



Humewood Council: Meeting Minutes

DATE	Jan 14, 2019
TIME	7-9 pm
FACILITATORS	Lori Litman, Jordana Joseph
SECRETARY	Rae Ann F.
ATTENDEES	Rae Ann F., Rachel B., Rebecca D., Karen R., Cheryl B., Anna R., Natasha G., Lisa B., Tanya B., Avi M. Julie W. France C. Marisa M.

1. Introduction: Welcome back + happy New Year!

Welcome back; hope everyone had a great holiday!

2. Approval of Agenda

Rebecca - approved; Lisa - 2nd

3. Approval of December Meeting Minutes

Anna - approve; 2nd - Cheryl

4. Financial Update: Tanya

Numbers up to Dec. 31

- New revenue in December included Danceathon and Build-a-Huskie
- We're estimated to generate 50K in revenue with current projections
- Jays game - Does anyone want to take on the Jays game organization; We should be cautious about this revenue estimate

Danceathon

- raised \$2,239.65: net profit was \$1,321.75 (129 total pledges; 25 classrooms participated).
- Insights from the event: it would have been better if we didn't do Build-a-Huskie at the same time (Anna R). We should consider moving Danceathon to the spring and focus on one big fundraising event per season. There was too much in December, a time when families are already financially stretched.
- Rebecca D: We could allocate money for a Christmas dance just for fun, but not fundraising

Build-a-Huskie:

- Collected \$1,340; expenses were \$1,228. Total funds raised \$111.04. From a fundraising perspective, it was not successful



Humewood Council: Meeting Minutes

- Lori: it was fun for the kids who participated but it was logistical chaos. Still, we managed to donate a good amount of toys to the Furniture Bank considering the low numbers
- Anna - I still feel that it was a community building thing, though it was perceived as a fundraiser and parents had to choose. I don't think the community building was well received as a message.
- Natasha - there is also a bit of an equity issue there. These were expensive and you could only participate if you could afford to pay for two

Unspent money from last year

- Financials reflect unspent money allocated from last year. Lori: can we prioritize areas that we can actively look to start spending, so we don't end up with a whack of cash that needs to be spent at the end of the year?
- Jordana: can we start a savings for sound enrichment that we can spend a couple of years down the road? This needs research in terms of cost. It would need to be fulfilled by a TDSB approved supplier. Let's table this item until we understand the process required to make it happen. It would need a viability review

Field enhancements

- Julie: hopefully by the meeting in May, we'll have a sense of what the full cost is for the field

Tech spending

- Julie: we bought 6 ipads, a cart and cases - already spending the tech money

5. Principal's Report

- Our new superintendent Andrew Howard is continuing to visit schools. He'll be at Humewood on Jan 28 for his second visit. He's been very impressed with our teaching staff, OPAL and the general environment at Humewood
- Shelly Laskin's report: there is a ward forum meeting on Jan 22 at Forest Hill Public School. They'll be looking for PIAC committee members; they need a rep and alternate, and French as Second Language rep and alternate. If you're interested email Shelly - a number of superintendents will be there
- We're into the winter sports season. Currently we've got the Jr. Ice Hockey team; Gr 7 and 8 ball hockey tryouts have started; Intermediate boys basketball is practicing; Gr 8 girls basketball; Grade 4, 5, 6 volleyball tryouts coming up TBD
- We'll be offering another coding club for juniors after school with Mr. Macnamara. We want to build momentum about coding and using the lego programmable robotics; We are hoping to have another First Lego League



Humewood Council: Meeting Minutes

- Scholastic Book Fair is being held the week of Feb 11. We get credits for a percentage of the amount of money we spend to use for books, but also for an online program called Uga Island. Scholastic bought it and we can get the \$10 sub per student registration with the credits.
- PRO (Parents Reaching Out) grants for a speaker series were approved; we have \$1,000 deposited, now need to figure out what we're going to the funds for
- Report cards going home on Feb 12; parent reporting on the Thursday evening and Friday morning. PA this Friday is for assessment purposes and teachers will be preparing report cards

6. Chair Report/Winter Events Schedule + Planning

We want to discuss scheduled events and the ones that are TBC over the winter

Winter concerts (Jan 23 - primary; Jan 24 - junior/intermediate)

- We'll have a bake sale to raise funds for the music program. We need donation for both nights, including store-bought. It raises a lot of money for band.
- Wine Survivor will have a table there for promotion
- There was a discussion about having a raffle at the winter concerts but it was decided that it would be too much to communicate; the raffle items will be included in the Snow Ball silent auction

Global Play Day is on Feb 6

- You have to register your school to participate; t's a day where everyone goes and plays all day (classes rotate outside all day)
- Lori - because we had wanted to plan a winter OPAL day, do we want this to be that? Julie - we could do OPAL at the end of the day after school- this could tie into it very nicely

Wine Survivor

- We've launched online; already have 20 people. We take a couple of weeks to collect the wine - about a month of collecting names; then a month of eliminating
- We've enhanced it by adding the option of buying back on a teacher's behalf
- We'll announce the winners at snowball
- A portion of the proceeds will go to a local children's charity

Snowball - March 1

- Theme is Back to the 90s



Humewood Council: Meeting Minutes

- Everything is going well. We're asking for silent auction donations; if you'd like to donate, please do, even a single donation that could be make into a basket
- Will need help with set up, tear down and night-of volunteering
- Jordana needs to apply for the TDSB permit
- Need help encouraging parents to come. That's a nut we need to crack as it's always the same people. Some people might be intimidated or not know what Snowball is. Can we share photos from the photo booth last year, or create video?

Teacher experiences (i.e. principal for a day)

- These are moving out of the Snowball auction and will be run as a raffle for students; but proceeds will go to the overall efforts of Snowball
- \$1 per ballot; students can choose which experience to put their ballot in for
- if there are ideas for them, let us know
- Get the Spirit Team involved in promo
- Rae Ann will run the program

Giving back

- There is an ongoing conversation about how we can give back to another school in need through our fundraising
- Lori - we identified a sister school initiative through OPAL - connection made before the holidays. Earth Day canada identified a school with greater needs
- Item tabled until a future meeting for further discussion on how to approach, what's appropriate/needed, and whether or not the OPAL connection can meet those objectives

New events:

- We'd talked about organizing a trip the the Marlies at an earlier meeting. A suggestion was made to talk to the person organizing the same at McMurrich - not sure how big their uptake is
- Bingo or trivia as an early spring event? Debate over which is more fun. It was decided to pick the conversation up after Snowball

7. Additional Items

Kindergarten open house:

- Julilie: because we've been talking about trying to get new people involved, she brought of the idea of doing kindergarten open house differently, so that it was



Humewood Council: Meeting Minutes

not just during the morning, but something that allowed parents to mingle more and visit the school in a more relaxed fashion; also, something that has activities for the kids

- it would be nice if was more of a relaxed event and right now it's more informative and a bit pressured
- There was a discussion about how it would be nice to have the kids in the classroom because that's what they want to do: play at school
- Would like to reinvigorate the welcoming committee to help reimagine this open house, but we need help; it's always the same people doing the work

Parent reps

- Jordana and Lori want to use this opportunity to discuss class reps. We've been approached now that there are gaps in communication; not academic but the social stuff
 - Lori: How do we ensure that things are accessible to a broader group of people - instilling more face to face connection. Having a person as a liaison between the council and teachers - the class reps did this
 - In light of the problems that arose with class reps before (parents ganging up on teachers via email; teacher-led apps circumventing communication with class rep; difficulty in gathering class lists), is there a way to get parents together so they have a chance to get to know each other outside of drop-off and pick-up?
 - Suggestion to have more accessible events for people to meet each other in person. Mme. Castonguay suggested a free movie night in the gym every couple of months with the goal of community building vs. fundraising
- Motion to adjourn: moved by Natasha G, seconded by Anna R.

Upcoming Events:

Winter Concert: Jan 23/24

Wine Survivor: Jan - Mar 1

Global Play Day: Feb 6

Snowball: Mar 1

Marlies [TBC]

Bingo [TBC Feb]

2018/19 Council Meeting Dates:

Thurs, Nov 8

Wed, Dec 5

Mon, Jan 14

Mon, Mar 4



Humewood Council: Meeting Minutes

Thurs, Apr 11
Tues, May 14
Tues, June 18