

## **FUMCN Board Meeting Minutes**

### **Feb. 8, 2010**

**Members Present** Laura Dills, Yvette Dimcheff, Sarah Boren-Rao, Elizabeth Elder, Robin Hescheles, Beth Pascoe, Tonja Fox, Tori Booker, Barbara Hoffman, Karen Fry, Sarah Hafer, Jenni Wilkening, Staci Almeida, Susan Atkins, Moira Yuhas, Kelly Wiard, Juli Miettinen, Amy Unsworth

**Minutes Approval** – Catherine Maruna (absent)

- Minutes approved (will revisit later if there were changes in the Jan. minutes)

#### **Thanks/Kudos**

- Colleen Burroughs – Kindergarten Preparation Night went well, teacher was great. ~25 people there, name change was helpful – probably encouraged more people to come
- Beth – Great Harvest Bread Co. is donating sugar cookies for Open House
- Moira – for hosting the meeting at her home

#### **Member Comments** –

- Sarah H. commented that some parents complained about assist signups being at winter membership meeting (to be discussed further in Karen’s section of the meeting)
- Moira mentioned that some parents were not happy about having to switch maintenance nights if they couldn’t do it on the day they chose at the beginning of the year. Per maintenance chairs (present and past), this has always been the case, so not sure why people didn’t know.
- Susan Atkins – at kindergarten prep night, the teacher mentioned that A2 young 5’s at Abbott may be discontinued. Susan A. confirmed w/Abbott & the A2 school district that as of now, they still will have the young 5’s program.

#### **Reports**

##### **3-4’s Teacher - Juli Miettinen**

- “Enrichment” program on Tuesdays next year–
  - now has a name “FUMCN Explorers Club” (thanks to Nancy).
  - 5 sessions of 6 weeks each; maybe \$50/child per session plus \$10 event charge per child (each session would have a bigger event like Leslie Science Center).
  - Each session would have a different theme (2 science days, 2 cooking days, event day).
  - Questions - could there be some kind of assist job for reduced cost? Scholarship program?
  - Ms. Juli & Ms. Mary & 20 kids (3s, 4s and 5s)
  - Susan Courtright is talking to her brother about getting t-shirts (bright vibrant green for explorers, orange for PM 3/4 class)
  - Staci suggested that people wear FUMCN t-shirts on field trips for publicity
  - Maybe give t-shirts w/tote bags? Website on the back?
- “summer of fun”

- Ms. Juli would like to do 2 class sessions (50 kids in one class is brutal)
- photo day 2010 – 1<sup>st</sup> week in November
- Preschool Expo update
  - Initial brainstorming done in committee
  - Wants 2 laptops b/c no power at booth -- 1 for “virtual tour”, one for DVD (Kelly offered a portable DVD player)

### **Young 5’s Teacher - Susan Sowder (absent)**

- Would like to have a day off in March – Her husband got a teacher of the year award and will be receiving it in Lansing on March 5.

### **Young 5’s Coordinator - Susan Atkins**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> open house on March 16<sup>th</sup> (Tues.) – already in 5’s publicity info. Will have activities appropriate for kids visiting to do that day.
- 5s were featured in the paper again
- how many is break-even? 7. Need to hire someone if they have 8+ kids. Mary already helps in the 5s class 2 days a week.

### **Staff Advisor Beth Pascoe**

- Sibling Nursery care coordinator position – Nancy Meyers isn’t going to be a FUMCN parent next year; doesn’t know if she’d be involved with sibling care next year. Should this be a board job, FUMCN job, paid job?
  - Nancy M. to write up a job description. This year was a lot more work than future years would be. Would be difficult for someone unfamiliar to jump in. Ms. Juli suggested Mary-Margaret Morton if this would be a FUMCN job.
  - Need to decide whether it would be the same days as this year (parents w/sibling care always assisting with the same people this year).
  - Other sibling care is available for WOWMoms on Tuesdays (not coordinated by Nancy)
  - Some people miss the FUM-Kids program (2-year-old play group)
  - Staff parking signs are going to be removed. Some of the 24-hour signs will stay.

### **Co-Presidents - Laura Dills/Robin Heschels**

- Tuition – small increase for next year – more class time, fewer students total. (we had a 16% increase last time we increased tuition)
- nominations committee for new Board – packet w/current board and who will be here next year (note if you’ll be here next year, if you’d like to be in the same position). Will put the packet in everyone’s mailboxes after we all comment on whether we’ll be here next year and/or want the same position.

- Staci, Sarah, Kelly, Robin, Susan, Laura volunteered for the committee. Ms. Juli will be there, too.
- Robin and Laura will stay on as co-presidents for next year.
- teacher evaluations committee – February. Teachers do a self-evaluation, 4 board members do an evaluation on each teacher (can be 4 different people for each teacher). Amy volunteered. E-mail Laura if you're interested.
- school evaluations – VP sets it up; was done online last year.

### **Health - Yvette Dimcheff**

- Personal contact info. changes – need to tell Yvette. Also need to tell website people; membership so they can update Google docs. Class reps need to update phone chain.
  - Yvette will e-mail new member info to the board and remind people to pass it along to anyone who needs it.
- Hearing and vision screening again this year; April 15-16 (Thurs and Fri). Will do it every year if they have space for us.

