



WRPACS General Meeting Minutes

Date: **October 21, 2021**

Time: **7:00 PM**

Location: **Zoom Virtual Meeting**

Attendees:

Andrea Gavel
Cheryl Kuyvenhoven
Janet Williams
David Johnson
Sabrina Chapman
Nancy Schofield
Sarah Beer
Merlyn Guilderson
Afton Bell

Tiffany Thesen-Yee
Jennifer Wostradowski
Shawna Swayze
Michelle Moore
Warren Kakoschke
Monique Walkinshaw
Melissa Martin
Lisa Lawrie
Nicole Hoodicoff

1. Call meeting to order

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Agenda – Additions/Deletions or Adoption

- Cheryl added a request from the playground committee for the PAC to fund a raffle prize. To be discussed as part of the financial report.
- Motion: Nancy Schofield; Seconded: Sabrina Chapman.
Agenda adopted as modified.

3. Approval of minutes from previous general meeting

Motion: Mina Petersen; Seconded: Andrea Gavel.
Minutes adopted as presented.

4. First Call for Nominations for open Council positions

- Volunteer Coordinator: Afton Bell has expressed interest in the position.
 - Cheryl Kuyvenhoven nominated Afton Bell for the position. Shawna Swayze seconded. Afton provided a brief introduction of herself as part of accepting the nomination.
- Fundraising Coordinator
 - No nominations

5. Administration Report (Janet Williams)

- Was exciting to have hot lunch back again at the school last week, and the first bus field trip since COVID recently took place.

- At staff Implementation Day this month, staff focused their work on the words Belonging, Independence, Generosity and Mastery and also discussed student portfolios.
 - Teachers will have three different options this year for reporting student learning. In addition to FreshGrade, four teachers are piloting the use of SeeSaw. Vice-principal David Johnson presented a short video about the platform. Intermediate teachers will be using Google Classroom.
- Pro-D Day tomorrow, and Drop Everything and Read Day on Monday.
- Teachers will be doing an outdoor costume parade next Friday—the same day as the PAC Pumpkin Patch.
- Looking for feedback from the parent population with regard to our school photos. Your feedback guides which company we do business with here at Watson. Retakes are scheduled in November.
- Student teachers are working with Mrs. Dorf and Mrs. Beath this fall. Four other Watson teachers will have a first year candidate teacher in their class prior to spring break.
- FSAs have begun in our gr. 4 classes: The assessments have been redesigned to follow the new curriculum and are now based on gr. 3 learning outcomes. The information provides is a great snapshot of each child's learning – a diagnostic tool which teachers can use to guide instruction in the classroom.
- A Roots of Empathy program will be operating this year in Mrs. Fane and Mrs. Cramer's rooms. This program is researched based and has proven to increase empathy, understanding and respect, and reduce bullying in young children.
- All parents/families invited to the Zoom student led assembly for Remembrance Day.

6. Playground Upgrade Committee Report (Sabrina Chapman)

- Results of survey about playground options quite heavily favoured the Habitat B option.
 - Feedback included: liked non-metal slides, higher slides, looked like it would be good for playing grounders, better visibility for supervision. Children wanted a merry go round. That could be something to consider in the future.
 - Questions were raised about the surface. It will be wood chip, with the green areas shown on the image being a rubberized surface. The school district is moving away from using pea gravel.
 - Winter drainage has been discussed with school district operations. The rubberized surface does get a little slipperier than the pea gravel. Since only a portion of the playground is rubberized, they don't believe there will be issues with drainage.
 - Questions have been asked about what will happen to the old playground. Due to liability issues, it cannot be given away.
- School district operations is developing a proposal for the upgrades to the Glenmore Road area of the school property. The original budget for that was \$50,000.
- Fundraising update:
 - Bottle Drive: \$3,447
 - ReturnitExpress account: \$1,889.20
 - Donations: \$1,050
 - DFS: approximately \$5,400
 - Total fundraised to date exceeds \$16,000.
- Upcoming fundraising options:
 - Dominos Pizza night on Oct. 27.
 - The fundraising goal for next month's raffle is \$20,000. Parents/students are being asked to sell tickets to help it be a success.
 - Cobs Bread will donate a portion of sales, if you tell them you are from Watson Road when you make a purchase.
 - Donations through School Cash Online welcome. Anything over \$25 comes with a tax

receipt.

- If you know a business that would like to donate to the playground fund, please contact them.
- The playground committee is also looking at grants they can apply for. They would welcome parent help applying for various grants.

7. President's Report (Cheryl Kuyvenhoven on behalf of Leslie Atwell)

- Leslie has been working with the playground committee to obtain a gaming licence for next month's raffle, as the PAC has a gaming account already. It has proven to be challenging, with the gaming branch sending a letter last week outlining a number of "hoops" to jump through before a licence could be issued. Mrs. Williams has forwarded the letter to the school district to see if they can help. Leslie also received a call from the gaming branch yesterday, clarifying the forms that need to be completed in the application, so work to obtain the licence is continuing.

