

Comox Valley Montessori Society
February 20th, 2013

Present: Sarah Ritchie Amy Volmorbida Anne Buchanan Lisa Wilcox
Stacey Fisher Korina Rushton Carmen Costantino Sharene Popiel

1. Call To Order – 7:07pm

2. Introductions –

3. Adoption of the Agenda –

- It was regularly motioned and seconded that the agenda be accepted.

4. Adoption of Last Month Minutes –

- It was regularly motioned and seconded that the minutes be adopted from January 16th, 2013.

5. Reports

5.1 Administrator's Report – Dan Costain

- Hospital News:
 - ❖ March 4th – tress will begin to come down for the development of the new hospital, expected completion date March 18th. Site will then need to settle for 2-3 weeks. April 8th, is the expected date for tree removal. Will be very noisy and Dan has asked them to do it during spring break.
 - ❖ The hospital construction workers have agreed to take their lunch time during the same time as nap time at the Beaufort Daycare.
 - ❖ May 2 irrigation will start.
 - ❖ Looking at 3 different models for fencing, once they have finalized which model they want, they will contact Dan.
 - ❖ Trying to preserve a ball diamond for the school and also a dry running area for the school.
 - ❖ There will be an emergency call out put in placed, so that if the school is missing a child, there will be a direct called made to the construction site and construction will stop til the child is found.
 - ❖ Daphne Stewart, the parent rep, has asked them to save on tree and a 2013 penny will be inserted into a keepsake from the tree saved.
 - ❖ Timerwest and the City of Courtenay will be sponsoring a replanting project where the 800-900 trees being torn down and 700 will be replanted. Approx 120 will be donated and in coordination with Ms. Ripple there will be a replanting ceremony with the Montessori children.

Administrator's Report Continued

- 6 applicants have applied for the new directress position.
- 24 registrants for Montessori. A little smaller than the past couple of years. Wondering if it is the NIDES (new programs) drawing from our pool or people? Likely have 2 K/1 classrooms, 3 1-2-3, 4-5-6, 4-5-6-7.
- Dan will put out to the directresses, asking them what preference they would like to teach next year. The new teacher will be 4-5-6 or the 4-5-6-7.
- IT Grant in place for ipads for digital storytelling, also got a grant for home reading books from the Times Colonist.
- Dan has put out to the high schools that there are Montessori students feeding into them. Vanier high school is interested in sitting with Dan and CVMS to see if there is interest for a Montessori high school and how it would work. It would only be viable when the numbers are at least in the teens for enrollment.
- French immersion is allowed to recruit in the elementary mid way through the school year, Dan suggests that Montessori recruiters go to the school's before grade 3 to see if we could recruit new kids in grade 1-2-3. The board suggests that someone goes to the school to talk to the kids and then have a separate information night. Dan suggests that CVMS write Allan Douglas to see if this is possible.

5.2 President's Report – Sarah Ritchie on behalf of Ocean Varney

- Notify that there will be another tea meeting next month.
- PAC dates have changed and they need support so please try and come out to their meetings.
- Dan to look into Tahsis and tell us the approximate costs for him to visit.

5.3 Vice President's Report – Sarah Ritchie on behalf of Erin Walsh

- January orders for Fundscrip totaled \$4445.00 with 5 supporters earning us \$162.05.
- Still have \$50 in Safeway cards and Carmen may still have some left as well from the hallway cards.

5.4 Treasurer's Report – Michelle Burry

- Bank – approximately \$24,000.00
- Parent Donations since June 1st - \$19,341.00
 - ❖ Plus post dated cheques - \$1,520
 - ❖ For a total of \$20,861.00
- Fundraising – approx. \$2,200
 - ❖ Fundscrip - \$756.00
 - ❖ Fall Bulbs - \$625.00
 - ❖ Boot Camp – (not recorded)
 - ❖ Coffee - \$702
 - ❖ Epicure - \$205

Treasurer's Report Continued

- Expenses since June 1st – approx \$11,500.00
 - ❖ Includes inventory purchases since June 1st of approx \$6,500.00 (plus \$3600 for outstanding bills)
 - ❖ Fixed expenses still owed - \$9,000.00
 - ❖ Money available for material purchases for current year and new classroom – approx \$15,000.00 (-\$3600 owed to Lisa for outstanding bills)
 - ❖ Total of \$11,400.00 available

5.5 Secretary's Report – Carmen Costantino

- Want to thank Christine, all the directresses, students and parents that volunteered and helped make info night such a success. Thanks to Erin for contacting the papers, Sarah for contacting radio stations, Michelle for speaking and Amelia for helping coordinate child care.
- Talked to Tracy in the office and made sure that the new time for meetings was put in the newsletter.
- Registration for kindergarten was at 22 kids last I spoke with Dan, Dan confirmed that it was 24 at meeting.

5.6 Inventory Report – Lisa Wilcox

- Lisa just got a big order for Nicole and Anne approximately \$4,000 worth of materials. Explains to new parents joining the meeting how our fundraising dollars go towards new Montessori materials.
- Michelle asks Lisa if she thinks that what we raise from the tea (approx. \$6,000) will be about to outfit the new classroom for next year. Lisa thinks that we should be ok.

6.0 Old Business**6.1 Donor Page – Carmen Costantino**

- Got the ok from Podling's to put their information out. Just need to get Ian to make a couple of changes like changing the name to sponsor page and it will be up and running. Derek Costantino and Isadora DeBortolli have added their contributions to the list as well.

6.2 High Tea Update – Sarah Ritchie

- Sarah explains to new parents what the tea and silent auction entail and how it helps raise funds for CVMS. The planning team met last Friday and looking for people to fill the position for Clean Up Crew and Child Minding. Going to try and separate the kids in childminding this year to younger and older kids.
- Sarah has a letter for people to solicit donations. Please see her if you have a company/store that you are going to approach for donations. We do not want to harass people.
- \$200 grant from Coast Capital to go towards the tea.
- Next planning tea meeting is 630pm on March 15th at Carmen's house. Please email Carmen for address and directions.

7. New Business –

7.1 New Gratitude Manager – Sarah Ritchie on behalf of Ocean Varney

- Looking for someone to take on role of gratitude manager, ensuring that someone tracks all donations and makes sure that thank you cards are completed and sent, especially for the tea.
- Sherry suggests that Tiffany's classroom or older kids write the thank you cards. Korina says that she will talk to Ocean.

7.2 Spring Bulb Fundraiser – Sharene Popiel

- Wants to introduce the spring bulb fundraiser for us to do again. Suggests that we do this before the tea.
- Asks if the art cards are to be sold at the tea as there are still some left.

7.3 Puntledge PAC – Carmen Costantino

- Puntledge PAC is having a gypsy fair fundraiser and want to be able to borrow 6 table cloths. The board approves it as long as everything is brought back in good order and washed.

7.4 Lia Sophia Jewelry – Sarah Ritchie

- Amanda MacNeil, a CVMS parent is having a Lia Sophia Jewelry party this Saturday from 200pm-400pm. Everyone is invited and all the commission generated will go to CVMS.

7.5 Blog – Sharene Popiel

- Sharene wants to know if we are still going to do the blog. She offers to keep it up and communicate with the directresses to ensure that their information gets put up as well.

8. Adjourn 8:00pm