

Fessenden Home and School Association Meeting Minutes – Monday, September 21, 2020

Present: Alaina Evans, Shannon Holmes Shedden, Sarah Rietkoetter, Jacquie Cobb, Stephanie Gasko, Natalia B, Breghan Wood, Sherri Johnston, Erin Ridpath, John Scime, Jeff and Amy Hinchcliffe, Mike Bell, Mike de Maria, Julie Payne, Lynn Bouvier, Andrew Hawryluk, Amy Bowles, Nicole Provost, Anna Rozenberg, Michelle Carrigan

1. Alaina and Shannon welcomed all present to the Home & School (H&S) Association and provided background on the mandate and work of H&S; introductions were made to welcome new attendees
2. Approval of the June minutes is deferred to the October meeting
3. Treasurer report
 - a. Andrew provided an update of the report (see attached)
 - b. Financial year end was August 31, 2020 and we closed out the year with a net profit of \$593.69
 - c. Most funds raised last year were spent on teacher wish list items
 - d. At the end of the year last year, the remainder of the funds received from Lunch Lady were used to support Frank Panabaker families in need with gift cards to Food Basics
 - e. The Marquis Gardens deposit for the 2020 graduation has been rolled over to 2021
 - f. Some funds were used for welcome back signage and the Raz Kids license (costs for this are split with parent council)
 - g. MOTION: To approve the September treasurer report – MICHELLE; ALAINA 2nd**
 - i. Approved (14 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions)
4. Executive positions
 - a. Due to COVID, executive positions were not voted on in the spring of 2020
 - b. Positions for the 2020/2021 year are:
 - i. President
 - ii. Vice President
 - iii. Treasurer
 - iv. Secretary
 - v. Membership Coordinator
 - vi. Parent Rep
 - vii. Grad chair (currently unfilled)
 - c. The incoming executive are willing to stay on if no other members want to take on these positions
 - d. Natalia has a child in grade 8 and could potentially take on the role of grad chair with the support of the group
 - i. Andrew tried to get the deposit back but they weren't refunding people; needed to select a date for 2021 to roll over the deposit, so the grad is currently booked for June 17, 2021
 1. Andrew received a contract

- ii. The main duties of the grad chair are to confirm number of attendees, sell tickets, deal with contracts and secure parent volunteers to help the night of grad (grade 8 parents cannot volunteer)
 - 1. Grad is not a money-making event – tickets cover the costs
 - 2. Andrew has all the previous contracts that can be used again
 - iii. Natalia will take it on the role if need be, but we will leave the position open for now
 - e. No other members volunteered for executive positions
 - f. **MOTION: To maintain the current executive for the 2020/2021 school year – JEFF; MICHELLE 2nd**
 - i. Approved (14 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions)
- 5. Membership fees
 - a. Last year H&S covered the fees for the executive – all other members paid the \$20 fee upfront, with the plan for their fee to be covered by H&S the following year if they attended at least 50% of the meetings
 - b. Anyone can attend the meetings, but to vote on motions you need to be a member
 - c. The updated list of active members needs to be sent to OFHSA before September 30th
 - i. Bregghan, Stephanie, Sherri, Amy, Erin and Lynn will all join H&S this year; will send an e-transfer to Andrew
- 6. Fundraising
 - a. Shannon received an email from Caitlin outlining that no fundraising is allowed through the school for the fall
 - i. Asked for a phone call with Caitlin to clarify whether we can do things that do not involve the school/being in the school
 - ii. In a holding pattern until we have more info
 - iii. Still hoping to be able to do something for pumpkin stroll
- 7. Request for yoga mats
 - a. Erin has been working with Mrs. Ortwein to try and encourage outdoor learning
 - i. Currently, the school is using yoga mats cut into 4 pieces as mats for the kids to sit on outdoors to stay dry and comfortable
 - ii. Looking to get more mats so that each kid has their own (otherwise the mats need to be sanitized or sit for 72 hours between uses)
 - iii. For all kids to have their own mat, 175 more mats would need to be purchased
 - 1. \$10/mat = \$1750 plus tax
 - iv. Mats will be cut to size and will be stored in individual kids' desks
 - b. Alaina asked whether it is possible to get used mats – this is not possible due to COVID protocols
 - c. Alaina will look into her connections to see if she can get a better price; doesn't need to be a HWDSB provider
 - d. Jeff asked whether they considered the interlocking foam mats
 - i. These are not possible because of their size and storage issues
 - e. Michelle asked whether we could wait until we have more quotes
 - i. It is better to vote on this today as the next meeting is not until late October and the mats are needed now while the weather is good

- f. Other potential spends were masks and lanyards for each kids, but this is not a priority as most people have already purchased theirs and the school board provides masks to those in need
 - g. Cindy asked whether purchasing water bottles would be a good option given that the water fountains cannot be used this year
 - i. The office is required to provide this for any children that do not have one
 - ii. Erin also said that there are some of the Fessenden water bottles that can be used for this purpose
 - h. – what about when kids lose their water bottles? Office has to provide that
 - i. **MOTION: To spend up to \$2000 to be used for purchasing 175 yoga mats – ALAINA; NATALIA 2nd**
 - i. Approved (13 For, 1 Against, 0 Abstentions)
8. Pumpkin stroll
- a. Cindy discussed the potential plans for an augmented Pumpkin stroll this year
 - b. ACS and the Ancaster BIA would still like to proceed with a virtual event – people would purchase pumpkins and carving sets and submit their entries via Instagram and Facebook
 - i. People can then go around and hunt for the pumpkins
 - c. Secured 250 pumpkins and carving sets
 - d. The event is presented by the village, and therefore is not a school event so hopefully can still run
 - e. Shannon will connect with Caitlin and Jenny to determine if this plan is okay
 - f. If virtual fundraising events are ok, we could also consider selling gift cards
- i. **MOTION: To adjourn meeting – JOHN; JEFF 2nd**
 - a. Approved (14 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions)