regarding the kindergarten space and the need to put money aside in order to make that space better.
- **Motion for \$2000 to be put aside for the Kindergarten play space passed by Meghan and seconded by Ian.**
- Discussion regarding sending the entire school on a school wide trip revisited. Too late in the school year to do anything at this point plus there is concern regarding the teachers strike.
- **Motion to put \$2000 aside for a fall school wide trip passed by Meghan and seconded by Ian.**

## **10. Next Year’s Fundraiser**

- Stag and Doe style event in support of the school orchestrated by Lauren
- scheduled for Friday 16 October 2015
- looking at venues with 300 person capacity
  - possibilities incl Serbian orthodox church, church at Gage & Barton across from Freshco, Narula’s
  - rates from \$800 - \$1200
- ticket sales will begin in September.

## **11. Principal’s Report**

- Job Action – will mean Mr Maliphant must run EQAO testing
  - begins Tues 26 May with pancake breakfast for gr 3’s
- Open House – moved to 13 May instead of 14<sup>th</sup> to avoid conflict with Glen Brae’s & Memorial’s Open Houses
- Students & teachers enjoyed the aboriginal dance/drum group that performed.
- Eco Initiative – book swap took place
  - 3 classes will be participating in sewer fish painting

- Mme Moon has submitted the proposal for Platinum status for AMC. Thank you to Mme. Moon and Bev Long for all of the work that went into writing the proposal.
- Hip Hop – Josh & Josh coming back for another workshop on 12 May
- Yes I Can Award went to Ian Watson – will be honoured at dinner at Michelangelo's with other award winners
- 4 AMC students traveling to Saltfleet for Special Olympics on 20 May
- Gr 5 events upcoming: trips to Glen Brae/Memorial
  - Farewell Assembly
    - 2 cakes will be supplied, in addition to customary Gr 4 Parent food contribution
- Venture Engineering will be coming to AMC for 2 days – 22 & 28 May
- Education Week theme this year is Achieving Excellence: Moving Forward in Math.
- School photos – consensus reached to use another company next year
  - which one will depend on result of information supplied by each of the two possibilities, Pegasus and Edge Photography.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 3 June, 6.30pm**