

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MINUTES
NORTHLEA HOME & SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 14, 2012, 6:45 PM, LIBRARY**

Present – Sue Brookes, Amy Carter, Rachel Chernos-Lin, Wilmar Kortleeve, Lisa Peirce, Diana Speer-McBean, Kathy Ribeiro, Michael Boyd, Julie Brown, Fai Chen, Sarah Dawson, Lynda DeBono, Gina Fortsas, Kara Pearson-Kane, Karen Keay, Erica Lewis, Claudine Lukawesky, Leona Maruna, Lisa McGillivray, Kathy Ribeiro, Guy Lariviere, Taggett Cornish

Regrets – Frank Chang, Lisa Howarth, Sarah Stevens, Sue Thurow, Shelly Lowe

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

1. WELCOME – WILMAR KORTLEEVE

Wilmar welcomed the group to the AGM.

2. MOTION Claude Lukawesky, Sue Brookes
APPROVAL OF COUNCIL AGENDA CARRIED

3. MOTION Amend April 23rd Council minutes to include Kathy Ribeiro, Arpi Kurkjian and Guy Larivière as in attendance.
Sue Brookes, Rachel Chernos-Lin
APPROVAL OF AMENDED COUNCIL MINUTES – APRIL 23, 2012 CARRIED

4. LEASIDE HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTATION – ALISON STEELE w/ DIANA MCBEAN

- Purpose of their presentation is to encourage new parents to get involved early.
- LHS would like to do more pairing up with local schools – more defined outreach with Grade 8s in feeder schools to establish more of a relationship.
- Goal is to connect parents with the LHS Parent Council. This is the only Parent Council or 'Home & School' at Leaside – There is no fundraising involved.
- The School Council is one of the only opportunities for parental involvement at Leaside.
- Have approx. 8 meetings/year – the third Tuesday of the month. Meetings inform parents about what's going on and provide a good forum to ask questions and listen to others.
- In April, the Parent Council held an Open House - specifically around coping with transitions. The speaker was Annie Kidder from 'People for Education'.
- New parents will receive a mailing in early summer giving them notice of when to come in and pay the activity fee. This fee covers extra-curricular sports, an agenda, student ID card, TTC pass, etc. All the administration happens before school starts – the first day is only 30 minutes – then full steam ahead on the Wednesday.
- Leaside has a semester system. Students take 4 subjects September to January (first semester).
- There is a Parent Night in October and also a Grade 9 Parent Night during the second week of school. This Grade 9 Night is just for Grade 9s to get the lay of the land. Will be the opportunity to learn about all the clubs that students can join – e.g. reach for the top, music, drama.
- Can be confusing for kids during this transition but no reason they shouldn't get settled in soon.
- School announcements are made every day plus there are weekly emails to parents.
- Alison offered to provide her email address should parents wish to contact her with questions.

5. ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE – KATHY RIBEIRO

- There was a Ministry of Labour safety inspection on May 28. There is no advance notice for these inspections. Northlea got an outstanding report which Kathy passed around.
- There was also a recent TDSB Health & Safety inspection which takes half a day to complete – our results were also good.
- On June 1, we had our Eco Schools Audit and received the platinum award again.

- The “Willy Wonka” Musical was a huge success with many students involved. The show ran for 4 nights - each night was sold out! Many staff and parents were involved but Kathy especially wanted to thank Ms. Capes and Mlle Marshall.
- Northlea tends to do extremely well in sports with lots of staff and students involved. Kathy noted the great performances by two ultimate Frisbee teams and various boys and girls soccer teams. She was happy to announce that the Girls 5/6 Soccer team won the City Championships!
- Over 600 students, from grades 2-8, participated in the track and field meet at Varsity Stadium. Of those students, 140 represented Northlea at the next level; 28 kids went on to the City Finals.
- Library - Author visit by Jeremy Tankard. He read books to the primary students which they loved.
- Grade 5/6 Choir will be participating in the Canada’s Wonderland Music Festival on June 20.
- Grade 8 Graduation will take place on Tuesday June 26. Our TDSB Superintendent will be there as will John Parker and Gerri Gershon.
- School construction – There’s a scheduled sign off meeting next week. Permits are approved and we’ve been told that construction should begin this summer.

Julie Brown reviewed the plans with the group. Construction is planned for 3 areas:

1. Teachers’ parking lot – Current exit will be widened so there will no longer be a loop. This increases the number of parking spaces and reduces the number of driveways.
2. Childcare parking lot – They will remove the little island and add another parking spot. In addition, they will be moving the childcare gate forward so that people can’t park illegally.
3. Front entrance/Kindergarten play area – The curb will be changed and the planting area in the middle will be removed. This change will extend the kindergarten playground to the childcare fence.

> Lisa Peirce asked about the Kindergarten play surface. Julie said it will remain sand. The changes will just give the children more space to play.

- Kathy thanked Julie for attending all the meetings and for her input into this project.

