

FUMCN March Board Meeting

March 9, 2009

Board Members attending: Jenni Wilkening, Staci Almeida, Shannon Morrin, Lisa Hirsch, Michele DeYoung, Ellen Lewis, Susan Sowder, Moira Yuhas, Colleen Burroughs, Liz Vandemark, Sarah Boren-Rao, Juli Miettinen, Lea Monaghan, Mary Page, Yvette Dimcheff, Vicki Haviland, Anna Morgan, Karen Fry, Michele Huston

Opening – one special thing about Ms. Juli to celebrate her special birthday yesterday! We also had some wonderful cake!

Minutes from February approved.

Thanks and Kudos –

Jim Danforth fixed the playdough table!

Thanks to Colleen and Sarah for the open house!

And to Yvette – we got a letter from the Health dept for 98% compliance!

Thanks to Moms and Dads who helped with the cards for Juli from the kids for her birthday!

Brad Vincent—Financial Secretary

Had an unforeseen conflict and couldn't attend but prepared a report and note.

Highlights:

- FUM5s -- \$313.15 spent (but most has been donated -- \$92 spent for field trips)
- Wrote a note to board – our deficit is about \$6250 (but also gave out \$2000 as scholarships which comes from another fund – so the actual deficit will be \$4250 or so only)
- Thanks to the board for making an effort to spend less in budget categories. We made no copies until Wednesday when copier was broken. People have been really conscious of it. We thought we would have a \$13K budget deficit this year!
- 2nd huge factor in our low deficit is fundraising – we have almost doubled our last year's total. Congratulations and thanks to Moira and Anna for all your work.
- **Without 5s, we would have operated at a surplus this year.**

Membership – Colleen Burroughs/Sarah Boren-Rao

This year updates:

- 3am is currently full for this year. 3pm has 16 kids.
- 4am is down 1, 4 pm has 21. So this budget projection did not include – 3 new kids, which may further reduce our deficit.

Open House –

- Went well – thanks to everyone who came and helped. Positive feedback from Open House, and we've called people who hadn't turned in applications but who attended.
- Most people had heard of us from word of mouth and were also looking at Triangle and Stone School. Several had also seen us in *The Observer*. Several said FUMCN was warm and receptive.
- People said that having the Open House during the week is a good time but would be hard on weekend

Next year:

4am is full and 5 people on waitlist. 4 pm has 11 and possibly 12.

3am full , 4 on waitlist and 3pm has 10 – and 4 of those are on waitlist for am.

Ideas:

- Put signs out for now that say we still have preschool openings for next year. We would like a permanent sign that has a place where you can hang other things with it. Have to look into what city and what church would approve. State and Huron? Also a smaller one on State and Washington. Do some research on what it would cost. Colleen will find out about city restrictions and will look into how much costs of sign will be, Liz's budget might be able to fund it (we have about \$500) – Ellen will check on that with the church.
- To continue to recruit for the 5s: Susan Atkins has put up 20 signs up around town (Jungle Java, toy stores) and an ad on Craig's List – talked to *Ann Arbor News* about doing an article on us – Colleen got a call from the newspaper – if 5s is doing something cute, let us know.

Susan Sowder– 5s

Applications/Open House:

Only had 2 people not-affiliated with FUMCN came to 5s program. We're not reaching people. 5s program at Abbott – 25 people who showed up at Abbott, but they are not hearing about us. We could also take fliers to other co-ops who don't have 5s programs. On website, we have openings in 5s on our front page. Someone asked if there is an extended day program. If you have ideas, send them to Susan or Lisa in the next couple weeks.

Numbers: currently have 6 applications and 1 is Gwen Reynolds, who may not be here next year. Susan has also been talking to 2 other people. Revised proposal on back of agenda for Young 5s with budget implications for various numbers of students. Will try to get pix and stories in Ann Arbor News.

Teacher Report – Juli Miettinen

- **End of year picnic** – a 3s picnic and a 4s picnic somewhere on M or T after last day of school in the first week of June. Give Juli some ideas of where. 1st week of June.
- Juli has an online class taking, and some left over money in the budget from teaching expenses and conferences. We passed spending \$700 to pay for the class from these two categories.
- New kids are fitting in well. Some are ESL and are mimicking and getting it.
- **Spring Sing** – considering combining the end of year picnic social event and spring sing at Greenwood – have everyone all together – having 3s and 4s together. Could do it staggered? Logistically, this seems very challenging given the number of total people including siblings.

Church Liaison -- Ellen Lewis

- **Sibling care and FUMKids** –
- We will have sibling care for morning and afternoon in the nursery – afternoon care might be in the corner room. Could be limited days that we will have sibling care. Depends on who can be teachers and schedules of sitters. FUMCN should pay for overflow – something in budget to cushion that – can we look at how much people have used it? We will check with Sherry for these numbers.
- She'd like it to be that FUMCN organizes the sibling care and FUMCN pays sitters and collects money. We will consider having a new job called Sibling care coordinator to do this– could be under Member at Large.
- **Nominations committee** will meet tomorrow at 3 pm. Did not get nominations forms from many people.

Lisa Hirsch – President

- Gwen is not coming back this year, so we need to fill a VP job. Need to survey members about jobs and other issues and summarize this. We could do a web-based survey – Liz will do it on survey monkey in May to have it ready for May 11 board meeting.
- **May welcome night** – Tuesday May 19th – new board will be there. People will get handbook and packet, Ms. Juli is there. 7 pm in Wesley Lounge – anyone new to FUMCN is expected.
- **Handbook changes** by March 23rd. Katie will do FUM5s stuff. Mary will do the assist teacher duties section. Ellen will do the changes to Sibling care and FUMKids program.

- **Next year president** be sure to talk about all board expectations – come to events, bring extra refreshments, 2 hours a week.

Health, Safety, and Nutrition-- Yvette Dimcheff

We need revisions to items for welcome back these items are due April 20th . Please send Yvette an e-copy or ready-to-copy sheet

Parent Education -- Michele DeYoung

Kindergarten readiness – had 3 people attend and paid \$100 for it, so this is a budget issue. However, there were kindergarten round-up nights at schools – would it be better to have it earlier or could do it with other co-ops? Explaining what it is more – “getting ready for kindergarten” -- would help.

Michele and Juli will revise and update our statements about play based curriculum

Maintenance – Jenni Wilkening and Staci Almeida

Jenni is dealing with A room food storage . We are getting plastic containers for A room from IKEA when they come in – master plan has further cabinets above the sink, so eventually, this will be a better solution to get the snacks out of the kids’ reach and protect from critters.

Make up for missed maintenance nights: About 10 families need to do it – if you have projects, email Staci with how many people you need and what the project is.

Fundraising – Anna Morgan and Moira Yuhas

Wine-tasting this Thursday at Quarter Bistro.

Make it plates – Put them in the hallway with a display so that people can see what they are and collect materials.

Secretary – Vicki Haviland

Moira’s brilliant idea: Make the handbook online, with some print copied handbooks available in the B room that people can check out. Include a description of the handbook contents in the welcome night folders. This will save money and time and paper. We can also make updates throughout the year as needed!

Any ideas about what to do with all the old binders????

Old Business

New Board positions and jobs: Publicity person on the board, and Susan Atkins will write up the board position.

Young 5s treasurer can be eliminated and the job of integrating the finances can fold into FUMCN treasurer job.

Bonus news:

Susan Sowder reported that Sherry just called to say that Kafi Laramore, former board member, had baby Sasha this morning!