

Minutes for PTA Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, December 11th, 7pm at Tortola Sports Club

Dennis opened meeting and explained that today is the last day of the cycle. People on for 2 years. positions decided amongst group. Wonderful year. 6 meetings per year. Rochelle will update late as to where we stand now financially. Dennis said that as past president he would be staying on as there are new people and explained rules of pta meetings including discretion during council meetings.

Spoke of AC units being moved. Shade still being a big issue at the moment and about the Green Space.

Dave gave a report on status of PTA. Active PTA now for 1.5 years and an equilibrium has been set as to the capacity of the PTA. Events – reached a point where there are only a few volunteers who are routinely used to handle events. As a result, he mentioned that the PTA may have to more selectively choose future events with consideration for reducing the amount, improving the quality and profitability of ones that are undertaken.

There was a brief discussion on new revamped Halloween party, the lack of volunteers to run the traditional event, the rain, and the funds generated.

Night of nations mentioned as becoming more of school responsibility as opposed to PTA. Jj commented that that made sense given we are an international school we should do international events. There was slight confusion within the PTA Council as whether or not the event was now going to be the responsibility of the school or the PTA it was decided to let Scott clarify upon his arrival.

It was then discussed about the importance of a master calendar.

Discussion then shifted to Fundraising events and the secondary school. How do we get more students involved. Concern was expressed that there were too many people competing for the same money and not enough secondary parents/students were involved.

Discussion then changed to the Auction and the balance between Cedar Staff and PTA.

Tim Reilly explained his former experience with PTA at his previous school mentioning what his school was like including the size and the neighbourhood. Everything appeared to be on a much larger scale due to school size and parent population and their jobs ie a lot were in the food service industry and this proved beneficial.. he briefly talked of dances, weekly Friday night pta events, movie nights. He was asked whether alcohol was served at these events the response being no.

Scott arrived and was asked to clarify the Night of Nations being a school or PTA function. He said no decision had been made and it wasn't on his agenda to do so. He talked about creating a sustainable model, signature events and about big event planning. He talked about brainstorming about these events only and that no decisions were made as regard to how much was a school versus PTA function and that he was happy to work with the PTA but did not wish to dictate how things would be done.

Jaeda asked Scott to clarify how much fundraising was expected from the Development Office versus the PTA. Scott stated specific goals are set for the Development Office and no financial goals are set for the PTA.

Scott then reported that the PYP evaluation went well with positive exit interviews. Talked about the extension of secondary day and that electives were proving popular. He spoke about travel programs and that feedback had been positive so far. He talked about the purchase of new instruments and the school band. He also spoke about the school choir and its growth and popularity.

He further reported a student who had achieved the highest SAT score yet at Cedar. Brian Leue. He spoke about the grade 11s having won First prize in a business development program.

He spoke about next semester and a new assessment taking place at school. Not PISA but a spinoff named ISA which would be a more internationally based assessment. This would be a pilot scheme. The school was looking to move away from the Stanford tests which are American based. The same children would be tested for both Stanford and ISA. Testing for ISA would occur two days in Feb. Stanford 2 days late may early June.

He then thanked the PTA for their work and the fact that the PTA had been revived. He talked about the positive commitment of the current PTA and hoped that it would be preserved in the year to come.

Scott then thanked Dennis for his work as president. Jaeda presented a gift to Dennis who then noted his sincere appreciation.

Rochelle then gave her Treasurer Report and asked people to review the statements she had provided earlier and let her know if there were any questions. There were none.

Mark Forte the board president then spoke.

Mark talked about the positive attitude from the PTA that has been noticed by the Board and has allowed the Board to get on with what they need to do rather having to concern themselves with the day to day running.

He talked about transforming the school full emersion experiences. An exchange program taking place next year potentially approval possibly coming in Feb/March. The exchange occurring potentially in the second semester of the 2014/15 calendar year. Opportunities for possible work experiences being investigated.

Expansion of solution studio and that thought was being given on ways to strengthen and develop it.

He then explained about how the board is looking to develop a capital infusion in to the school, about good management/board relationship, the school time table and a few virgin gorda timetable issues.

The elections were then held with Rochelle Green, Dave Pettigrew, Julie Reich, Sam Pierce, Henry Creque, Tim Reilly, and Jeanette Forte.

A tentative date for next meeting set for Tuesday 14th Jan 7:00pm.