

Esquimalt High School Alumni Association

Minutes of Directors Meeting

7:00 pm Monday Oct. 19, 2020

Esquimalt High School Staff Room

Attendance: Dave Allen, Marilyn McCrimmon, Tina Pierik, Ryan Richard, Gary Moser, Robert Laidler, Lorna Reid, George Copley.

Regrets: Trish Best, Barry Scott, Brenda O'Connor.

1. Call to order – (Barry Scott)

In Barry's absence, Gary Moser called the meeting to order at 7:03.

2. Minutes of August 17, 2020 meeting – Marilyn McCrimmon

As there were no corrections, the minutes were accepted as circulated.

3. School Update – Tina Pierik

Tina gave a positive report about how EHS is coping with having 800 staff and students attending safely each day while honouring the necessary restrictions due to COVID.

EHS is operating on a quarter system with two 2 ½ hour classes per day. Masks are worn in the hallways, and separate outside entrances are set up for access to each of the three floors. Hand sanitizer is readily available. Students are in cohorts of 30. Tina reported that teachers and students are connecting especially well due to the longer classes. Students are coping well with the differences, even though there is less socializing. Students don't want spares – they want full timetables. Students doing classes through Link (distance education) and students who get behind due to illness, are offered support time; students who get behind due to illness are offered support time.

Basketball practices have started. An anonymous donation and a Federal Grant were both very gratefully received and very quickly utilized by various departments. International students are down from around 100 to 28.

It was noted that Barry Scott would need to communicate with graphics teacher, Tina O'Keefe, in regards to the new t-shirts.

4. PAC Update – (Barry Scott)

In Barry's absence, Tina reported that Barry had connected with PAC by email. They have only had Zoom meetings so far, but Barry's plan apparently is to attend a couple of meetings a year.

5. Treasurer's Report – Ryan Richard

The books were closed at the end of September. Ryan provided draft copies of the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Finances. A copy is attached to the minutes. Revenue was down this year due to the cancellation of Buccaneer Day. The scholarship account is healthy. Dave Allen suggested that "Merchandise - \$100" be added under proposed revenue for 2020 to 2021.

Ryan moved the acceptance of his report. Dave Allen seconded. Carried.

6. Membership, Registry & Website – Ryan Richard

Membership has been quiet. Ryan has received one email request for a yearbook. He reported that he has some "homework" to do for the website.

7. Scholarship Report – (Lorna Reid)

The discussion about scholarships began during the Treasurer's Report and continued. In response to a question from Robert, it was clarified that students must be in attendance at a post-secondary institution in order to claim the scholarship money. Gary asked whether adding a year of grace would be in order due to the COVID situation. At this point, it was decided to leave that decision with the school. We will revisit this topic in January if necessary. It was clarified that we have enough funds to offer three scholarships this year. Dave moved that we offer three scholarships this year. Marilyn McCrimmon seconded. Carried.

ACTION

1. Lorna will clarify two things with Chastity (Accounts Clerk at EHS): How much scholarship money has not yet been claimed and when do those particular scholarship amounts time out?

8. Reunions – (Trish Best)

Trish will be stepping down from this position for health reasons. A card was circulated for everyone to write a message to Trish. We all expressed how much Trish will be missed. Dave pointed out that during RibFest every year, when Trish was on duty, there was always a line for langos, a line for beverages, and a line for Trish! Dave said that Trish hoped to be able to help with fundraisers down the road.

Apparently, the grads of 1970 have postponed their planned 50th August reunion to the summer of 2021.

We discussed who might be willing to take on the role of Director of Reunions. Robert Laidler offered to take on the role. Lorna mentioned that Trish has a reunion binder which can be passed on to Robert, and Dave suggested that Robert talk to Trish to learn about the responsibilities of the Director of Reunions.

As everyone expressed their good wishes for Trish, Lorna offered to take the card as well as some flowers to Trish, to thank her for her hard work and to wish her well.

9. Other Business:

a. Update on Turf Field and RibFest– Dave Allen

Dave reported that the Turf Field has \$265,000 in the bank, and the steering committee has not given up on applying for government grants. The estimated cost will be two to three million, due to the uncertainty of the field's stability.

RibFest committee members held a successful virtual drive-through RibFest at the Esquimalt arena parking lot, and raised \$5000 for the Firefighters' charitable foundation. Participants were asked to donate \$10 for a bottle of barbecue sauce, but many gave \$20.

b. Fall Newsletter – Ryan Richard

Directors were asked to get their newsletter items to Ryan no later than Friday October 23rd.

We reviewed the planned content which was established at the August meeting.

1. Ryan received a story about the Mitchell family for the newsletter. Barry Scott co-authored part of it.
2. Tina will do a write-up on Grad 2020 and will also set up the Zoom invitation using the school's safe and licensed version of Zoom. She will send the link to Ryan who will send it on to those who register for the Zoom meeting.
3. Ryan will include instructions for members to register online in order to access the AGM via Zoom.
4. Dave distributed a 2020-2021 Fundraising Drive information sheet to be included in the newsletter. He will also write a brief piece encouraging members to consider joining the executive, as well as a piece about the donated art.

c. Donations for 2020 – Dave Allen

Dave handed out a 2020-2021 Fundraising Drive information sheet which will be included in the newsletter and will be available at the AGM.

d. AGM Planning – Mon. Nov. 16, 2020 – Marilyn McCrimmon

The 2020 AGM will be a hybrid live and Zoom meeting. Gary Moser will moderate the live meeting which will likely include all of the directors, and Tina Pierik will facilitate the Zoom meeting.

Tina pointed out that the theatre is already set up for distanced seating, and we do not anticipate going over the limit of 50 people in attendance.

We discussed how to encourage some new executive members. We know that Trish will be stepping down, and Dave will check-in with Brenda O'Connor about her intentions for next year. Robert will ask members of his reunion committee (they recently planned their 50th) if any of them are interested. Marilyn will also ask members of her 1971 grad reunion committee if any of them would be interested.

Marilyn distributed a draft copy of the AGM Agenda. Directors made additions and changes.

ACTION

1. Marilyn will send out the corrected version of the AGM Agenda to Tina for photocopying before the Nov 16th meeting, and to Ryan for posting on the website.

e. 2021 Society Projects/Activities – (Barry Scott)

In Barry's absence, we put this item forward to the January 2021 meeting.

f. Remembrance Day - Dave Allen

Dave informed the directors that Barry would like to represent the school at the Remembrance Day ceremony, as he did last year along with some leadership students. It is not yet clear if there will be a ceremony this year. Gary Moser moved that we spend \$95 for a wreath. Marilyn McCrimmon seconded. Carried.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

11. Next meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday January 18, 2021.

The AGM is scheduled for Monday November 16, 2020.

Note: The Foundation Executive Meeting was held following this meeting.

Esquimalt High School Alumni Association
c/o Esquimalt High School
847 Colville Road
Victoria, B.C. V9A 4N9
<https://esquimalt.sd61.bc.ca/our-school/alumni/>