GENERAL BROCK PAC

Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2021

**Opening:**

Krista Knight and Ken Armstrong (co-chairs) hosted the Zoom meeting. Meeting began at 7:00pm.

**Present:**

Total in attendance: 14. Krista Knight, Ken Armstrong, Nancy Paget, Wendy Boys, Aubin O’Brien, Stephanie Hawkins, Rachel Torres, Adrian, Erin Boniferro, Penny McCleery, Dani Conrad, Malgorzata Sudol, Sami Wall.

**Business:**

1. **Robert Bateman Nature Sketch Program**
2. Nancy provided all attendees with some background information on the program.
* We had this program in place through the Robert Bateman Foundation 2-3 years ago but only for 2 classes. When COVID hit, we had to discontinue the program.
* Robert Bateman has been sketching in nature since he was young, and he is now in his 90s. He believes this program promotes **knowledge, connection with the environment and mindfulness**.
* The Foundation is partnered with **Anxiety Canada** and promotes an experience of joy and mindfulness.
* Nancy would love for ALL classes to have access to this program. It would be 6 lessons per division.
* It costs $750 for 6 lessons with a Robert Bateman artist. There are 11 divisions so the total would be $8,250.
* We may be able to receive a $1,000 grant; in which case, the program would cost $7,250.
1. Funding
* We had $5,000 allocated to the library for e-books and audiobooks. Nancy contacted the director of the learning commons and discovered that the District is gaining a subscription to all of the libraries; all students and faculty will have access to this.
* SO, we do not need to spend the $5,000 on the library right now. It would also be beneficial to suspend library spending until Ms. Doran returns.
* With the money from the library budget and the PAC supplementing the remaining cost, we could provide this program to our students.
* Ken passed along information from Mike Kerfoot (treasurer) that we DO have the money to fund this program.
1. Vote
* To take the library budget of $5,000 and have the PAC add up to $3,500 to provide our students with the Robert Bateman Nature Sketch Program.
* Krista put it to a vote and Ken seconded the proposal.
* No one opposed. Motion passed.
1. **Music**
2. We have a new music teacher: Mr. Bracewell.
3. Nancy informed us on his current situation.
* He feels that teaching guitar and ukulele to the smaller children is challenging, especially with COVID which includes extra hand washing and sanitizing all of the instruments.
* He has gotten feedback from the older children (who have played guitar for a few years now) that they want to mix things up.
* The instruments are not in good shape.
1. New instruments
* Mr. Bracewell has spoken to other elementary music teachers and feels that purchasing Orff instruments would be a good investment.
* Orff instruments are expensive. A full set would be $5,000-$6,000. We could get a junior set for $1,600-$2,000 but it would not be big enough for all the students in the class.
1. Nancy went over our recent tech spending and inventory with the hopes that we can use some tech money towards music spending instead.
* $16,000 was allocated for tech.
* We recently bought a new projector as well as 10 laptops (which gives us 39 total).
* We can manage with the number of iPads and laptops that we have this year.
* One projector died and that teacher really needs a new one.
1. Splitting the cost.
* Ken suggested that we take $3,000 from the tech budget and $3,500 from PAC new spending in order to make this purchase for the music department.
* On behalf of the Fundraising committee, Erin said it’s helpful to give a shape and title to parents for what we are fundraising for.
* Nancy thought it was really nice that Mr. Bracewell is thinking about the younger kids.
1. Vote
* To use $3,000 from the tech budget and $3,500 from the PAC to provide Mr. Bracewell with $6,500 to purchase new Orff instruments.
* Krista put it to a vote and Ken seconded the proposal.
* No one opposed. Motion passed.

The meeting was short, sweet and productive.

**Next Meeting:** TBD

**Adjournment:** Krista adjourned the meeting at 7:20.

**Minutes Submitted By:** Sami Wall