

Minutes of the Meeting of Silverspring Community Association

November 16, 2010

Attendance: Brett Wilson (President), Nadine Madsen (MAL), Brian Webb (MAL), Cam Hazen (MAL), Art Urbanowski (Softball Coordinator), Sherri Denis (Indoor Coordinator), Aman Abid (Communications – Newsletter), Bob Stadnichuk (Civics), Bryan Witt (Social Coordinator), Carmen Allen (Secretary)

**Rick Garman (Mother Teresa School), Arlene Lazecki (Silverspring School), Bryan Conrad (Ebenezer Baptist Church)

1. Call to Order:

Brett called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion made by Cam and seconded by Brian Webb to approve the agenda. Carried.

3. School News:

Silverspring:

- Arlene reported that report cards will be distributed on November 22 and three-way conferences will take place November 25-26. Haitian dancers will perform at the school on November 18. Staff and students have been busy practicing lockdowns and fire drills; volleyball is wrapping up; the students presented a lovely Remembrance Day service last week; and an informational meeting about Nelson Math was held for interested parents recently. Due to insufficient space on the bus for the students bussed from the northern part of Silverspring, rerouting is occurring to more evenly distribute the number of children on each run. Preparations for Christmas concerts and carolling will begin shortly.

Mother Teresa:

- Rick reported that Remembrance Day and Halloween activities have ended and staff and students are preparing for Advent. Concerts, choir and band performances, and mass are planned. The 10th anniversary of the Mother Teresa Christmas Craft Sale will be held on November 27. Spirit of Christmas will be held December 5 at Ebenezer Baptist Church. Each class is sponsoring a family with a Christmas hamper this holiday season. A Toy Story 3 movie night will be held at the school November 19. The parent council is fundraising in order to purchase smart boards for the school.

4. Adoption of the Minutes:

Motion made by Brian Webb and seconded by Bryan Witt to adopt the minutes of the meeting of October 19, 2010. Carried.

5. Director of Finance Report:

Brett distributed the statement of profit and loss that was prepared by Nadine Schueller and he explained some details regarding program fees/memberships and prepaid expenses.

Motion made by Aman and seconded by Art to accept the finance report. Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

(a) *Newsletter and Inclusion of Advertisements*

Brett stated that the SCA newsletter has traditionally been used as a communication tool and that advertising is accepted when there is space available. Aman added that the advertising currently covers the costs of the newsletter (rates are \$25 for business card size and \$50 for a quarter page). There are six newsletters printed annually. Four of these contain information only and two (Feb/Mar and Aug/Sept) contain advertising as well as information (usually about two pages of the eight-page spread are devoted to advertising). He feels that there is currently a good balance between information and advertising. After further discussion, it was decided that the SCA could expand advertising in the Feb/Mar and Aug/Sept newsletters and that advertising rates would be subject to an increase starting with the Feb/Mar 2011 issue.

(b) *Forms of Payment for Registration*

Brett stated that we have had a problem with NSF cheques and cheques which have been cancelled before our treasurer has deposited them. It takes a great deal of time and effort to chase NSF cheques. There are problems with accepting cash, too: if the cash is not perfectly reconciled (i.e. if some is missing), there are questions about honesty. Also, because of the possibility of theft, there is personal risk involved when carrying several thousand dollars of cash. However, we do recognize that some people prefer to use cash and do not use credit cards and still others will not pay online.

Brian Webb added that it is difficult to deny cash payment. The cash could be double counted and taken to the bank the next day in order to address above concerns.

One possibility would be to accept cash at in-person registration only, thereby limiting cash collection to one night only. Late registrations would be available only if paid by credit card.

Motion made by Sherri and seconded by Art to cease accepting cheques as a form of payment and to only accept cash on the nights of in-person registration. Carried.

(c) *University Students (Paid/Unpaid) as Coaches/Instructors*

Brett stated that a basketball team and a soccer team were disbanded this fall due to lack of coaches. There was discussion about whether to approach kinesiology students to be coaches and how we could pay for this service. Cam pointed out an example of kinesiology student coaches who failed to show up for a Spuds (Grade 3-4) basketball game last week, making the point that they might not be completely reliable either.

It was decided that we do not want to pay coaches and that we will continue with volunteers as coaches.

7. New Business:

(a) *Spirit of Christmas*

Bryan Conrad stated that choirs from both Silverspring School and Mother Teresa School will be performing at Spirit of Christmas on December 5, 6:30 p.m., at Ebenezer Baptist Church. The SCA has provided treat bags in the past at an

approximate cost of \$300-400. Nadine Madsen will organize the treat bags and coordinate volunteers to stuff them. Bryan will find out the number needed.

8. Chair's Report/Correspondence:

Brett highlighted (a) a letter of thanks from Ebenezer Baptist Church for SCA's support of their recent Princess Party and (b) a notice of a Saskatoon Speaks focused visioning workshop which is available to our community if enough are interested.

9. Coordinator Reports/Correspondence:

(a) *Indoor* – Sherri reported that she has given Ross and Jacine the indoor information for the website and she will need to submit the information to the newsletter. There have been recent issues with the dodgeball program (ages 10-13) in which a family feels that their son has been treated unfairly by the other players. Sherri has made a rotation of parents to supervise the dodgeball at all times, and these parents have been supportive.

(b) *Membership* – No report.

(c) *Rink* – Brett reported that the graffiti on the west side of the shack has likely been removed by now. Fifteen boards need to be replaced around the ice surface. Now that the weather has turned cold, Ian is ready to start flooding the rink.

(d) *Communications* – Aman reminded everyone that the deadline for the next newsletter is this Friday, November 19. He will increase the newsletter to "two-plus" pages for a larger information section.

(e) *Touch Football* – No report.

(f) *Soccer* – No report.

(g) *Softball* – No report.

(h) *Civic* – Bob reported that there were 16 people at the Ward 10 meeting (he did not attend). Drainage out of Willowgrove was the main issue at that meeting. Brian Webb noted that the approach to the new Tim Horton's in our area is very steep and damaging vehicles. It was felt that this is likely an issue for the commercial developer and not for Ward 10. Aman reported that he spotted a flock of sheep on Pezer Crescent a couple of weeks ago. He telephoned Bev Dubois but did not receive a response.

(i) *Volunteer* – No report.

(j) *Basketball* – No report.

- (k) *Youth* – Bryan Conrad stated that there are about 40-60 kids coming regularly to the drop-in youth program at Ebenezer Baptist Church. The next drop-in night is November 28th. The CFL western final game will be on the big screen on November 21 as well as the Grey Cup game on November 28 if the Roughriders are playing. The church will try to provide entertainment for all ages during the Grey Cup. This might include Astrojumps and video games.

Motion made by Bob and seconded by Brian Webb to accept the coordinator reports as presented. Carried.

10. Community Consultant Report:

Marieke pre-circulated her report by e-mail.

11. Announcements:

There will be no December meeting. The next meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on January 18, 2011, at Silverspring School.

Volunteers will be needed to assist registrants at in-person registration in January. There will be a “walk-through” beforehand.

12. Adjournment:

Motion made by Art to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.