

Doncaster PAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 7 DECEMBER 2017

Katia Dilkina called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

In Attendance:

Katia Dilkina	Marika Glickman	Natalie Buchmann
Cindy Luchka	Adrienne White	Robin Grazley
Wendy Huibers	Fiona Ely	Elizabeth Corry
Katie Ryan	Amy Johnston	Michael Corry
Mercedes Schmidt	Darrin Charmley	Sam Hampton
Glenn Wagner	Heather Jones-Latham	

Staff: Ms. Brenna O'Connor, Mme Josee Paris, Mme Helena Ewald

1. Appreciative Inquiry with Brenna O'Connor
 - Presenting a process that moves away from the one year growth plans with specific committee and looks at Appreciative Inquiry to develop multi-year plans
 - Getting feedback to work towards shared goals
 - 4 themes: self-regulation, environmental stewardship, citizenship, experiential learning
 - discover phase: bright spots/good things happening
 - dream phase: what do we hope for our learners?
 - PAC members in attendance broke into two groups to discuss ideas about the above two phases
 - Brenna and Josee took the information to review
2. AGM December 2016 Minutes to Approve – motion to approve by Cindy Luchka, seconded by Katia Dilkina
3. Craft Fair, November 25th – Katia
 - Very successful, about \$6000 raised. Bake Sale raised around \$1000
 - Not as many bake sale donations
 - Raffle table was very successful this year, placement at front entrance is key
 - Acknowledgement for all the hard work and efforts on Katia's part
 - Questions: Do neighbours complain about parking? It was reported that Saanich police were called to deal with situation, both Saanich Police and Oak Bay Police responded and found no traffic violations.
 - Do we want to change the day of the Craft Fair to be the third week in November, regardless of when the Pro-D falls? For example, next year we could hold the Craft Fair the Saturday before the weekend of the Pro-D Day.
 - Review of practises of the bake sale? Regardless of how the items are priced, the bake sale is a huge draw into the Craft Fair, people often stop there first and then move on to the craft vendors. The bake sale still brings in more money than it has in the past.
4. Parent Education Evening with Allison Rees – Fiona
 - Thank you to Fiona for organizing an evening presentation with Allison Rees

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- It all worked out well in the end, Doncaster and Braefoot combined a grant from SD61 to cover the cost of Allison Rees' presentation fees
- 161 people registered between Doncaster and Braefoot, plus a few people asked to come in at the door
- refreshment table, with generous donations from Cobs and Starbucks, and Tim Hortons
- parents donated a total of around \$130.00
- A recommendation to have another Parent Ed night
- Suggestion of a speaker (Alex) on the topic of Sexual Introduction and Gender Identification

5. Current/Upcoming Fundraisers

- The Card Project – Alexis
 - o Raised about \$1200
- Purdy's Chocolates – Alexis
 - o A couple of HUGE orders – thank you parents!
 - o Raised about \$2400 – almost double from last year
- QSP Magazines – Cindy
 - o So far \$1556 of subscriptions/renewals have been purchased, if, in fact, we receive a flat 37%, we will receive \$575.72 as of Dec. 7, 2017 – Erin will update when a cheque from QSP is received

6. Movie Night: Friday, December 15th 6-8pm – Sam, Glenn, Zyoji, Carolyn

- Movie poll – the "Doodle" link was a great idea
- there will be a young kids room in the library with colouring or quiet activities
- Refreshments: Hot Chocolate, Popcorn
- Katia advised there is still money on a Thrifty's Gift Card for anything needing to purchase

7. PAC Budget Meeting – January 11, 2018

- 7pm in the staff room
- Anyone is welcome to come to share in budget ideas and have input on 2018-2019 budget
- Also, ideas for next year to hold AGM in February and Budget Meeting in March or April

8. Bingo Night, February 22, 2018 – Mercedes

- A super fun evening, a community event open to the whole school and community
- Pre-order meals, new ideas, but last year was sushi and pizza
- We will ask parents to find donations for prizes from businesses in the community
- Mercedes will be looking for parent volunteers and possibly a committee to help plan and organize
- It ran smoothly last year. A sign-up sheet for volunteers works really well

9. PAC Executive Elections

- Katia presented the idea to elect people to the Executive and then the people elected could discuss amongst themselves the roles and tasks they will complete
- There aren't any rules in the by-laws about electing specific roles, so the recommendation is to elect a group of 3 or 4 for the executive
- Katia is happy to continue on the Executive, Cindy is stepping down as Secretary, Erin is happy to continue as Treasurer

