

SEVEN OAKS EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.
Meeting Tuesday, January 10, 2012
5:00 Seven Oaks School Division Board Room
830 Powers Street

MINUTES

Present:

Margaret Brett, President
Irv Simmonds Vice President
Wayne Shimizu, Treasurer
Pat Stefanchuk, Past President
Dawne Smithson, Secretary
Mario Coquete Director
Ajit Kaur Deol O.M., Director
Ramona Gallos, Director
Bernie Gowryluk, Director
Kraig Hillis, Director
Cam MacIver, Director
Jerry Maslowsky, Director
Steve Medwick, Director

Absent:

Ted Ash, Director
Trisha Volk, Director
Krista Wilson, Director

Guests:

Gerry Corr, West Kildonan Collegiate
Alice McGregor, West Kildonan Collegiate
Judy Forbes, Garden City Collegiate
Blair Peppler, Maples Collegiate
G. Birse, Maples Collegiate
Filomena Costa, Maples Collegiate

Margaret Brett called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm.

1. Question/Answer Period with High School Administrators & Counsellors

She stated that there were a number of invited guests in attendance (administrators and counselors) from the Seven Oaks High schools. She stated that the goal of having them here is to obtain insight into what the needs are with respect to scholarship funding in the Seven Oaks School Division.

Gerry Corr (West Kildonan) stated that there are many students who would not be able to attend post secondary education without the support of the Foundation. They provide the students with information about the scholarships

available and determine if they are eligible. He stated there are some scholarships where the criteria make it difficult to find students who are eligible.

Some of the criteria is based on history and does not fit the societal needs. He cited saying a scholarship is for a student with financial needs can put students off from applying.

Discussion took place on how to best incorporate financial need into the guidelines for scholarships in a manner that will not cause students a concern.

The potential of allowing the schools to have the opportunity to change the criteria as long as it was approved by the board was put forward.

Discussion took place on:

- The need for increased focus on bursaries which provide a larger amount of financial support
- Size of scholarships, potential for larger amounts, i.e. the Tallman four year scholarship
- Fundraising initiatives that various schools have with respect to dollars for post secondary education. It was noted that while some schools fundraise, i.e. Maples has a fashion show, not all do.
- What is the right amount needed for scholarship to really make a difference.
- Percentage of scholarship that are actually used – estimated to be 80%
- Ability for schools to be flexible to determine amount of scholarship, i.e. 3 x \$400 or one at \$1,200.
- Potential minimum amount of scholarship that would make a difference – estimated at \$800
- General program at university is average \$3,500 a year
- Can prohibit student from post secondary education whose families cannot afford and student is reluctant to take on debt
- Need for scholarships to not be based solely on academics
- Need outstrips dollars available
- Potential to involve students in fundraising for post secondary education
- Need to approach alumni to support post secondary education initiatives

Margaret thanked everyone for their input and indicated that the exchange had been informative and would be valuable as SOEF moves forward with post secondary support and fundraising initiatives.

2. Approval of Agenda

Pat Stefanchuk/Cam Maclver

That the agenda for the meeting be adopted as listed.”

Carried.

3. Approval of Minutes of December 13, 2011

Kraig Hillis/Ramona Gallos

“That the minutes of the December 13th, 2011, meeting be approved.”

Carried.

4. Correspondence

Margaret stated that the correspondence folder is being circulated for the committee’s review.

5. Publications Committee

Pat stated that the Publications Committee met after the December meeting and decided to do a write up on the Platinum Jets for the upcoming newsletter. They have found out who to contact and they will highlight one of students who received a scholarship in June. Daren Wowchuk of ChangeMakers will interview Emma Stefanchuk, recent graduate of Garden City Collegiate. The newsletter is slated for end of February, beginning of March. The next one is slate for May and the one after that for the fall.

Margaret questioned whose responsibility it was to update the website. Wayne responded that ChangeMakers is supposed to be looking after the updates. Wayne stated he will talk to Change Makers re amendments which have already been noted, but a process needs to be established to ensure updates are provided to ChangeMakers as required and followed up on to ensure are done.

6. Fund Raising

Spud, Steak and Beverage

Wayne confirmed tickets are \$20 and stated he has tickets available for committee members.

Margaret highlighted the need for better record keeping at this year’s event. She noted that the two grand prizes to date are the Avion points and the Canada Inn one night stay. She encouraged committee members to assist with the solicitation of prizes.

Ramona Gallos/Pat Stefanhuk

“That the Foundation approves the expenditure of \$300.00 for the purchase of prizes for the Spud, Steak and Beverage event.”

Carried

A letter will be sent to the three high schools for potential prizes. Discussion took place on how to handle \$15.00 support tickets. Decision was they could attend in but not eat.

Margaret stated that the prize packages will be put together at the School Division office on February 8th, and asked committee members, if available to assist.

Discussion took place on the venue, Essence at Canad Inn Garden City. It was noted there had been some change in the set up of the venue, i.e. stage is smaller. Wayne stated that he had looked at the venue and that it will work.

Wayne will ask Norma to prepare posters for the event for distribution to the schools.

Margaret circulated a work schedule for volunteers for the event.

Auction tickets will be 25 for \$10 for 3 for \$10 for major prizes.

7. Financial Reports

Presentation of the financial report was deferred to the February meeting. Wayne stated that the next statement from the Winnipeg Foundation will be available in January. He reviewed Balance Sheet as at November 30, 2011.

8. New Business

Margaret stated that the annual meeting of the Foundation is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14th, 2012. A Nominating Committee was struck consisting of Gerry Maslowsky, Dawne Smithson and Ramona Gallos.

The next meeting of the board of Directors is Tuesday, January February 14th, 2012.

President

Secretary