

November 18, 2015

Attendees: Heather Kirk, Henry Troup, Bruce Ewen, Debra Ford, Mary Sunderland, Shaun Hassanali, Jessica Breckenridge, Roberta Hurman, Barb Moulton, Norm Gibson

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Minutes of the October meeting were brought forward for approval. Mary made a motion to approved. Jessica seconded. Approved by all.

Update on past events:

Scavenger Hunt

The scavenger hunt was another huge success despite contestants being poured on for close to an hour! This year, we had both familiar and new faces which was great to see! In total, there were 36 participants (down three teams from last year) but it was still a perfect size group for such an event. Our adding system was greatly improved from last year, taking about 30 minutes of time to decipher the winners! (Last year was about 2 hours!) In the 30 minutes of time, guests enjoyed food and beverages from Danby's and enjoyed taking posting their pictures of the fun they were having. In the end, 14 teams went home with prizes and the person voted best costume (papa smurf) won 100.00. It was so good to see such a positive reaction to the event (despite the rain) and talk has already started on what the theme will be for next year. It was such a great way to get the community together for a night of fun and I'm so thankful for the support of the MCA. Thank you again for your support in creating such a memorable event for our community! Laura Rupert

Halloween Contest

Details were posted one week prior. Residents made comments online about homes they had seen. One judge toured each quadrant plus Bleeks. Winners each received a \$25 gift card. Next year will include Biltmore. Question raised about whether contest should only be open to members. Should be discussed further. Makes sense.

Phone Books

Most phone books were delivered within 5 days of being received. Copies have been mailed and delivered to advertisers. Another financial success that will support continuing community activities. Advertising was up this year over last.

Agenda Items

1. Santa visit

Set for November 29 3pm-5pm. Santa is confirmed and 5 elves have volunteered. Tammy is looking after deciding crafts. Henry has arranged the cookies be baked by a member of Ashton church. Mary will prepare the icing for the cookies. Heather will pick up candy canes, cider and hot chocolate and candy to decorate cookies. Lights were tested tonight and they work. Beaver's will try to come and sing a song as the lights are turned on.

2. Winter carnival

Current newsletter ask for teams interested in taking on parts of the event. Nursery school may be interested. Discussed options including a dance, canteen. Date set for February 21 weekend to avoid Valentines' Day and snowmobile event .

3. Rink

Request in upcoming newsletter. Jessica will add to Facebook. Henry will contact last year's volunteers looking for both teams and a co-ordinator.

4. Safety update

The city moved ahead with getting 50km signs painted on each entrance coming into town. A white centre line was also painted on Bleeks as requested. A speed board sign has been requested – we just wait for our turn. Signs are still to be added to the four welcome to Munster signs. Norm has several ideas. We have also investigated the lawn signs Manotick uses. We have a quote of \$2.89 per unit for 100 signs plus \$60 shipping from Print1 in Brampton who did Manotick's signs. Scott had indicated at one point that he had funding for signage of some kind. Norm is meeting with him in a few weeks and will determine how much to know what we can go ahead with. Previous safety meetings didn't turn out huge attendance and those who did come had different ideas so just trying to keep things moving forward with initiatives that everyone can live with.

5. Community use of school

Jessica received an update from the board suggesting that "I have the agreement in my office and am somewhat familiar with its contents. If we are to look at the longer term sustainability of using Munster Elementary School for a community centre, free isn't very sustainable. The Board of Trustees allowed the school to remain open for limited public access with no time frames involved in the motion. We recognize the importance the space plays in the Community but we are unable to offer free space long term. The long standing agreement dealt with free space on the evenings and weekends. The agreement does not include space available during the day. In order to offset costs involved with keeping the site open I am asking that groups pay CUS fees."

In looking at a fee chart provided the CUS fee seems to be \$5.80 an hour.

Ottawa Public Health agreed in principle to run a Better Balance Program at MES for up to 25 residents twice a week. They will cover the instructor costs but will not cover a rental. Heather proposes that MCA cover this cost as we fund many programs for kids and families but have done nothing concrete yet for seniors. The rental for this two session program is estimated at about \$130. Mary motion to approve. Norm second. All approved.

The playgroup is also working to secure a daytime spot and will pay the same rental fee.

Jessica is still working to get more information on how much space might be opened up. While on one hand it makes sense to get as much going as possible, we had been cautioned by the city to move slowly. They have someone who may be willing to teach a daytime fitness class and there is the possibility of getting the walking program running again....but one effort at a time seems the way to go.

6. Christmas decorating contest

Suggest a contest similar to Halloween. One winner for each quadrant, plus Biltmore and Bleeks. Notice in upcoming newsletter and will go on a-frame, outside Macs and on Facebook. Request for \$175 to cover 6 \$25 gift cards plus incidental expenses. Needs to be a nighttime judging. Motion by Barb to approve. Second by Jessica. All approved.

7. Scouting crests

The MCA had approved financing the cost for 1st Munster Scouting to change its crests when their sponsorship changed last year and the MCA became its sponsor. 1st Munster now comprises both a Beaver Colony and a Cub Pack. The crests are most cost-effective when purchased in a quantity of 200 which is higher than the funding original approved. Motion to increase funding to \$500 to cover the cost of 200 crests. Approved.

8. Financials

A financial report was delivered. Bruce has set things up to track revenues and expenses and to look as much as possible at what was done in the past so we can make good decisions moving forward about funding/ spending requests.

9. New Business

Playgroup funding request

A request has been put forward by the playgroup for:

“A total for a one time purchase: \$500

We would also like to request funds for purchasing craft supplies, approximately \$100 a year. We would also like to propose funding for Community programming like Kindermusic, Little rays, Princess or Superhero visits.”

Concerns were raised about the amount of the request and about the request for annual funding for craft and other supplies. As the playgroup is very unknown to us and informal there is no way to know how many attend, who attends, who is responsible. We don't know if any of the group's members support or help with community events or activities. It was proposed that we provide a one-time funding allocation of \$500, hopefully used to purchase toys. These toys will be

the property of the MCA, given on loan. Should the playgroup disband the toys are to be returned to the MCA for community use. We will not consider an annual donation for supplies. Motion to approve by Jessica. Second by Bruce. Approved. Noted that receipts must be provided to show spending. Later discussion decided the funding would be allotted in \$250 increments with the second \$250 handed over once the first set of receipts had been provided.

Caroling

A group is turning the annual Christmas caroling event into a formal parade. This is new and details are evolving but a request has been made to cover hot chocolate for the event and perhaps pizza. The request has been approved in principle pending additional details. Date for the event is December 20 4pm.

Newsletter

There has been an error in the content provided by Danby's in the newsletters that are printing now. There had been a request as well to put out a Christmas event flyer to cover the holiday events and include the new. The group approved the cost of extra printing to support Danby's as a good advertiser and community participant.

On speaking with Deb later it was determined that the best thing for them was not a flyer but pulling the previous ad to avoid confusion between the two. The front and back covers will be reprinted at a cost of about \$70, old covers removed and new put in place prior to mailing. This will delay the newsletter going out slightly but it will still be in plenty of time for next weekend's events.

Official meeting adjourned 8:10.

Next meeting is scheduled for December 16 under the new start time of 6:30.

Future dates are: January 20, February 17, March 16, April 20, May 18, June 15 (if needed)