

Cootes Paradise Home and School Meeting

November 8, 2022

Present: Kara, Natalia Gonzalez, Mike Malysewich, Lisa Feinberg, Lily Huang, Aoife Gregus, Rosalee van Staaldunin, Erin Ronnigen, Heather Reid, Ashley Francis

Agenda Approval: Motion: Natalia; Second: Aoife

Introduction

- Kara explained purpose and aims of H&S
 - supporting home life
 - connection to the community
 - supporting students

Night Hike Review:

- Covered costs (pumpkins, pizza for football team, candy for clubhouse, and money to donate to RBG)
- Collected over \$2000 (final tally TBD)
- H&S will decide how to divide money (e.g. School, RBG, Mac Community Fridge)
- Challenges encountered this year: access to school, carving equipment, not enough volunteers, cost of pumpkins, accessibility of hike location
- Natalia suggests buying carving equipment for next year

Festival of Lights in December

- Kara presented idea for next H&S event
- similar to night hike, but more accessible, also pay-what-you-can
- at Churchill Clubhouse?
- Invite community groups to help
- featuring: light themed crafts, beverage/treat tables with foods from Westdale businesses, Live music such as one of the school groups (Natalia offered to help)
- Mitten tree/outdoor clothing drive (donate some to school, some to another community centre)
- will have less involvement from school anticipating possible labour issues
- Purchase candles with wax holders, inviting people to take a walk around loop
- Aoife suggests possibility of Wednesday, Dec. 21, the Solstice
- *Motion to move forward with event:* Motion: Natalia; Second: Jean

Future Event Ideas:

- Winter - family skating at Churchill or Coronation arena
- Spring - open house, spirit wear round two, Mom-to-Mom sale
- End of School - book swap, movie night (maybe June), graduation (something H&S used to coordinate in Churchill Clubhouse)

- Little Library in front of school
- Natalia suggests scientists/artists in the classroom? with H&S willing to subsidize
 - Kara will look into it
- Natalia suggests a welcome night for Kinder students outside of school

Spirit Wear

- We offered sizing samples at Open house night after school
 - school admin noted that this wasn't accessible to bussed students, so we have planned a few more times to offer sizing

School Council Update

- helping school facilitate pizza/lunch days
- Fundraising - Krispy Kreme (school initiated, and school council asked to help)
- Community connection concerns
- Nov. 16th is next school council meeting

Budget

- currently H&S has about \$23k in the bank
- budget that was approved last year included fundraising that school has taken over, so we will need to revisit budget
- Kara invites everyone to think about the implications of this bank account and how we want that to impact the school

H&S Membership:

- Executive:
 - President: Kara Jessop
 - Vice President: Natalia Gonzalez
 - Treasurer: Mike Malysewich
 - Secretary: Jean Brown
 - Voting Members: Lisa Feinberg, Ashley Francis, Aoife Gregus and Mark Gregus, Lily Huang
- Anyone else who wants to become a voting member can contact Jean
- *Motions to elect exec as presented: Motion: Natalia; Second: Aoife*

Notes For Future Meetings:

- Agenda will be sent out a week before
- Jean will communicate with school about getting in the newsletter and how to communicate with wider school community
- Members to agree on timing/days of future meetings

Action Items:

- Members must return membership information form to Jean
- H&S to file membership info to Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations
- Kara to contact City about Festival of Lights so we can set date

Motion to end meeting: Motion: Jean; Second: Natalia