



Cooper Landing School Parent Advisory Committee

19030 Bean Creek Road • Cooper Landing, Alaska 99572-9704 • (907) 595-1244

PAC Meeting Minutes 12.9.2015

Meeting called to order at 12:35pm

Roll call:

Tommy Gossard, Virginia Morgan, Susanna LaRock, Heather Harrison, Doug Hayman, Laura Johnson, Jessica Larsen, Kathy Recken,

Approval of Agenda:

The agenda was approved as written.

Review and Approval of Minutes:

The action items in the minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. The following was noted:

- Susanna and Virginia resolved the discrepancies in the treasury reports.
- **AI:** Mr. Gossard will put the letter writing campaign on the agenda for the January CLCC meeting.
- The links provided by Mr. Hayman and inserted in the last minutes answered our outstanding questions that Heather was trying to get answered.
- During the course of the meeting Mr. Hayman followed up on finding the school district's statement in support of small schools that we could not find after the last meeting.

The minutes from the November meeting were approved.

Addition of New Members:

No potential new members present.

Principal's Report:

The school year is already almost half over, so they are in the process of doing assessments, report cards, and the like.

Mr. Hayman is happy to research anything if there are any questions to be looked into.

Some of the swags were given to teachers at Tustumena Elementary to hang in their classrooms. They are a nice addition, and are appreciated.

As he received information from Pegge Erkeneff during the meeting, Mr. Hayman also reported to us that the school district's resolution on behalf of small schools is still in draft form with the legislative committee of the Board. It was reviewed on Monday and will go into the next work session of the Board in January. It's likely it will be adopted that night at the Board meeting. **AI:** Pegge said she would send him the draft when she's back in office, and Mr. Hayman will forward to us. We were reminded that it is still in draft form at this time.

Teacher's Report:

Mr. Gossard asked whether the PAC would be paying for skiing once again, and at what level. Because the PAC balance is substantial currently, he put forth the idea to pay for skiing in full and not require the \$20/student fee this year. A discussion followed about this option. Conclusions were made that paying \$20/student is a good way to get commitment for attendance, it's an important precedent to keep because the PAC fund is not always so high, and paying in a deferred manner is fine for those who need the financial help. A movement was made for the PAC to pay all but \$20/student for skiing again this year, and that deferred payments would be permitted. The movement was seconded and voted upon in favor.

We have no artist-in-residence scheduled yet. The funds are still there and available for it, so we are not missing out on the opportunity at this point. He will expand the search to other artists to see what he can schedule.

Mr. Gossard will not be at the next PAC meeting, but he will leave notes.

Treasurer's Report:

The PAC fund balance is currently \$7274.03.

There were two no-show/no-pay vendors for the November Market, and payment for four elves is still outstanding. If those revenues come in (\$345 total), the revenue from the November Market will stand at \$2408.75. It was expressed that there will not be a big push to get funds from the no-show vendors, but a harder line will be drawn next year for payment ahead of time, as the Market is about at capacity for vendors. It's expected that payment for elves will come in, and some public pressure will be applied if it doesn't.

Although it is a school fund raiser and not a PAC fund raiser, we received the report that the swags brought in \$1226.18 this year, which is a nice amount. This was in spite of being less frugal with the supplies. Laura pointed out that she had donated some deeply discounted ornaments that she found in the stores after Christmas last season. We were encouraged to keep our eyes out for more this year in after-Christmas sales, to provide for next year's swags.

November Saturday Market Report, May Market Pre-Planning, and CLCC Conference Coordination:

AI: Susanna will take care of getting thank you notes made, signed and sent by the students to all the volunteers and helpers who assisted with the swags and Market and other school needs recently.

Although in the past the markets have been held on second Saturdays, we decided to set a new precedent of holding the markets on the Saturday before Thanksgiving and the Saturday before Mother's Day each year. This makes the next market May 7, 2016, and the following on November 19, 2016.

Jessica brought to the PAC's attention that the Community Club is initiating an effort to draw conferences to town in the shoulder seasons, and they are interested in having commitments from local businesses and organizations (including the PAC) to provide services, activities, and events for groups that may be in town for these conferences. This brings out-of-town money in for fund raisers, etc, and we should be ready to consider flexibility in our Market dates if a big group is scheduled to be in Cooper Landing on a particular date. **AI:** A survey regarding interest in supporting this initiative will be going out soon, and we decided to fill it out together at the January PAC meeting. We tentatively brought up that if a group is scheduled at least six months in advance, we can probably plan market scheduling around having extra people in town.

The November Market bake sale was successful. We discussed that at future markets, our selling of the soups can be improved by having a soup menu with descriptions of the offerings. This time the signs were too small and it's a lot of work for the bake table person to talk through every option each time.

It was agreed that the markets have been a really positive way to do PAC fund raising - it's fun, a good way to share the work load so nobody feels overworked, nicely social, and successful.

Laura brought it to our attention that Arden is open to the idea of the St. Patrick's Day fundraiser being held at Sunrise Café again. Everyone expressed appreciation at that, but a general agreement was made that we are happy with our other fund raising alternatives currently.

The school bought equipment to do plant starts for the May Market, and we need to do some planning ahead to make it happen. If we do flowers, they will need to be started in February, March for vegetables. We will need a clear idea by January meeting what seeds to get. **AI:** We decided to create a gardening committee at the January PAC meeting to make some decisions about what to grow.

Doing flowers was discussed as probably not feasible at this time, as they take so much extra time and we don't have much expertise or experience with them. Kathy mentioned that Forget-Me-Not Nursery in Indian might do deals for school fund raisers if we were interested in getting some flower starts from them for baskets. But because we have our own equipment for making starts, we decided to probably just forego flowers for now. The gardening committee formed next month can make these decisions.

Christmas program:

We scheduled set-up for Thursday, December 10, at 9am. Anyone who can help, please come.

"Small Schools Matter" letter-writing campaign:

Heather, Kathy and Virginia met after the last meeting to put together a display of salient points for letter writers to use. It was posted at a writing station at the November Market, but no letters were

written then. This is likely because there was no one manning the station, drawing attention to it or encouraging support. We made some assignments for continuing the campaign:

AI: Laura will put the display onto the tri-fold board that was used for the elf auction so it is more sturdy and useful. **AI:** Virginia will put the campaign on the Crier and bring the writing station/display to the January CLCC meeting. **AI:** Laura will bring the station/display to the next CLAPC meeting. **AI:** We will ask Angel to bring it to the next Chamber meeting. **AI:** Susanna will bring it to the next Seniors meeting – because it is for the school, she can go during the school day. **AI:** In general, whenever any of us attends any meeting, we need to stop by the school to get the station/display and bring it along. We will have it at the Christmas party and available at the school when it is not elsewhere.

Agenda scheduling clarifications:

Jessica requested the PAC's help to interpret the bylaws and give direction as to the requirements for requesting agenda items and publicly posting the agenda. After reviewing the bylaws, it was established that the only hard-and-fast requirement is that the agenda be publicly posted (usually to the Crier) at least 5 days prior to the scheduled PAC meeting. **AI:** To comply, Jessica will request agenda items about two weeks prior to the meeting, require agenda items to be submitted 8 days prior, and submit the agenda to the Crier 7 days prior, for posting 6 days prior.

Next meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13, at 12:30pm.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.