

School Advisory Council Meeting

March 1, 2021

6:00 pm

Via Zoom

MINUTES

(As recorded by Olga Romanowsky)

Present: Brian Holmes, Lia Lewis, Helen Blaikie, James Flynn, Beth Langille, Kimberly Isnor-Reade, Ron Creighton, Olga Romanowsky, Anne deAdder and Reg Delorey
Regrets: Laura Whitman, Jamie Cripps, Caius MacDonald

1.) Call Meeting to Order: Brian organized the Zoom meeting and Ron called the SAC meeting to order. Agenda was shared on the screen and approved.

2.) Review of Minutes: Minutes had circulated previously via email and motion to approve was made by James, seconded by Brian.

3.) Business Arising from Minutes:

1.) Greenhouse/Garden Update: Brian recently received an email from CCRCE in response to his inquiries regarding insurance for local contractors who could be hired to dismantle the greenhouse and built it back together on site. The response seems positive. Since the funding for this project is coming from fundraised monies, the contractors' insurance that they carry would suffice and TRA /CCRCE would not need additional insurance. Approximately \$800.00 - \$900.00 worth of seeds and materials has already been purchased. A cheque from the Foundation is forthcoming for \$1000.00 for the structure. Reg stated that the site was examined and the plan is to try to move gravel, etc. soon so that it is on site and ready for work when the spring weather makes it possible.

2.) Graduation Photos— Photos are already stored electronically but several teachers have voiced wanting to display the framed photos on the school walls. Fire code regulations are making this difficult to find the appropriate space, so there remains no solution. Ron asked if there is any way the digital photos could be displayed and Brian responded that the school has displayed photos over the TV screens on random days and can do this again for special events. Ron voiced the importance of keeping the history of NCHS at TRA, as it keeps alumni connected and therefore leads to more involvement from the greater community. Brian will email the Operations Team and request suggestions from them to advise.

4.) Correspondence: None received.

5.) Principal's Report: Please see attached.

In addition to the Report, there was discussion about moving the next meeting to May, as March Break lies within and Easter Monday is the first Monday in April, which is usually the set date for SAC meetings. No objections from SAC members to this suggestion.

Further Discussion to Principal's Report: regarding plans for 2021 Graduation ceremony, Ron asked about making a case to the CCRCE that small schools should be able to act separately from one sweeping rule for graduations for all schools within the CCRCE, sooner than later. See Leadership Report for further discussion points.

6.) Leadership Committee Report: Beth reported that the group has started to discuss graduation plans and how it might begin communications with the CCRCE regarding events within covid-19 public health protocol. The SAC agreed to support the students as needed and will await direction from the Leadership group. A possible communication error has caused a delay in the school clothing order and the students are awaiting its resolution. Also, Winter Carnival plans are in the works for next week. Dress up theme days and activities are planned for the junior high and high school students and information will be shared with Elementary classes so that the lower grades can participate in activities they choose/deem appropriate. Activities are also being organized to celebrate International Woman's Day.

7.) New Business:

-Use of SAC funds: Brian brought to the discussion the SAC funds and whether the SAC agrees to continue supporting the Rec Centre field by way of the \$2000.00 contribution to field maintenance that it has provided in previous years. Also, due to covid-19 protocol preventing fundraising opportunities and the small number of basketball players on the high school teams, (mostly the boys' team, as a girls' team has not been in full operation this year) financial assistance from the SAC fund was requested to help finance home game costs. Ron stated that the Tatamagouche Schools Education Society (which in the past, was created to help support school athletics, among other things) had also been approached to help fund this year's basketball costs. Although this Society has been quiet since its work with fundraising for the building of TRA, it intends to continue operating in the future. After some discussion, a vote was put forth to SAC members and it was unanimously agreed that the SAC funds can be used for both the Rec Centre field and sports team costs for the rest of this year.

8.) Public Response None.

9.) Next Meeting: Monday, May 3rd via Zoom unless further given notice.

Additional Comments: Ron asked about the possibility of meeting in person for SAC meetings, since presently there are sports activities allowed in the school after school day hours. Brian agreed to look into this.

10.) Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by James.