BECKY JENKINS – REPORT

- Becky told the group that funding for an interactive white board in the Junior/Intermediate DD class has come through. The white board has already been delivered to Mr. Albrecht’s class and funding includes additional training for Mr. Albrecht.
- There is also an opportunity to apply for a second interactive white board for the other DD class. Becky is just finishing the paperwork and hopes this application will also be successful.
- Becky told the group about a new provincial bus safety program called PEP (Purple Equals Parent). The program looks at ways for bus drivers to track students who need to be met by an adult when getting off the bus. This fall, we will be implementing PEP at Northlea for Kindergarten and Grade 1 students. These students will have a purple tag on their backpacks.

>Lynda DeBono asked how many smart boards Northlea has. Kathy said that we have 19.

>Claude Lukawesky reported that she noticed a safety issue in one of the classrooms recently. There were five chairs that had major cracks in them. Kathy told Claude to let her know which classroom it was after the meeting and she will make sure to get the chairs replaced.

6. CHAIR’S REPORT – WILMAR KORTLEEVER

- The H&S gives out a Citizenship award at the Grade 8 graduation. Wilmar and Sarah have been busy getting this organized.
- They have also been tracking the most recent TDSB budget cuts including closing cafeterias. The good news is that our cafeteria will not be affected.
- CATS – Sarah, as the representative, has submitted a ‘Parents Reaching Out’ grant. We are requesting money for parent resources.
- Overall, it’s been a great year with many new and continued initiatives, including the launch of the PSP program.

7. SCHOOL SUPPORT – RACHEL CHERNOS-LIN

- Katherine Whaley is passing the torch for the Safe Arrival program and Cathy Sturdee will be taking over as Safe Arrival Co-ordinator in the fall.
- Lisa Peirce will be taking over the PSP program starting in the fall.
- September Packages – Karen Zeppa has managed the September packages for years. The packages/forms have been redesigned so the process will be much simpler this year. Gina Fortsas has expressed interest and they are hopeful that she will take on 'September Packages' on going forward.

8. NEW BUSINESS - WILMAR KORTLEEVER

- Wilmar told the group that he would like to proceed with the Nomination/Election of the new Council Executive slate for 2012/2013. We will say goodbye to those who are leaving in the second part of the meeting.

Wilmar read the list of names for the new Council Executive:

- Vice President – Sarah Dawson
 - Treasurer – Sue Brookes
 - Past President – Julie Brown
 - Webmaster – Frank Chang
 - School Support Chairs – Rachel Chernos-Lin, Kara Pearson-Kane
 - Fundraising Co-Chair – Lynda DeBono
 - Council Advisory Team – Julie Brown, Sue Thurow, Wilmar Kortleever, Sarah Dawson
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- Recording Secretary - Shelly Lowe will be the new Recording Secretary.

There are still vacancies for a Fundraising Co-Chair (now two Executive positions) and for a Community Events Chair. Claude has stepped down from this role but offered to help out if no one is found. The CATS group also needs a couple more people.

MOTION Julie Brown, Sue Brookes
THAT THE RULE OF BALLOT BE SUSPENDED AND THE SLATE OF EXECUTIVES BE
ACCLAIMED.

All in favour - CARRIED

MOTION Sarah Dawson, Claude Lukawesky
THAT WILMAR REMAIN THE CHAIR FOR THE NEXT YEAR

All in favour - CARRIED

Wilmar passed around a Correspondence File which contained a note from the Provincial H&S Association congratulating Northlea on increasing its membership by 20%. The file also contained a 'thank you' card from Ms. Capes & Mlle Marshall to the H&S for helping to fund 'Willy Wonka'.

MOTION Lynda DeBono, Sue Brookes
TO ADJOURN THE MEETING

CARRIED

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MINUTES
NORTHLEA HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION MEETING**

1. MOTION Sue Brookes, Rachel Chernos-Lin
APPROVAL OF H&S AGENDA CARRIED

2. MOTION Lisa Peirce, Sue Brookes
APPROVAL OF H&S MINUTES, APRIL 23, 2012 CARRIED

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – WILMAR KORTLEEVER

- Wilmar told the group that this has been an excellent year and he passed the floor first to Claude to report on her portfolio.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS – CLAUDE LUKAWESKY

- **Staff Appreciation Lunches** – Was very successful this year and will continue again next year.
- **Welcome Back BBQ** - Scheduled for Thursday Sept. 13. This year, there are two new coordinators with children in younger grades who have really taken the bull by the horns! Plan to keep it simple in case of any job action in the fall.
- **Yearbook** – Has gone to print and will be coming in around June 22. There was a great team of people involved including Claude Lukawesky, Amy Carter and Sarah Brooks.
- Thanks to Frank Chang for his help with the new software; to Paul Brookes for providing his printer contact; to Sandra Northmore and Sue Eisner for helping in the computer labs with the kids.
- We placed a record breaking order of 560 yearbooks.
- **Chess Club** - Run by Stephanie DeHaan and again was very successful.
- **Kilometre Club** – Although separate from Claude's H&S portfolio, this initiative was also very successful this year. Claude thanked the H&S and told the group that she ensures that parents are aware of where the funds to run the program come from. Bessborough is starting a similar club, piggybacking off of us!

