

# Seattle Waldorf School Parent Association Meeting

June 8, 2010

7:15 pm to 9:00 pm

Grade School Campus – Music Room

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**Facilitator:** Cindy Scheyer

**Attendees:** Carolyn Cox, Shannon Hobbs, Geraldine Kline, Gabi McCarthy, Shelly McSweyn, Gretchen Matis, Natalie Steiner, Nettie Fabrie, Maribel Cuizon

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## Minutes

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**Agenda item:** Parent Association Mission Statement **Presenter:** Cindy Scheyer

*To support, educate and connect the parent body to the rest of the school in order to create a healthy community.*

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**Agenda item:** SWS Mission Statement **Presenter:** Cindy Scheyer

*We educate our students to be free human beings who impart purpose and meaning to their lives, who meet life with courage, and respond with initiative and creativity to the needs of the world and their fellow human beings.*

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**Agenda item:** Treasurer's Report **Presenter:** Shelly McSweyn

**Discussion:**

- The Parent Association account is now ~\$7,200.
- Shelly contacted Lawrence Houston about drawing up plans for the kiosk. He has come up with a plan that includes covered seating and a place to post school flyers.
- Norm Smith has stones for the retaining wall.
- May be possible to recruit parents or high students who want community service hours to help build the kiosk.
- A suggestion was made to look into a grant for \$5,000 that Home Depot provides.

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**Agenda item:** Santoro Books Fundraiser **Presenter:** Carolyn Cox

**Discussion:**

- Carolyn contacted the owner of Santoro's Books and the first Saturday in November (**November 6**) is available to host the book fair for SWS. Friday was considered and dismissed because Sound Circle meets on Friday evenings and some Kindergarten classes hold parent evenings on Fridays.
- Santoro's Books (<http://www.santorosbooks.com/>) in Greenwood offers book fairs in the bookstore for schools.
  - Just choose the date and they will make sure that a portion of all purchases will be donated to the school.
  - They handle all the accounting associated with the book fair.
  - They will work with you on title selection. You are welcome to make specific requests.
  - They donate 25% of sales in trade for books or 15% of sales in cash.

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**Agenda item:** Status of PA leadership for next year **Presenter:** Cindy Scheyer

**Discussion:**

- No one yet has expressed interest in taking of the PA leadership for next year.
  - Cindy will write a job description for publication in the final Connection.
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**Agenda item:** Compensation for Volunteer Coordinator

**Presenter:** Shannon Hobbs

**Discussion:**

- At the PA meeting in March, Shannon brought up the idea of providing a small compensation to a volunteer coordinator as an incentive for coordinating all volunteer activities and festivals at the school.
  - Shannon contacted Olympic View School, who utilizes the volunteer coordinator model to find out more about the job description and terms of compensation. She reported back on the following:
    - The volunteer coordinator is compensated about \$5,000 a year, which is 5% of the school's event budget.
    - The volunteer coordinator is the pointer person for both teachers and parent reps in addition to coordinating all school events.
    - The volunteer coordinator does not use any online sign ups. Instead, volunteers are recruited by calling individuals directly or face-to-face contact and asking individuals to volunteer for an event.
    - The volunteer coordinator is a 2-year commitment.
  - Based on this information from Olympic View, the Parent Association has decided to move forward with finding a volunteer coordinator and compensating that person \$2,900 to start.
  - Shelly suggested paying the volunteer coordinator as a subcontractor so that that person can be compensated by the Parent Association.
  - Ideally, the PA would like a volunteer coordinator identified and assigned before the first festival of the school year, which is Michaelmas.
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**Agenda item:** Chinook Book Fundraiser

**Presenter:** Cindy Scheyer

**Discussion:**

- Chinook books will be available for sale in the fall.
  - Cindy will send a notice for publication in the Connection.
  - Carolyn Cox will sign up the school to participate in the fundraiser by June 15.
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**Agenda item:** Meadowbrook Farmer's Market

**Presenter:** Natalie Steiner

**Discussion:**

- The inaugural season of the Meadowbrook Farmer's Market was on Sunday, June 6.
  - The turn-out was good.
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**Agenda item:** Michaelmas

**Presenter:** Cindy Scheyer

**Discussion:**

- Laurie Anders has agreed to provide music for the Family Dance.
  - Ingrid found a Michaelmas play in California.
  - The plan is for adults and young adults (high school age) to participate in the play. A call for volunteers will be sent for publication in the Connection.
  - The food will be a potluck with soup, salad, bread, and dessert.
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**Agenda item:** Scrip

**Presenter:** Cindy Scheyer

**Discussion:**

- Niz Marar will continue to lead this team for next year.
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**Agenda item:** Affinity Exercise

**Presenter:** Gabi McCarthy

**Discussion:**

- Gabi led us in a technique called "Affinity Exercise" in order to analyze the values and desires that drive our preferences for fundraising events at the school.
  - A summary of the exercise is as follows:
    - Values such as community and connection, inclusiveness & accessibility for all levels - \$\$ and dress (we saw value in giving appropriate opportunities to students to participate in some way as well); alignment with SWS values/mission; creativity; clarity of purpose are important.
    - A nice, feel good, a bit informal environment is desired along with comfort and ease.
    - There is *dread* around money, specifically the feeling of pressure to give beyond one's means.
    - There is a tension between the central values of community and connection and the goal of raising money.
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## ***Wrap up***

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**Next Parent Association Meeting:**

**Tuesday, September 14, 7 pm to 9 pm in the Grade School Campus  
– Music Room**