

Minutes for NGRHS Alumni Meeting – April 26, 2008

Present at meeting were: Kim Mayo, Wendy Looke, Merle Veinot, Glenn DeMone, Sylvia Mackay, Jessica Spidle, Shirley Crouse, Robert Blackadar, Darlene Blackadar, Gloria Feindel, Coline MacDonald,

Kim brought the meeting to order requesting the minutes of the previous meeting be read by those in attendance. Bobby moved the minutes be adopted as read, seconded by Wendy.

Wendy gave the treasurer's report. She then moved that it be adopted, seconded by Gloria. One item of note was that Nadine Slauenwhite, on behalf of the Class of 1977, donated \$146.09 to the Alumni Association. This money was a surplus from their 20 year class reunion.

Glenn then gave a report of some school related activities of interest:

- First of all Glenn asked if Merle could put something on the Alumni website asking or advertising that we would like past graduating classes to contribute to having their class picture redone.
- Mertens won gold at the local science fair and will be going to Ottawa to a National Fair.
- The Dalhousie men's soccer coach did a clinic at the school recently, as well, there was a kick-boxing demonstration.
- As part of "Build positive behaviors" session, a hypnotist entertained the students at an assembly.
- May 1st is Career Day at the school.
- NGRHS ranked first of the South Shore high schools in the AIMS annual Report Card. Provincially we were 14th. Glenn mentioned that there are concerns by many schools about the type of evaluation done in the AIMS report. Regardless of that, as he pointed out, it is better to be on the top than on the bottom.
- School enrollment has dropped from the 428 at our September meeting date to 401.
- In keeping with having past grads as guest speakers, this year's graduating class speaker will be Donna Rhodenizer from the Class of 1979. Donna teaches music part-time in the Valley and she and her musical partner, Andy, have had several successful CD's, they perform across the country and parts of Europe with their children's music. They have been nominated for ACMA and Juno awards. Donna has also written a music text that is used in many schools.

- Scholarship offers for graduating students are placed on the walls outside the library. It is certainly impressive to see the number of offers and the dollar value of several of them.

- Art students have started doing murals on hallway and locker room walls to brighten things up.

Merle gave a brief report on the Alumni website. As of today 7715 visits have been made to the site. As far as the Alumni Data Base is concerned, we have 505 members in good standing, 1070 mailing addresses and 355 e-mail addresses. Merle did point out that each time he has sent out an e-mail using these addresses there are some that are no longer in existence.

Old business –

- Glenn reported that James Snyder told him the SSRSB does not handle monies for memorial donations on behalf of school's or their Alumni. Therefore, our only course of action is to apply to become a registered charity. In response the group has suggested the item stay on the agenda and if someone has the energy to proceed with such an application it can be taken on. In the meantime, Jess is going to download the application forms and bring them to the next meeting.

- Bruce Marshall informed Glenn that all year book pictures are now digital and on discs. The groups response was to ask if we may have access to copies of these discs to use at our reunions. Glenn will ask the question.

- Coline explained why a Newsletter has not gone out. Basically it is that there is very little interest by others to contribute. We will wait and do something in preparation for the 2010 reunion.

- Bobby asked about getting help through the school to sketch the NGRHS crest on 4x4 plywood. Glenn is going to look into this. Bobby has volunteered to paint them prior to our next reunion.

New Business:

The main topic of discussion is the May 7th Guppy's Alumni fundraiser.

Merle will send out an e-mail, announce it on the website and on Facebook.
Coline will call Bill Bruhm to ask that an announcement be made in the NGES Newsletter. Kim will see that it is announced in the West Northfield Newsletter and Glenn will include it in the High School one.

It was decided not to have prizes at the fundraiser but Coline will make up something to put on each table giving information such as, executive, committee members, reunion dates, website address, etc.

Glenn is going to look into the exact cost of having the class pictures done and Wendy is going to ask Nadine Slauenwhite if the Class of '77 would like to have the money they donated used to have their picture done and hung in Alumni Hall.

Glenn is going to see that some criteria be added to the Alumni Bursary application form – especially making it clear that recipients must be the son or daughter of an Alumni member in good standing (paid-up membership dues)!!

Bobby is looking after having our “Reunion 2010” signs displayed in the July 1st parade.

The next scheduled Alumni Committee meeting is to be on Sept. 28th at 7pm in the High School library.

Jess moved the meeting by adjourned and Merle seconded.