FUNDRAISING – LYNDA DEBONO

- We've had another fantastic year - every event was very successful!
- Unfortunately, the great team that we've had are all leaving – she is looking to fill every position.
- Lynda would also like to start a 'working group' for fundraising.
- Acorn Cards, QSP and Mabels Labels are all great little initiatives that do make money.
- Fundscript has not done as well as hoped but we'll continue with this program as it seems to be something that takes awhile to catch on.
- Another big project that Lynda would like to undertake this year is an 'Online Marketplace'.

SARAH DAWSON – COMMUNICATIONS

- We will be revamping the current website to make it even better – cleaner and clearer.
- And the communication system is also going to get even better. This year, when class parents were occasionally required to send out emails to their classes, they were sometimes taking longer to go out.
- Sarah thanked Frank Chang for all of his help with the website this year.
- Volunteers – Starting this fall, every single person who volunteers in the school will need to get a police check. Information about this new procedure will be included with class parent

communication before the end of the school year. It will also be included in the September Package. Right now, Northlea has just 200 parents with police checks on file.

>Amy Carter – Asked about parent volunteers for trips and whether someone in the office will be cross-checking the forms to ensure parents who want to go on trips have had their police checks. Kathy agreed that they will need to ensure this happens.

>Lisa Peirce – Will parents get notified when their police check has expired? Kathy says that this will not happen so we'll need to figure out a system. We may need to streamline all renewals to September.

SARAH DAWSON – EXTRA CURRICULAR

- The extra-curricular program is going along quite nicely and will continue for next year.
- This year, the kids really loved yoga – we'll need to find something new and innovative for next year!
- Sarah says the survey to gauge interest in new programs didn't work – we'll just look at what's on trend plus include the core courses.
- There are two new Co-ordinators who are interested in helping with the extra-curricular programs.
- Northlea has helped both Bennington and Bessborough schools set up similar programs.

>Kara Pearson-Kane said she's had questions about being a class parent for next year and wondered if there would be any communication around this before the summer. Sarah said that there will be a notice posted on the school website soon.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT – SUE BROOKES

- Sue took the group through the report ending May 31, 2012. Our net revenue was \$68,460 and she noted that Marketplace continues to do well. We had closing reserves of \$18,000.
- One funding proposal (for the school play) will not proceed and the money will be returned. Ms. Capes and Mlle. Marshall have decided to take a break after four years and they cannot hold onto the money for the following year.

MOTION Julie Brown, Rachel Chernos-Line
TO ACCEPT THE CURRENT STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENSES
CARRIED

6. AEYSHA FUNDRAISER – RACHEL CHERNOS-LIN

- Rachel told the group that we've chosen a bench that will be put near the Grade 1-3 climber. It will be red - Aeysha's favourite colour.
- This bench is TDSB approved and is designed to include a plaque. It should weather well.
- After fundraising efforts, we are short \$294.36 for the bench, including taxes and shipping. Kathy will pay for the installation.
- Kathy told the group that Ms. Caliendo will have a year-end party and Aeysha's family will be invited. They will show the family a picture of the bench and let them know that it's been ordered.
- The family will also be given a keepsake box and be invited back to see the bench, once installed in the fall.

MOTION Rachel Chernos-Lin, Gina Fortsas
THAT THE H&S CONTRIBUTE ADDITIONAL FUNDS OF \$294.36 TO PURCHASE
THIS BENCH IN HONOUR OF AEYSHA
CARRIED

7. NEW BUSINESS – WILMAR KORTLEEVER

Election/Nomination of Slate of H&S Executives:

- Wilmar told the group that two executives who are leaving are not in attendance - Lisa Howarth and Sarah Stevens.
- He thanked Claude Lukawesky, the outgoing Community Events Chair for her commitment. She is very active and is still interested in being involved next year. Also, thanked me, the outgoing Recording Secretary. Both Claude and Erica were presented with potted orchids.

MOTION Julie Brown, Sue Brookes
THAT THE RULE OF BALLOT BE SUSPENDED AND THE SLATE OF EXECUTIVES BE
ACCLAIMED.

All in favour - CARRIED

MOTION Wilmar Kortleever, Sue Brookes
TO EMPOWER THE NEW EXECUTIVE TO FILL ANY VACANCIES AND ADD POSITIONS AS
REQUIRED.

All in favour - CARRIED

8. NEXT MEETING – WILMAR KORTLEEVER

The next meeting will be in September 2012 at a date to be determined.

MOTION Gina Fortsas, Lisa Peirce
TO ADJOURN THE MEETING

CARRIED

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.