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- Robin volunteers to be Secretary on the Executive
- Also looking for Members at Large to complete the Executive
- Glenn, Katie, Marika, Cindy, Mercedes volunteer to be Members at Large
- Vote: All in Favour for the following Executive:
 - o Katia Dilkina – President
 - o Erin Prescott – Treasurer
 - o Robin Grazley – Secretary
 - o Cindy Luchka – Member At Large
 - o Marika Glickman– Member at Large
 - o Katie Ryan – Member at Large
 - o Glenn Wagner – Member at Large
 - o Mercedes Schmidt – Member at Large
- Vote Passed, Quorum present
- This fills minimum requirements for the Executive Board, however, a 4th Board Member, like a VP role, would be ideal

10. Matthew Kemshaw from LifeCycles

- Plan for the school garden project
- Growing Schools Project
- Inspiration for support of the project
- Looking for PAC Support in Grant Writing, Fundraising
- LifeCycles has redesigned the Growing Schools Project
- Looking to create gardens that work and allow for meaningful outdoor learning
- Piloting a program with workshops and Pro-D for teachers
- Giving teachers resources and tools to maximize use of gardens in schools
- Offering garden planning support for schools
- At Doncaster, Matthew has been working with Abigail Bigam (Teacher) and Erin Prescott (Parent/PAC Treasurer)
- Looking at areas – courtyard, outdoor classroom garden, nature corridor, and Garry oak area
- Classroom Garden – gravel pathway with central meeting area with benches, garden beds for classes to play with, compost bin, work bench, pollinator gardens, native plants, and vines on chainlink fence
- Camosun College to help build an 8 x 8 shed, if supply costs are covered
- Pollinator gardens increase learning potential
- Perhaps use some of the larger limbs that need to come down from Garry Oak Meadow could be used as benches
- Plan to present formal proposal to SD61 in late Winter/Early Spring so that work can begin in September 2018
- It would be great for parents to come to the Budget meeting to further discuss what funds we can offer to the planning process in the next Budget year
- Abigail is looking at available grants and will need PAC members to apply for other grants
- Ideas for the courtyard: possible outdoor classroom (with outdoor chalkboard, benches), nature play space (outdoor cupboard that could be kept closed but opened when needed), play structures, large boulders/rocks, stick forts, bench around the tree (possibly with workbench/picnic style), sunken log rounds

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- Kids always request water features when asked what they would like to see, like water troughs, courses/creeks,
- Looking at requesting students at UVic to design something for the outdoor pathway/nature corridor
- Dream for Doncaster – a living willow tunnel, requires annual pruning, maintenance is key
- Matthew is available to funnel ideas, and gather them into a realistic goal/plan, with a 3-5 year development plan
- Question: will parent participation be allowed in building any of these structures?
- SD61 will be the deciding factor on how much parent involvement will be allowed
- Suggestion for a gazebo, or fixed structure/covered area
- Fixed structures require builders with accreditation
- SD61 will be the ones to put up a chainlink fence and put in water lines: approx. \$13,000
- Everything in the plan needs to be approved by SD61, but once it is approved, it can be determined which pieces can be built with volunteer labour

11. Principal and Vice Principal Reports – Brenna O'Connor and Josee Paris

- Report cards will go home on Dec. 15th
- Teachers have 2 options – standard/traditional, or Fresh Grade (currently 2 teachers)
- Basketball season is coming up after Christmas, Mme Lampard will be the teacher sponsor, but she is looking for a parent volunteer to help coach
- Sing-Along, December 22nd at 1:00pm in the Gym, 3-45 minutes
- Kindergarten registration at the end of January
- Supporting new curriculum with First Nations, special guests from the School Districts will come to visit the classes and work on special projects
- Teachers are continuing to explore new math learning tools
- Email to go out regarding the cancellation of the Primary winter concert, as the music teacher is away sick for the next couple of weeks
- Question from a parent: Have we ever had a Math Mania night at Doncaster? Math games night to be held in the gym. Look into the cost and availability.

PAC Budget Meeting: Thursday, January 11th, 2018 at 7pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 1st, 2018

Katia Dilkina adjourned the meeting at 8:40 PM