

BUCPS Executive Meeting
October 16, 2024
Online – zoom, Following AGM
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Andrea Chmilar	Kelsey Whattam	Talia Kodiak	Oksana Cokan
Katerina Bunchuk	Christin Hyshka	Slavko Nohas	Dustin Maloney
Laurie Leeder	Natalia Kostiuk	Paula Harasyniw	Erin Dziwenko
Lesia Pohoreski	Joe Kucy		

Proceedings

Andrea Chmilar called meeting to order at 8:27pm.

Agenda Amendments

Kelsey Whattam would like to add FOIP/media release to New Business.

Natalia Kostiuk motions amendment:

Kelsey Whattam seconds.

Carried.

Amendments to Minutes of the meeting.

Lesia Pohoreski notes the correct spelling of Pohoreski.

Slavko motions to accepts minutes with amendments. Paula Harasyniw seconds. All in favour. Carried.

Old Business

- n/a

Administrative Report

St. Nicholas - Joe Kucy

- Staff and students attended a successful opening mass at St. Basil's and everyone is excited for the new year.
- Concerns have been raised regarding the school population
 - A study was done in the area and all schools are experiencing falling numbers.
 - St. Nicholas lost significant amount of grade 4 students last year
 - This year: 181 students
 - 28 kids in kindergarten this year
 - There are active plans to get preschool going for next year and everyday kindergarten.
 - There have been inquiries about a Ukrainian dance club after school, which will have to be further looked into.

- Ukrainian student count:
 - kindergarten: 12
 - Grade 1: 26
 - Grade 2: 18
 - Grade 3: 20
 - Grade 4: 18
- Andrea Chmilar asked if there are any new comers? Joe Kucy - no.

St. Theresa - Natalia Kostiuik

- All Ukrainian grades also attended St. Basil's opening mass.
- Bandura program continues; Oksana is coming weekly for each grade.
- These classes are being held in a separate room (not music) where the banduras are able to be locked in. However it would be nice to have a standing storage unit.
- Slavko Nohas will send a link to Natalia of examples of stands for purchase. A single stand can hold 7 Banduras, standing and are \$110/stand. Natalia will review.
- There is one new comer student from Odesa.
- The past week, the school has had a special guest for Reading Week - Pani Kostiuik. It's been a nice treat having someone read in Ukrainian to the classes.
- Ukrainian Student count:
 - Grade 5: 32
 - Grade 6: 22
 - Grade 7: 19
 - Grade 8: 20

Archbishop Jordan - Dustin Maloney

- September 6, staff and students had a Ukrainian Canadian Heritage Celebration. Everyone dressed in Ukrainian colours, sang the national anthem and raised the Ukrainian flag.
- There are some members of the community who attended who should be noted; Paul Corrigan and two RCMP officers.
- Ukrainian staff and students also attended the St. Basil's opening liturgy.
- There will be a service held for Holodomor in November with Bishop David.
- The Ukrainian classes will take place in the second semester - more to come from Vlodko Boychuk.

Treasurer Report – Andrea Chmilar

- General Account: \$8,309.56 (previous \$10,000.53)
- Casino Account: \$8,479.66 (previous \$9369.52)
- Sadochok Account: \$7,041.47 (previous \$8237.65)

Casino

- Casino on September 3 and 4 in Camrose
- Slavko, Andrea, Christin, Gordon and Cathy Gordey worked the

- Press release from AGLC stating that the Camrose Casino will be moving to Parsons Road in Edmonton - this will be a good thing for us as it will garner more profits and hopefully we will not need to wait 56 months for a casino.
- It should be noted it has been 54 months since our last casino.
- AGLC report was submitted for 2024 and it was approved.

Vegreville Pysanka Fest

- We had volunteers work the 50-50 at Vegreville and we received a cheque from the festival for \$270.85

Other Funding Received

- We also received funding from SUBA for \$5000 and from AFUES for \$2000.

Sadochok

- We could not find a teacher for this school year and therefore do not have sadochok this year.
- Principal Joe Kucy and I met and we are working on something for 2025.

Discussion

- UBLA is leaning towards supporting programs with learning resources, ex: books.
- SUBA will continue to support cultural experiences.
- All accounts have been reconciled.
- Andrea Chmilar recommends investing \$5000 from Sadochok account so our money can grow rather than deplete from service charges.
- Slavko Nohas motions to move funds from the Sadochok account to an investment account. Kelsey Whattam seconds. All in favour. Carried.

