

Minutes of the meeting of the Boosters at Bayview Lounge

November 14, 2016

Attendees - Sean Holt, Fiona Ambery, Tilla Andersson, Samantha Rowe-Beddoe, Tanya Hetherington, Mariska Steenkamer, Meredith Durrant, Christina Meyer, Jenny Beane

Halloween

Overall consensus that the Halloween Event was a great success despite weather warnings.

Various issues were raised in regards to CAS student participation and also parents who said they would volunteer and did not show. This seems to be a common theme with some games / the bar being run by the same parent/s throughout the evening with no relief.

In future when seeking volunteers Sean will ask for both formal and informal volunteers so that those parents who can't commit might be able to give time on the day. This will also increase the volunteer pool.

Financially the event made less money than last year but this was due to 120 less attendees and more or less balances out when the reduced outlay costs are factored.

Games

Fiona asked for feedback from each person responsible for a game - Sean will email those parents in order to have this information on file for next year.

- Slime in the Bucket game was hugely popular.
- Donut bobbing also success but needed more volunteers.
- Pumpkin Roll game went well but Tanya observed they needed better lighting and more pumpkins.
- Tunnel of Terror was sold out and again hugely enjoyed by all. Need to speak to Daphne to find out more about the overall running of it. There was disappointment from children who could not get a ticket.
- Photo Booth was enjoyed but perhaps not in best location as many parents did not know about it. Sean will ask Michelle who operated it for her feedback.
- Halloween Costume Competition was discussed but overall feeling was that it is too divisive, whereas the Pumpkin Carving competition worked well.

Other

Relocation of the Bar and Food because of the weather proved successful. Tilla and Tanya agreed it was a much better location for them to run the bar.

Christmas Event

Sean has been asked to rename the event omitting the word Christmas by the School Senior Management. There was much discussion about this with the overall feeling that it is a Christmas celebration and that the songs the children are performing are about Christmas. However, as we are an International School with no religious affiliations it was also understood why this is being suggested. It was also acknowledged that this is a joint School / Booster event as it is being held during the school day and therefore the school wishes need to be acknowledged.

Tanya suggested that more information is needed from Management as to why this is being asked. Have parents complained? Sean will arrange a meeting with Totty this week to discuss this further with any parents who would also like to join this meeting.

Organisation

Sean has spoken to Totty to make sure that the event is organised as it was last year. The school arrange the children's singing and the Boosters the rest. This worked efficiently last year. It was agreed again that as the children are singing there is no entry fee.

Louisa Grech is working hard to get the stalls ready. Despite growing numbers of potential stalls Sean has suggested there are no more than 12 stalls in order for them to be accommodated in classrooms as wet weather alternative.

Plan

Stalls will be set up in the Gym Courtyard. This makes an atmospheric space. Especially with music from the gym playing outside as well. It was agreed another speaker is required - Sean and Fiona will purchase.

Bar and Food will be in the other courtyard as last year.

- BBQ, Pizza, Hot Chocolate, Mulled Wine, Seasonal Food from your country
- Mulled wine will be sold from the bar. Some of the ingredients will be sourced by Tilla. Not agreed who was going to make the mulled wine this year.

Activities

- Bouncy Castle
- Carousel
- Craft Room
- Grotto - need a Santa Volunteer and CAS students to be elves to support the grotto. Agreed that a new wig and beard can be bought for Santa.
- Photo Booth again - Sean will ask Michelle

Volunteers

Important that volunteers from M/S and H/S are sourced for the Elementary turn at the event. Also imperative that all parents get to hear their own children singing.

Merchandise Stall

Tilla wants to get rid of remaining merchandise so suggested lowering the price on older stock. She will order 200 new pieces and said that the bags have been very popular. The new larger logo has been popular. Sean thanked Tilla for all her work on merchandise. Tilla asked that the Merchandise stall be located near the bar.

Project Suggestions

- The new Table Tennis will be delivered to Middle School next week and will be located on the tarmac next to the green space. Matt Harris is in charge.
- Elementary School more playground equipment and also an additional tent have been suggested. It was decided to wait until the refurbishment is completed.
- Basketball hoops are being replaced

A maintenance meeting was suggested for Wednesday 16th. This could tie in with meeting with Totty to discuss renaming of Christmas Event. TBC

