

St. John's High School Centennial Reunion
Steering Committee Meeting
March 22, 2010

Present: Brian Burdy, Sam Singer, Carolyn Rickey, Sandi Lamont, Sandy Hyman, Chris Dewar, Rick Hemmerling, Gloria Kropla, Corie Seburn, Linda Bulka, Wendy Pinchbeck, John Olynyk, Carole Kurdydyk, Victor Spigelman

Regrets: Yuri Korchynski, Sue Gibb, Pam Dart, Dani Driedger, Jess Leung

Meeting was called to order at 5:10.

Approval of March 8 Minutes

- Moved by Gloria, Seconded by Corie that the minutes be accepted as written. Carried.

Financial Report – Corie Seburn

- Working balance - \$25, 635.02 (plus one outstanding deposit). Alumni Wall balance \$6,758.23 (\$4,300 at Children's Heritage Fund, \$2,458.23 in alumni account). Petty Cash - \$133.08
- BMO is now charging a fee to deposit a cheque. Corie is looking into.

Memory Book – Wendy Pinchbeck (for Pam Dart)

- Waiting on a few items, proofs from Cori, a message from committee chairs; biggest thing is recognition of advertisers and sponsors.
- Gloria, Wendy and Pam will follow-up on businesses approached last year.
- A new quote has been given based on 1,500 registrations. Cost per book, approx \$4.00.

TASK: Carole to ask MB Homecoming 2010 what logo they would like used.

Marketing – Sandy Hyman

- Sandy read a message from Laurie Findlay at the *Winnipeg Free Press* detailing the articles/awareness ads they will run for us. They will print awareness ads each month before the reunion starting at the end of March. Brian and Sandy to work on the content for these ads.
- Linda suggested Tom Chaput, a teacher, be contacted for layout ideas.
- PSA's will be sent to the ethnic presses.
- **TASK:** A contract has to be signed with the Free Press. Carole will look after.

Music – Rick Hemmerling

- **Gala Choir** – Email sent out stating choir members will have to pay for a gala ticket as all the committee are doing.
DISCUSSION: can people come just to sing in the choir and then leave. Group agreed that this would not work. Rick will advise singers.
- Burton Cummings, who is bringing his band in to play with him, would like to do a longer set than originally agreed on. Rick suggested the following timeline for performers: Choir – 10 minutes (Jerusalem, selections from Camelot, Gilbert and Sullivan); school vocal jazz choir – 10 minutes; Colleen Savage – 20 minutes; Burton – 60 minutes.

- Rick will ask the music teachers if choirs and bands would like to perform Sunday. The alumni choir could perform at the closing.
- Approximately \$300 has been spent for music; may increase by \$150 or so.
- **Coffee House** – a list of performers has been sent to Carole.

Gala – Carolyn Rickey

- Nothing new to report.

Souvenirs – Gloria Kropla, Wendy Pinchbeck

- The on-line store is running; 2 custom jackets have been sold, as well as a few clothing items.
- The e-store has had about 5,000 hits. Question: How many visitors have been to the reunion site?
- TASK Brian will check with Yuri on this matter.
- TASK Maria is looking at registration package items and will report next meeting.

Coffee House – Gloria Kropla

- Items to be served: red velvet cake, other baking from Sals, tea and coffee
- Rick and Gloria will meet with the custodians closer to the event to discuss gym layout.
- Chairs available from the division will not be enough. Victor suggested calling the Congregation Etz Chayim to see about using theirs.
- TASK: Brian will call to inquire.

Registration – Maria Pikta

- Carole will mail chairs new totals with revenues tonight.
- Total registrations, 611; gala tickets 790, social 586, coffee house 723, pancake breakfast, 691.
- A sign-up sheet for Grant Park Shopping Center on March 26, and 27 was circulated.
- It would be helpful if all committee members could commit time for at least one display date.
- Thanks to Murray and Doreen for emailing and phoning non-committee volunteers.

Social – Wendy Pinchbeck

- Wendy has met with the new contact at Canad Inns and is reviewing the booking made with the previous manager.
- TASK: Wendy will report on the confirmed costs for this event at the next meeting—taxes included.

Sponsors

- It was suggested that all committee members try to search out sponsors to help Victor as he is not in town a great deal of the time. If one is to approach a potential sponsor he/she should check with Victor first to avoid duplication and to let him know when a sponsor is secured and all the related details. This will allow him to maintain a centralized control list. We need many more sponsors than we already have confirmed. This is a priority now.
- TASK: Brian will talk to Yuri about setting up the sponsors' link on the web site.

Web – Yuri Korchynski

- Yuri's report was circulated to chairs before the meeting.
- He and Carole have discussed posting names of attendees on line. A list can be created, but may not appear by decade. A big concern is getting registrants' permission. Will continue to pursue as a lot of calls and messages have been received asking for such a list.
- TASK: Brian will check with Yuri on how to facilitate this process.

New Business

- Email Messages:
 - Paddlewheel Queen – March 16 from Stephanie. Question: will their reduced ticket offer for attendees be available before and after reunion, or just during?
 - Kelekis Restaurant – March 21 from Jim Pappas.

DISCUSSION: Both businesses were approached about giving a coupon or discount for those attending reunion, which could be included in the registration bags. While both offers are appreciated, if accepted, the committee would now have to take on the job of selling and controlling coupons, and ensuring space is prepared and maintained to promote these offers. Concerns were raised about the extra time and volunteers that would be needed, and having tables set up to sell or promote outside businesses. It was noted the committee had previously decided to sell only our own items at the reunion.

DECISION: we do not undertake hosting or selling items for any businesses. Support can be given to the reunion by becoming a sponsor or advertiser.

- Centenarian tea - March 14 from Ronna Goldberg.

DECISION: we will put up posters or display pamphlets for the seniors group only. They are a non profit group.

TASK: Carole to advise Stephanie, Jim and Ronna.

- Opening Ceremony – Linda Bulka will bring greetings on behalf of the school division and St. John's . Ron Romanowski has agreed to read four of his poems.
- Sam Singer mentioned the importance of having a military memorial during the reunion. Brian and Sam will meet to plan a remembrance ceremony.
- Heritage Winnipeg event will be held at the school in May to celebrate Manitoba Day (May 12). More information to follow.
- Change of meeting day: Jess would like dates changed to alternate Mondays so he can attend.

DECISION: Future meetings will be changed to Tuesday. Next meeting dates are: April 6, 20, May 4, May 18

- Bright Lights– Chris Dewar will mail her list for the memory book to chairs. She's looking for names primarily from the 70's and 80's.
Who is a bright light? Someone who's made a success of their life to the benefit of others.
- Could the list become part of the school or division's web site?

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday April 6, 5:00 at the school