

Minutes Monday, September 29th, 2014
Meeting called to order 6:30pm

Present:

Sarah Jouri, Effie Anastasiadis, Tom Mitropoulos, Mario Liberto, Tony Sottile, Marino Tarulli, Christine Marshall, Michelle Potter, Nancy Costa, Mark Smith, Paul Casey, Baldo Minaudo, Semone Tsolakidis

Staff:

Darryl Henn, Louelle D'Souza, Gabrielle O'Reilly, Shanti Fernandes, John Stépanian

Regrets:

Krishni Selvarajah, Cheryl Tumulak

The meeting was opened by Mr. Stépanian welcoming everyone back after the last year and indicating that it was nice to see everyone back refreshed after the summer break.

The meeting was to take place in two parts – the first half was chaired by Mr. Stépanian and the second half would be chaired by the newly elected chair.

Ms. O'Reilly, G4/G5 teacher, started the meeting with a blessing and prayer.

Mrs. Anastasiadis, 2013-2014 chair, was invited to reflect on last year's activities and initiatives. She gave a brief report and indicated that the money spent on last year was published in the flyer handed out at curriculum night. This year they would be looking into equipment and items for the library's 21C room make-up. The computer lab, which is housed in the library, and the peripheral equipment would be used by staff and students from Tuesday to Friday; thus, making use of the latest equipment in technology (smart board, LCD projector, etc.) to deliver lessons in which students are fully engaged.

Mr. Liberto handed out a preliminary Treasurer's Report and indicated that as at the end of the year all expenses were paid and there was a balance of \$3974.26 in the account. Minor differences in amounts from previous years were reported and explanations/clarifications were sought as there could have been some typos and/or miscalculation.

In summary, amount paid for Scientist in School, buses, gym mats and other expenses totaled about \$8600.00 and funds collected were around \$7500.00 therefore net funds raised were about \$1000.00.

It was remarked that the cost for the student agenda books is somewhat high. It was indicated that we do get a bit of an ease from the association of local businesses (Agincourt/Scarborough) that puts its logo as advertisement in our agendas. The question was raised by Mr. Minaudo whether other business cards could also be placed on these agenda books for advertising. Mr. Stépanian will be looking into this suggestion for next year's agenda books.

Principal's Report

- ✓ Mr. Stépanian indicated that our French teacher, Mr. O'Hara, was returning to St. Henry's as of 3:30 pm September 29th. His surplus status at his former school was rescinded and therefore he was going back. We are in the process of finding a new teacher for French but will have a couple of occasional teachers for the remaining of this week with the hope of welcoming a new permanent FSL teacher starting next week.
- ✓ Workshops for parents to help children succeed will be held the last two Wednesdays in October – this grant was made possible through the effort of Mr. Minaudo who worked with the CSACs at our school and at St. Richard's. The advertisement for this will be coming out in the Catholic Education Centre director's bulletin, the CSAC web site, our school parish and in our school Newsletter; St. Richard's is also advertising it in their own community. Flyers will be distributed to all our sister schools as well.
- ✓ Mr. Stépanian indicated that at this point that it was time to proceed with the Nominations and Elections of the new committee members. We did not need too drastic of a change in our procedures and would move towards the guidelines as outlined by the ministry and board in a staggered manner so that we would not discourage attendance and active participation from our small but very involved community. The intention/objective is to remain inviting to everyone and inclusive of every parent who wishes to make a positive contribution.

Towards this end, it could be beneficial to start looking into the making of a constitution. We have no by-laws because there is no local constitution. The election would take place where we would require 7 members (number specified by the board). There should not be more than 7.

Mr. Stépanian confirmed that all members recorded on the sheet are being acclaimed to be members.

Mr. Minaudo asked if positions written are to satisfy the needs of the community and students. It was noted that we should consider whether we should have 7 people or less to have a right to vote. It was remarked that the elected person would have an expanded responsibility since we have fewer people.

Mr. Minaudo and Mrs. Potter wanted to know what the terminology meant with regards to voting members. Mr. Stépanian explained that everyone on the list would be able to cast a vote. The Elected Council members will decide who has added responsibility within a specific position.

- ✓ All present parents voted on continuing to do what we were doing before as it worked quite well – therefore, all agreed to “for all intents and purposes” and “in fact” that the past practice model as adopted and established by former CSACs in previous years was the best practice to continue to follow.
Mr. Tarulli indicated that we all had the same objectives in mind – a safe environment for the children, solid learning in place for all children and that we were all respected. Mr. Liberto agreed. Mr. Minaudo thought that we had fallen short of programs and that we needed an extra element as we should be a vibrant and growing school community.
- ✓ Mr. Minaudo was asked if he had made up his mind on what position he would like to stand for and he opted for Secretary as there was no one to run for that position. He remarked that he would like to help make changes in various fields including organization.

Nominated parents were

Mrs. E. Anastasiadis – Chair,

Mrs. S. Jouri – Vice-chair,

Mr. B. Minaudo – Secretary,

Mrs. N. Costa – Treasurer (*Mr. M. Liberto* would continue to help mentor and coach the newly-elected treasurer in order to effect a smooth transition).

Congratulations to all the newly elected members. At this point, Mrs. Anastasiadis was invited (by Mr. Stépanian) to chair the remaining of the meeting; thus, opening the first official CSAC meeting for 2014-2015.

Mrs. Anastasiadis said that the first thing on hand is the Hallowe'en Dance-a-thon since it is on the 31st of October. Would it still be continued? Everyone present agreed that it was a reasonable fundraiser and it did bring in a bit of money in previous years. She also said that the prizes (from ballots drawn) would be small baskets that would be made up (Mrs. Tsolakidis made them last year) and there would be gift cards for the first, second and third place winner (most funds raised).

The question was raised if anyone knew of some DJ/company who could lead the classes in different genres of dances. We have a few proposals from people who charge around \$600 to \$650 and they have been eliminated as their cost is out of reach for our community. We would like to spend about \$400 to \$450 to get a DJ into the school.

Mr. Minaudo offered to find out if he can get a DJ and will enquire with a few of his contacts; also, Mrs. Anastasiadis has contacted schools in our neighborhood to get information but most of the recommended individuals are already booked (some are booked a year in advance!).

Mr. Tarulli motioned for the meeting to be adjourned at 7:50 pm and Mr. Sottile seconded that motion.

Minutes taken by Mrs. S. Fernandes

Next meeting:

October 27th at 6:30 pm