

SCOIL AN SPIORAID NAOIMH (B)

MINUTES OF PARENT ASSOCIATION MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 28TH 2017

1. In attendance

Jill Foley	Gary Harte
Reena Mc Carthy	Rosaleen Fitzgerald
Mary O Connor	Donal Murray
Aoife O Herlihy	Fiona Dollard

2. Apologies

Louise Crowley
Camilla Jakubowska-Switaj

3. Treasurers Report

Reena Mc Carthy presented a copy of account statement and balance and copies were circulated of same at the meeting. Present account balance stands at €5030.34.

Gary Harte suggested that this financial report should be added to the minutes of the monthly meeting to ensure transparency.

Another signatory is required for the cheque book. Jill Foley proposed Gary Harte and same was seconded by Mary O Connor. Reena will make enquiries with the bank as to what is required from Gary to facilitate same.

4. Clothes recycling event

Donal Murray reported on the success of the clothes recycling event, held on Feb 14th & 15th. A total of €517 was raised in association with the National Council for the Blind Ireland. Donal was furnished with a Certificate of Achievement by the NCBI which he presented to Gary Harte. Same will be scanned to school website by Gary. It was agreed that another recycling drive may be held in May/June. This is dependent on whether SSNC have a date set for a recycling event themselves. It will be discussed further at the next meeting.

5. Book Swap

The date for this years Book Swap has been provisionally booked with Bishopstown GAA Club, by Louise Crowley, for March 25th. Posters advertising the event have been arranged with Pat Collins, by Louise Crowley. Jill Foley, Aoife O Herlihy and Rosaleen Fitzgerald volunteered to help out on the day.

6. Bag Packing Event

Due to time constraints, this was not discussed at the meeting but will be addressed at next meeting in March.

7. Confirmation

Mary O Connor confirmed that the 2nd jacket fittings for the Confirmation boys will be done on March 1st. Rosaleen Fitzgerald has ordered and paid for flowers and balloons for Confirmation Day party. Jill Foley volunteered to collect balloons from Heaton's on the morning of March 30th. Fiona Dollard volunteered to accompany Rosaleen to Musgraves to purchase supplies and this will be undertaken in the next 2 weeks.

The issue of securing parent volunteers to assist with the event was raised again. The general opinion is that parents of the 1st and 5th classes should be coordinating these occasions. It was suggested that Brian Cuthbert would send out an email to parents of 5th class boys to request their help on the day.

Fiona Dollard made the point that in St Catherine's school, all parents of 1st and 5th class parents are requested to attend a meeting prior to both events, during which a plan is formulated as to how many volunteers are required and jobs are allocated accordingly. Gary Harte said he would raise this suggestion with Brian Cuthbert for future events.

8. Survey results

Gary presented results of the survey sent to all parents in February. A hard copy of results was presented to all at meeting. He will publish same on school website in due course. Discussions were had on the responses which will be continued at the next meeting.

9. Future fundraising events

Potential fund raising events were discussed following on from the survey results. Suggestions such as, Bingo night, Loose change drive or Quiz night were highlighted – again further discussions on same will be addressed at the next meeting. Several parents suggested in the survey that a Sports day be held in the summer in the GAA, however due to insurance reasons, this is not permitted. Rosaleen Fitzgerald suggested that parents should be notified of this reason in correspondence from Brian Cuthbert.

Mary O Connor suggested a sponsored calander as a fund-raising option, whereby "advertising space" is sold for €50, to local business, with a potential market for up to 50 businesses. This is to be discussed in greater detail at March meeting.

10. NPC Update

Unfortunately, Sarah Cooper was not in attendance at the meeting but she has applied for membership to the NPC. The cost of same is €100, which Sarah will pay directly herself and Reena Mc Carthy will reimburse her after receipt has been issued. Gary wishes to discuss further the possibility of the NPC hosting talks within the school.

11. Internet safety talk

It is understood that SSNC are holding an Internet Safety Talk on March 6th so Gary Harte will discuss with chairperson of the girl's school, if it is possible for parents of the boy's school to attend as well. If not, Gary is happy to present a similar talk himself to the school in the coming weeks.

12. Secondary School Transition

Following the success of last year's talk to both 6th class children and their parents, it was proposed that a similar talk be arranged again this year. It was suggested by Jill Foley that such a talk should take place later in the term...May/June to ensure relevance.

13. School Website

Gary Harte has been working on the school website over the last number of weeks, with especial attention to the Parent Association section. He has posted the dates of all Parent Association Meetings until the end of this school year. He will discuss with Brian the possibility of posting photos of various fund raising events etc. and whether Brian would include a section on the Parent Association activities in his biannual newsletter.

14. Easter Eggs

It was proposed by Donal Murray and seconded by Jill Foley, that €200 be approved for the purchase of Easter Eggs, for the school raffle. It was suggested that tickets be sold by PA committee members in the school hall, in the week leading up to the Easter Holidays. Gary Harte will discuss this with Brian Cuthbert.

15. Financial report

Starting Balance 10/10/16	€6020.21
Aug. Quarterly Fee	-€ 6.13
Allianz Insurance Cheque	-€ 319.20
Halloween Candy Cheque	-€ 155.80
Nov. Quarterly Fee	-€ 8.74
Communion & Confirmation Supplies cheque	-€ 500.00
Closing Balance February 2017	€5030.34

AOB

Rosaleen Fitzgerald asked Gary Harte to remind Brian Cuthbert re hanging of a mirror in the ladies' bathroom, in the school hall, prior to March 30th event!
The next meeting of the Parents Association will be on March 28th at 7.30pm.