### **Member at Large - Tonja Fox**

- Assist sign-ups - Staci mentioned that last year we had started earlier in the evening before the membership meeting started (6:45) – 4am class takes the longest.
- complaints from people who were later in the sign-ups not being able to choose days that worked for them.

### **Communication - Sarah Hafer**

- March newsletter deadline – Friday, Feb. 19

### **Vice President - Amy Unsworth**

- summary of jobs for current year & upcoming – printout
- photo person – had been assigned to Nolasco-Rivers family but Staci has been doing photos. Nolasco-Rivers will take over. Roe leaves in the next couple weeks. Brandt can do 4's field trip job.
- Need to revise handbook to reflect new jobs; about 40 positions (not including board).
- Publicity person wouldn't need assistant if he/she was computer-savvy
- Would like to have 2 website people again; time commitment has been an issue this year.
- Revisit next board meeting after applications for next year are in and we have an idea of how many members we'll have.
- Yvette will be asking for info next month for welcome packets, so the jobs form will need to be updated.
- Amy to gather feedback on specific jobs and discuss more at next meeting.

### **Secretary - Catherine Maruna (absent)**

- Sarah Hafer taking notes in Catherine's absence

### **Treasurer - Barbara Hoffman**

- Budget update – we are on track. Had an influx of cash last week b/c tuition was due.

### **Membership - Sarah Boren-Rao & Tori Booker**

- Open House - snow coming. School will likely be closed and Open House traffic would be affected by smaller amounts of snow anyway. Open House will be cancelled if AAPS school is cancelled on Wednesday. Need to come up with “snow date” but have to confirm w/Adele. Maybe reschedule for next Wednesday 2/17 while we're on the Canton field trip (need confirmed parent assists for the field trip – Jenni to e-mail parents).
- Walking field trip for 4am was to Borders – wouldn't do the walking field trip if school was not cancelled on Wednesday b/c not safe w/snow.
- Ms. Juli will change outgoing message on voicemail re: Open House
- Sarah H. to update website tonight – bold notice to indicate that Open House will be rescheduled if Ann Arbor Public Schools are cancelled on Wednesday.
- Application deadline will still be associated with the end of the Open House.

### **Curriculum - Staci Almeida & Jenni Wilkening**

- March is reading month “Read for Seeds” - Coordinate w/Green Wood garden to add another garden box for FUMCN. Could get families to volunteer to maintain garden over the summer.
- 4's survival flight field trip on 3/12.
- St. Patrick's Day celebrations – 3/16, 3/17
- 3/18, 3/19 Storyland Days – dress up as favorite storybook character
- 3/22 – 4's FT to Hands On Museum to talk about the 5 senses
- 3/25 – 3's dinosaur FT
- 3/31, 4/1 – Easter Parties

### **Social - Karen Fry**

- Membership issues:
- Assist sign-ups at the winter membership meeting – complaints from 4am class about how long the sign-ups took
  - It was distracting to be in the social hall during the meeting w/talking, etc.
  - What about doing it on the computer? E-mail spreadsheet around? Could take too long if someone isn't checking e-mail.
  - Works well at the beginning of the year – in a separate room, no people hovering and waiting, privacy to think about your schedule

- Need people to understand that they can switch days if they chose days at the end of the list. What about having a list prepared of people who would be willing to switch right away (if they don't work or have younger siblings).
- Summer activities w/FUMCN friends
  - Informal meetings at parks as in the past
  - One mom suggested meeting at people's homes, etc. Perhaps she could coordinate?
- End of year picnic
  - School ends Friday before Memorial Day weekend; end-of-year picnic would have games like last year's carnival, \$15/family. Will ask Adele about Thurs., May 27.
  - Spring cleanup will be Weds. and Sat. the following week (June)

### **Maintenance Elizabeth Elder**

- Thanks for encouraging people to come to maintenance night.
- What to do next year with lower enrollment? Change to 3-hour requirement (still 1 maintenance night). Need to update handbook.
- Want to separate outdoor and indoor maintenance. Difficult to work with gardener (church trustee) on playground for state licensing requirements. Quantity of wood chips has been a problem.
- Next year is a licensing year and we'll be inspected. Wood play structure is a problem. They don't like wood play structures. We'll have to be creative if we have to take down the structure due to fall zone requirements and limited space on our playground.
- Need more towels for cleaning – Jenni to bring towels.

### **Fundraising Susan Courtright & Robyn Bishop (absent)**

- Babysitting night – this Friday. Need registration by Wednesday and need a few more volunteers.

### **Publicity Moira Yuhas**

- Publicity update
- Suggestion to have all kids sit down for as little as 10 mins to do an activity at the tables in the A room, like kindergarten.
- Would like to de-clutter a little for the open house. Where to put big plastic bins, etc...
- (Juli) would like cabinets in the A room for art supplies that are currently in Q room. Church has to approve... expensive to add cabinets.

### **New Business/Upcoming Dates**

- FUMCN Open House – Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> (10-11:30)
- Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> = No school (President's Day)

- Feb. 22 – 26 = Winter Break
- March 7<sup>th</sup> Preschool Expo
- March 8<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting at 7pm (Asbury room)
- No school March 8 (AAPS records day)