Coordinator Report

- We are still looking for someone to fulfill the position.
- It should be noted the goal for 2024/2025 year is to fundraise \$5000 to put into gaming account.

New Business

St Basil's Liturgy Transportation

- Andrea Chmilar asked all emails/requests coming from administration regarding transportation and activity can be sent prior to the event so the executive can proceed with a motion.

Gerdan Show

- Gerdan Theatre is touring Alberta and Lesia Pohoreski, who is helping to promote the group, reported the group will be going to a school in Vegreville. Rather than paying for our students to bus, is it possible to bring them to one of our Sherwood Park schools and give them an honorarium.

- These funds could come from UBLA and would be a great experience without the associated costs of distant bussing and purchasing a ticket for each student.
- This would bring an interactive, coral, instrumental and cultural experience to our students.
- There would be no ticket costs to our students.
- Natalia Kostiuk proposed St. Theresa could walk or bus to St. Nicholas.
- Laurie Leeder moves BUCPS pay \$500 honorarium and cover transportation fees of St. Theresa Ukrainian students to St. Nicholas for the Gerdan Show. Paula Harasymiw seconds. All in favour. Carried.

Bandura

- Storage options are being given to Natalia Kostiuk to review.

Kindergarten Dolls

- Maria Rumohr is currently heading this year's dolls.

St. Nicholas Date

- St. Nicholas day is December 6; this is the Feast Day for St. Nicholas School and is very important.
- St. Nicholas visits all three schools and hands out Christmas bags which BUCPS pays for. It usually contains an ornament, orange and a candy.
- Lesia Pohoreski suggested St. Theresa and ABJ students walk over to St. Nicholas for large gathering.
- The coordination for ABJ students may not work since Ukrainian classes are next semester, however Natalia Kostiuk thinks it would be a good and different opportunity for the St. Theresa students to walk over.
- Joe Kucy and Natalia Kostiuk will coordinate times and location.
- Kelsey Whattam noted the Christmas ornament stock is running low, approximately 300 remain. Currently we would need 228 ornaments for Ukrainian students however St. Nicholas usually delivers to entire student population at St. Nicholas which would bring the total to 315.
- In previous years, the ornament cost was \$1-\$2/ornament. Individuals in executive to research options.

Pysanky Supplies

- Vlodko Boychuk has told Dustin Maloney, they would require approximately \$150-\$200 to rejuvenate the supplies.
- Andrea Chmilar asked for an actual supplies list to be presented next meeting.

Artists in Residence

- Andrea Chmilar asked for administrators to share their plans as soon as possible, ideally by next meeting (November) so BUCPS can budget.

FOIP

- Kelsey Whattam brought forward the point that last year it was confirmed that students attending activities within the school (funded by BUCPS) fall under the general FOIP consent form signed at the beginning of the year.
- Kelsey Whattam also noted it is difficult to obtain all consents and registered student parent emails for correspondence from administration. How can we be sure we are following the correct legalities of student safety.
- Dustin Maloney believes the school form does not cover events outside of school times, ex: pasta nights. Encouraged we reach out to Michael DiMassa for further clarification.

45 Years Ukrainian Bilingual Celebration

- Lesia Pohoreski brings the idea that this year the program is approaching 45 years of existence in Sherwood Park and perhaps we could commemorate this with a mass and or a picnic.
- To be further discussed.

Pani Sombyk

- Lesia Pohoreski feels as though we should have something to hold the memory of Pani Sombyk for all the hard work and dedication she gave the program.
- Joe Kucy said this is something he will consider discussing in the new year as the family has requested time to grieve.
- A consideration is if there is something the school will offer vs BUCPS.

4-8-12 Celebration

- A coordinator will need to be appointed shortly as planning needs to start. Slavko Nohas congratulated the new executive. "It is important to continue stitching the corners of our culture, faith and tradition for our children."

Andrea Chmilar thanked Slavko for his leadership the past two years.

Next meeting

- November 27, 2024 @ 7:30pm.

Adjournment

- Joe Kucy moved the meeting be adjourned at 9:27pm. Kelsey Whattam seconds. All in favour. Carried.
- Minutes recorded by Kelsey Whattam.