

Minutes for NGRHS Alumni Meeting – April 26, 2009 (by Merle Veinot)

Present: Sylvia Mackay, Alice Silver, Florence Wright, Norma McClarey, Shirley Crouse, Wendy Looke (treasurer), Jonathan Crouse (president), Coline MacDonald (co-secretary), Jessica Spidle (vice-president), Gary Seamone, Merle Veinot (co-secretary), Glen Demone (NGRHS Principal)

Jonathan brought the meeting to order and requested Jessica read of the minutes of 27 April 2008. Wendy moved the minutes be accepted as read, seconded by Shirley, and approved by those present.

Wendy presented the treasurer's report. Balance as of April 26, 2009 is \$1673.85. See the complete treasurer's report for April 26, 2009 on the Financial Reports page. Wendy moved that the report be accepted, seconded by Merle. Motion Approved.

Merle moved that the website be moved to a hosting service that provides MySQL database support. This would allow others with user name and password access to assist with the maintenance of the database and improved sharing of information on the database. The cost would be a few dollars more than the current sight but depending on the current exchange rate with the USD as the current site is paid in USDs. The new site would also allow us to have a .ca address. Jessica seconded the motion and the group approved the motion.

A committee meeting should be held by this fall to review the constitution and recommend amendments to be presented a general meeting during the reunion of 2010. Items suggested to be discussed include the definition of a member; an increase in the annual fee to \$3.00, that \$1 of the fee goes directly into the bursary fund. Bill Bruhm has been appointed to chair the Constitution Committee.

The winners of the prizes at Guppy's Promotional Dinner were:

- New Germany Building Supplies - Kim and Cy Mayo's daughter
- Trot in Time ride from Basil Oickle - Sylvia Mackay
- Christmas tree from Anzil Blackadar - Bill Bruhm
- New Germany Irving - Allison Grant from LaHave

A committee will be organized in the fall to make preparations for the Guppy's Promotional Dinner next spring. Need to start planning early and advertise well in advance of the event.

Canada Day Parade: Jonathan has agreed to take on the task of organizing the Canada Day 2009 Parade entry. Coline, Shirley, Gary, Florence, Jessica, Norma agreed to help decorate the float. Gary offered the use of a truck. Jonathan is now looking for old school desks and a black board. The float will also be in the Bridgewater parade to advertise the Reunion in 2010.

There was a discussion about having a dance to raise funds for the Alumni. Little interest was shown in doing so.

A discussion followed about the Alumni Bursary. The application form will have a statement added that at least one parent must be a 'paid up' member of Alumni.

The question was raised that if the parents don't qualify as members if grandparents could be included in that instead. This is an item for the constitution committee.

Wendy passed a motion to give two bursaries this year of \$200 each. The motion was seconded by Alice and was approved.

The Alumni thanks Keith Trimper for the collection of old NGRHS Yearbooks. There is one other person who has mentioned returning Year Books for our use. Anyone who has Year Books at home that they no longer have a sentimental use for, we will gratefully accept them.

The Alumni received a thank-you note from Ryan Wilson who was last years recipient of the Alumni Bursary that he used at NSCC in Bridgewater. Ryan is the son of Alumni member Janice Wilson (Joudrey).

The school has a large picture collection and the chore of organizing these have been taken on by Alice and Sylvia.

Coline moved that an album of memorabilia be prepared of the last reunion. The motion was seconded by Florence. Motion approved.

Research is continuing into establishing the Alumni Association as an organization that can issue receipts for income tax purposes. These contributions could provide increased funds for bursaries, class pictures, etc.

Glen reports:

1. The school is currently going through the process of being accredited.
2. The gardens around the school are being rejuvenated with help of Ms. Connie Cole, New Germany Lions Club and a Millennium Bursary.
3. The drama club presents "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" May 7, 8 & 9 @ 7:00pm and Sat. matinee @ 2pm
4. On Saturday May 23 a Spring Carnival is being held. From the NGRHS website:
Plans have started for this major New Germany Rural High fundraising event. We promise something for everyone: Penny Auction, Bake Sale, Barbeque, Entertainment, Games and more. Parents can help now with donations of new items for the Penny Auction. Items can be dropped off at the school during school hours. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!
5. Graduation is on June 26 – Jonathan will speak during opening ceremonies and present our bursaries.
6. See the schools website at <http://ngrhs.ednet.ns.ca/> for details of the above and for other events.
7. Staffing for next year is starting.
8. There are approximately 60 students in this years graduating class.

It was agreed that the 4' x 4' Alumni Reunion signs will be prominently displayed during any public events coming up at the school.

The next meeting will be in early September.

Shirley moved the meeting be adjourned.