

Concord Public and Concord-Carlisle Regional Open Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2015

Board Members in attendance:

Aiyana Currie, SEPAC Technology Coordinator

Tali Ditman, SEPAC Membership Coordinator

Joanne Jensen , SEPAC Events Coordinator

Jordan Parker, SEPAC Secretary

Erin Pasternak, SEPAC Publicity

Rebecca Robichaud, SEPAC Co-President

Mary Tambor, SEPAC Co-President

- I. Open Meeting: Mary opened the meeting at 9:30AM and introduced the agenda. In addition to the board, Jessica Murphy, one SEPAC member and one person running for School Committee were in attendance.
- II. Board reviewed and approved January 2015 minutes. Future minutes will be distributed to the board via google docs. Board will read and review the minutes prior to meeting but will only communicate about the minutes at the next meeting.
- III. Beck discussed attending a SEPAC networking event with SEPAC members from towns across the area. One highlight was the feeling that CC has a very positive relationship between the SEPAC and the schools. Also met with Carlisle SEPAC board member and discussed collaborating on events together such as an event on Feb 6th to discuss transition to the high school as an example. Joanne will take ownership of coordinating with Carlisle SEPAC. Joanne working to reschedule events, Jessica noted that with the snow delays, midterms and moving it may take a while to reschedule. Getting a free ticket for a SEPAC member to.
- IV. Correspondence:
 - a. Email asking about the morning meeting schedule not working for two working parents; Board will consider other options for next year possibly some evening meetings.
 - b. Correspondence from a parent on a new program they are starting called [MISSING]
- V. Chair reports/updates.
 - a. Family Social and Fundraising: Tali and Joanne Family Social Event in likely June for places where kids can play (possibly Emerson playground where older kids can play on fields and smaller ones on the playground). Jessica suggested we reach out to “Volunteer to learn” to offer some babysitting during the event. Regarding Fundraising the team looked into hosting an event at Barefoot Books, but found that costs might be a bit of an issue. Erin suggested potentially doing an event at the Discovery Museum.
 - b. Parent Networking groups: Tali discussed trying to hold off on the parent networking groups in order to balance attendance and engagement in family social events. Looking towards the fall.
 - c. Events: Joanne reviewed the upcoming events. Working on rescheduling the High School event as well as the Middle School event. Proposing events essentially every

other month. Will be doing a coffee in March and then an evening event in May. Multiple suggestions for places for coffees or even socials.

- d. Website: Automatic Facebook update launched. Setting up a sub-committee to discuss some guidelines for what posts are appropriate and how to streamline communications. Additionally will be working on a logo. Been working to address links that had been pointing to the old PAC website and getting them pointing to the new CC SEPAC website (Jessica to work with CCHS website administrator on fixing their link to SEPAC). Looking for ideas for people on summer activities (camps, free activities, etc.). Want to start including publicity into various advertisements.
- e. Discussion of the Concord SPEDPAC list serve on Yahoo continuing to create confusion. Bonnie did reply to one person for clarification, it remains a separate organization so we can't stop them. Waiting to see if there are any additional issues prior to further discussing with Bonnie.

VI. Discussion:

- a. Will set calendar for next year before end of next year, all agree right plan.
- b. Erin will attend FCSN conference and will share what she learns at the April board meeting
- c. Per parent feedback working to streamline communications. Proposing a monthly newsletter recapping the past month and looking forward to the next month's worth of events. Then using the list-serve as a way to send reminders for events. Want people to subscribe to get frequent event feeds vs. having Jessica send events to the entire population of families with kids in SPED. Tali will talk to CIPS teachers about advertising for SEPAC meetings.
- d. Aiyana will be taking on fundraising next year once some of the tech things are up and running. One question is what we hope to spend the money on. Could SEPAC apply for grants to Concord IF fund?
 - a. As an example looking to help PTG's make programs accessible for all children. Erin raised the boys and girls club in Maynard as a place that is more special needs friendly for afterschool, but would need busing to be more accessible.
 - b. Funding speakers was an
 - c. Small amount of money to fund coffees and other social events
- e. Discussion on how we want our partnerships with PTG to work. Create a small subgroup to develop ideas – Erin, Joanne, and Mary will meet to discuss right approach.
- f. What flyers can we use at Events/Principal Coffee's/ etc? Becky to give to Erin and rest of the group. Tali to talk to pre-school teachers about putting flyers in their backpacks.
- g. Mary to connect with Jennifer Clarke on how to integrate her resources with SEPAC, Aiyana will be getting on the website
- h. *School budgets will be very important topic over the coming months as there is a gap between budgets that will need to be considered – need to address Concord and Carlisle town meetings – CPS. Town meeting will need to override the gap. Will post on website and continue to understand SPED impacts.*

VII. No voting items were presented.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 11AM.