

Minutes of the 29th Meeting of the CHS Dance Parent Committee

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

Attendance:

Kathy O'Hara, Secretary
Chris Innocente, Treasurer and Dance Night Coordinator
Nancy Miles, Newsletters
Deborah O'Connor
Frank Maestri
Nimet Mawji
AJ Innocente, Grade 9 Student Representative
Andrea Pino, Grade 10 Student Representative
Annie O'Hara, Grade 11 Student Representative
Tenzin Haines-Wangda, Grade 12 Student Representative
Fabyenne Gosselin, Faculty Representative
Connie St. Louis, Faculty Representative

1. Opening Remarks by the Co-Chairperson

Wendy Sewell was unable to attend so Fabyenne Goseselin chaired the meeting.

2. Review of the Minutes of the April 17, 2012 Meeting

The minutes of the April 17, 2012 meeting were approved.

3. Costumes Inventory

Nancy Blais was unable to attend the meeting so discussion of the costumes inventory was deferred to the next meeting. Fabyenne indicated there was a possibility that the dance program would be given more storage space next year.

4. Dance Night Evaluation

Fabyenne indicated that this year's Dance Night was the most successful Dance Night the dance program had ever had. Chris reported that revenues were \$13,580 and expenses were approximately \$2,540, generating a net profit of about \$11,000. Ticket sales were \$7,850. The Silent Auction was particularly successful, raising \$2,650 on its own. There were advertising revenues of \$1,100 and the bake sale and sale of prints, calendars, flowers and DVDs accounted for the remaining revenues. Fabyenne indicated the funds that had been raised will be used to finance guest artists, choreographers, accompanists, and trips.

There were a number of lessons learned for the organizers of future Dance Nights. Many parents of the Grade 9 students did not know what was expected of children

as ushers at Dance Night. There should be a meeting before Dance Night with the Grade 9 students. Although most of the volunteers can watch the show, there should be three volunteers in the lobby at all times to sell tickets to latecomers, watch the silent auction items, do cash box counts, etc. The class baskets for the Silent Auction had been a successful innovation and should be done again next year. It might also be possible to sell raffle tickets for smaller items. Business donations need to be solicited earlier in the school year since many businesses have already decided on their charitable donations by the end of December. It would be more informative for the audience if the write-ups of the dances in the programme were in the order that the dances were presented. A tape of the choreographers describing their dances could also be played while the curtain was closed. It was a lot of work for one student to organize the programme. Some parents had professional expertise in this area and could help out. Some activities, such as the write-ups, could also be done earlier since they have to be prepared for the presentations.

Questions were raised about the Principal's review of the Dance Night costumes, which had occurred very late in the preparations for Dance Night. There did not appear to be any written guidelines for the costumes. Fabyenne indicated that Wendy Sewell had met with the Principal to discuss the parents' concerns and the Principal had agreed to come to the DPC's June meeting to discuss the issue.

5. Planning for 2012-13 DPC Activities

Discussion of this item was deferred until the June 12, 2012 DPC meeting.

6. Roundtable

Nancy Miles will prepare a June Newsletter to report on Dance Night and inform parents that they will have another opportunity to order Dance Night DVDs on May 25. The faculty were asked whether the Grade 11 students who had taken Grade 12 dance this year and had participated in Company would be able to participate in Company next year. Fabyenne indicated that this issue was under consideration.

7. Closing Remarks

The next meeting of the DPC will be on Tuesday, June 12, 2012.

Original signed by:

Wendy Sewell
Co-Chairperson

Wendy Fournier
Co-Chairperson

Kathy O'Hara
Secretary