8. Treasurer's Report (Nancy)

- September financials
 - School community can access financials on the PAC webpage.
 - Motion: Sarah Beer; Seconded: Sabrina Chapman.
 - Financials adopted as presented.
- The playground committee has requested that the PAC provide \$500 toward a prize for next month's raffle. They have requested the money go toward the grand prize stay at Sparkling Hill.
 - Cheryl suggested we make the approval contingent on the raffle licence being approved, so we aren't committed to spending the money until the raffle licence is issued.
 - Motion: To approve spending \$500 toward the grand prize of a stay at Sparkling Hill for the playground fundraiser raffle, on the condition the raffle licence is approved.
 - Motion: Nicole Hoodicoff; Seconded: Tiffany Thesen-Yee.
 - Motion adopted as presented.

9. COPAC Report (Mina Petersen)

- October's meeting included further discussion about the OKM and Westside catchment review. There are some online surveys that parents can complete. A decision is expected in January.
- A TikTok video, hashtag Devious Licks, that has been circulating has resulted in some damage to middle and high schools. A small group of kids have been causing the problem, and the COPAC wants parents to be aware of the issue. TikTok is aware of the problem and has been redirecting those hashtags.

10. PAC Activities

a. Pumpkin Patch (Cheryl on behalf of Corrine Wilson)

- Getting ready for the second annual Watson Road Pumpkin Patch on Oct. 29.
- Pumpkins are getting delivered early that morning, and help is needed to distribute them around the school field, as well as set up a Halloween display at the front of the school that classes can use to take photos during the Costume Parade.
- A sign up for volunteers was distributed yesterday morning. There are still approximately 10 volunteer spots unfilled, so if you are able to come out early on Oct. 29, please sign up.

b. Kiss and Ride (Cheryl)

- Kiss and Ride is running well. There were a number of volunteer vacancies in September with families moving on to Knox, so coordinator Lisa Lawrie was working most mornings in September to make sure it ran well and students could continue to be safely dropped off at school.

- Thanks to all the new volunteers that have come on this month.
- There are still 1-2 volunteer vacancies, particularly on Tuesday.
- If you are able to help, send a message to the PAC gmail and we will get you in touch with Lisa.

c. Card Project (Michelle Moore)

- Ordering has opened, and to date there have been 81 orders. That works out to approximately \$650 profit to the PAC.
- Based on the experience of the last coordinator, most orders come toward the deadline, and the fundraiser usually makes around \$1,600. She is hopeful more orders come in after students come home with sample cards in the near future.
- Michelle acknowledged the emails and Facebook posts that have already gone out, and asked for another Facebook reminder prior to Sunday's priority deadline.
- Priority orders will be delivered the week of Nov. 22.
- Final order deadline is Nov. 7, with deliveries the week of Dec. 6.

d. Poinsettia/Purdy's/Coffee Fundraiser (Tiffany on behalf of Jill Garrett)

- Winter fundraiser will include annual staples: poinsettias/winter plant arrangements, as well as Cherry Hill Coffee and Numi teas.
- After the success at Easter, this year we are also adding Purdy's.
- Ordering from all vendors will open Monday, Oct 25th.
 - Plants and coffee will be ordered through MunchaLunch, and Purdy's will be ordered through their website (like at Easter).
- Ordering deadlines & pickup dates:
 - Plants & coffee ordering closes Monday, Nov 8 (ordering open for 2 weeks); orders will be available for pickup on Wednesday, Nov 24th.
 - Purdy's ordering closes Monday, Nov 22nd (ordering open for 4 weeks); orders will be available for pickup on Wednesday, Dec 8th.
 - We have chosen to stagger the distribution dates so that we are not overwhelmed by having to sort hundreds of items from three vendors all on the same day.
- Pickups will be Covid-friendly: people will sign up for a designated pickup time, and we'll run a drive-thru like we did last year.
- We will be looking for volunteers to assist with sorting orders the day before pickup and to hand out orders on the pickup days; we'll also be looking for 2-3 people to supervise distribution on pickup days.
- Unfortunately, wholesale costs have increased this year, so we've had to raise prices on most plant and coffee item.
 - Purdy's sets their own prices (which are the same as their retail prices).
 - Even with higher wholesale costs on plants and coffee, we are still able to sell these items for slightly lower than retail prices (i.e. we are pricing most coffees at \$1 less than what Cherry Hill sells them for on their website).

e. Hot lunch (Sarah Beer)

- The first day was last Friday. It was a bit chaotic, but in a good way. Thank you to Mr. Johnson for getting the students to help.
- I definitely learned a lot that day and I have some great takeaways. One thing is that if the vendor does not bring the food at the same time, it can be very complicated to pack.
- We have a good system, I think, for next time.
- I have purchased some bins for the Jugo Juice delivery, because it was quite messy with the current containers. I have also got some clipboards to give to the students helping, rather than calling out class names.

11. Second Call for Nominations for open Council positions

- Volunteer Coordinator
 - no further nominees
- Fundraising Coordinator
 - no nominees

12. Election/Acclamation of open Council positions for the 2021-2022 School Year

- Afton Bell acclaimed as Volunteer Coordinator.

13. Questions/Comments

- Sarah Beer attended the first field trip and said it was actually a lot of fun to see the kids excited to go to the museum.

Adjourn: 7:45