

# Seattle Waldorf School Parent Association Meeting

December 14, 2010

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Grade School Campus – Music Room

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**Facilitator:** Cindy Scheyer

**Attendees:** Shannon Hobbs, Gabi McCarthy, Shelly McSweyn, Cindy Scobee, Margaret Leonard, Ingrid Orlow, Sheryl Madden, Aaron Parker, Lana Fuller, Catharina Reinhall, 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:** Winter Faire Update **Presenter:** Shelly McSweyn and Shannon Hobbs

**Discussion:**

- The event netted \$2,600 in funds; profits were more at last year's event.
- Overall, the Winter Faire was a success. Many parents commented about how happy their children were to be making crafts and all enjoyed visiting with each other in the café, Huckleberry Hall and craft rooms.
- Mobilization of the volunteer base still needs improvement; Shelly and Shannon worked 2 months prior to the event; they both stayed after the event to clean up, and Tim Love continued cleaning up for 2 more hours.
- Issue was raised that the event might be too big; perhaps cut down on the number of activities or no activities and just have vendors and a café. Other parents responded that they love all of Winter Faire.
- Proposal was suggested that each class be responsible for an activity similar to how activities are handled at the May Faire.

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**Agenda item:** May Faire Planning **Presenter:** Cindy Scheyer

**Discussion:**

- Cindy will schedule a meeting in January with the class parent reps to discuss May Faire plans.
- One of the topics of discussion in January will be to discuss the goal/purpose of May Faire. Is the purpose of May Faire for community building or is its purpose a fundraiser?
- Because the Steiner Diner is labor-intensive and the expenses are high, a suggestion was made to not have a diner this year, and instead, have families bring their own picnic lunch. We'll still have a Bake Sale with pb&j sandwiches and hard-boiled eggs.
- Possibly add a community dance to the event.

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**Agenda item:** Update on the screening of "The Race to Nowhere" **Presenter:** Cindy Scobee

**Discussion:**

- The movie screening was a success!
- A diverse audience attended the screening (college professors, non Waldorf families, and so on).
- After paying for all the expenses (rental of screening room at EMP, licensing fee of the movie, and so on),

the event earned money for the parent association.

- There is a possibility for another screening of the movie in the future.

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**Agenda item:** Parent Talent Night **Presenter:** Sheryl Madden

**Discussion:**

- Scheduled for **Saturday, February 5** in Huckleberry Hall; time is TBD.
- Tickets for the event will be sold starting in January; cost of tickets is TBD.
- Last year, pizza was served.
- More about the event will be available in January after details are finalized.

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**Agenda item:** Tent City Update **Presenter:** Cindy Scheyer

**Discussion:**

- Grades 4 through 8 are knitting 100 scarves to give to Tent City residents.
- A wish list for Tent City residents is published in the December 3 issue of the Connection.
- We discussed doing an SWS community project to collect needed items during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of January. We'll let families know about this in the Jan 7<sup>th</sup> Connection and then in the January 21<sup>st</sup> issue we'll let families know we'll be collecting items throughout the following week.

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**Agenda item:** Faculty and Staff Gifts **Presenter:** Cindy Scheyer

**Discussion:**

- Please note that families can freely give faculty and staff gifts on their own.

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**Agenda item:** Topics of discussion at future meetings **Presenter:** Cindy Scheyer

**Discussion:**

- How do we encourage high school parent participation in the Parent Association?
- A discussion on specific topics of Waldorf Education; perhaps invite Nettie to speak at one of the meetings.
- Gardening; invite Tim Love.
- School budget information.

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**Agenda item:** Photos for the Yearbook **Presenter:** Cindy Scheyer

**Discussion:**

- Jane Higgins is requesting photos from each class: preschool through Grade 12 (current school year only) for inclusion in the SWS yearbook:
  - CDs or DVDs need to be turned in by **February 16, 2011** but the earlier the better.
  - **Each Child in the Class?** Ideally, we would have a photo of each child in the class, at least in combination with other students in a group shot. Group shots work best if only 3 or 4 kids, otherwise faces are too small. We will most likely not include individual school photos, so it would be great to have each child included, if possible.
  - **Each Class Event?** It would also be nice to depict each major class event from the current school year. However, because we need to send the yearbook to the printer in early March, we can't show the spring events. Photos need to be shot in the fall and early winter, or the preceding summer's camping trip.
  - **All-School Events:** We also need photos from school events such as Michaelmas and Winter Faire.
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**Agenda item:** Photos for the Yearbook (contd.)

**Presenter:** Cindy Scheyer

**Discussion:**

- **High Resolution:** Because the yearbook is offset printed, the photos need to be high-resolution. Most digital cameras will take high-resolution if they are *set to the largest file size choice*. (See your camera manual if you need help with this.) Photo format can be raw, tiff or jpeg.
  - **Do Not Use Phone Cameras:** They do not take high-resolution photos, and will not be useable.
  - **Photo Organization:**
    - **Delete Bad Photos:** Please delete any photos that are obviously out of focus, or way too dark or too light. We can make slight adjustments to exposure, but not if they are very dark or very light. We can't make an out of focus photo sharp.
    - **Organize into Folders:** Place photos into a folder named by the grade, i.e.: "Grade3". If photos are from a specific class event, place those into a sub-folder, i.e.: "Grade3\_Play\_Title"
    - **Burn:** Put photos onto a CD or DVD and turn into the school office.
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### ***Wrap up***

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**Next Parent Association Meeting:**

**Tuesday, January 11, 2011 7 pm to 8:30 pm in the Grade School  
Campus – Music Room**