



# GARDEN CREEK HOME AND SCHOOL

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

Garden Creek School Library, 6:30 pm

### Attendees

1. Brittnie Campbell
2. Marcia Franklin
3. Carie Grant
4. Andy Han
5. Megan Hewitt
6. Nicki MacPherson
7. Emma O'Connor
8. Samantha Robichaud
9. Rebekah Thompson
10. Jennifer Ward

### Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Approved by Jen
- Seconded by Rebekah

### Financial Report (Jen)

- We have approximately \$30,000 in the bank currently. Approximately \$5500 is set to come out of that, so we will soon have just under \$25,000.
- We have a new total for the Bazaar, as many "general" online donations were made that were not previously counted.
  - **We made \$18,600 overall (which includes Scott's Nursery). This is the best total Garden Creek has seen in several years, possibly ever. 😊**
- Some key Bazaar numbers include:
  - Silent Auction totalled \$6075.
  - General Donations totalled \$2779.
  - Activity Tickets totalled \$2684.
  - Scott's Nursery totalled \$2439.
  - Theme Baskets totalled \$2214.
  - Bake Sale totalled \$1119.

### Scott's Nursery and Coffee Update (Emma)

- Coffee – Profit was ~\$800, which was down from last year. It is a somewhat labour-intensive fundraiser, but it is very easy to work with Java Moose.
- Scott's Nursery – Profit was ~\$2439. There was lots of flexibility, and it was easy to run. We plan to continue running the Scott's fundraiser.
- **Open Discussion Item:** Based on feedback about the fall being very busy in terms of fundraising, perhaps we could alternate soup and coffee each year, or consider running soup in the fall and coffee in the spring.

### Movie Night Update (Carie)

- **Next Movie Night: Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>**
- Suggestions include *Moana 2* (which ties in with production!), if available, or perhaps *Wild Robot* or *Inside Out 2*.
- **Action Item:** Carie to review options and decide. If *Moana 2* is unavailable, we should plan to show it at the next Movie Night.

### Next Fundraiser

- **Discussion Item:** Do we need to run another bigger fundraiser? The Spring Raffle was labour-intensive last year, and we have made more money than we expected from the Bazaar. Do we need to do another one?
  - **Decision Made:** We will run a 50/50 in place of the Spring Raffle, during the month of May. We will also run the Tailored Tots fundraiser that we have in previous recent years, potentially before Easter.
- **Action Item:** Rebekah to discuss dates for Tailored Tots with Jenn Handrahan.
- **Action Item:** Andy to investigate possible options for running a 50/50 online. Raffle Box was suggested, but Marcia believes we investigated it last year and that we must be a registered charity to run a 50/50 through it.

### Bazaar! Bazaar! Bazaar!

- **Overall – The Bazaar was a huge success!**
  - There were numerous comments made about how well-organized it was, decorating the week before was a major improvement, and the issues previously encountered in Santa's Workshop were wholly eradicated. The new Waiting Room also made \$50 in donations!
  - Suggestion: Secure another hot chocolate carafe, as we ran out again this year.
  - Suggestion: For the Photo Booth, if we have the photographer by donation again next year, we should charge 5 activity tickets instead of 3 for the awesome photos!
- **Silent Auction/Closing**
  - A special thank you to Deana for all her work with this complex station! 😊
  - Emma suggested we have a firmer cut-off time for the Silent Auction, and then roll straight into the announcements, so that we finish closer to 1pm and have a clearer wrap up. We may also want to consider visually sharing the list of winners (rather than calling them out) and possibly supply some speaking notes for the end wrap up.
    - **Action Item:** All of H&S to consider options for smoothly closing the Bazaar.

- **Theme Basket Sales**
  - Theme baskets are a lot of work for Mrs. G/Samantha with the hybrid model, but the effort does seem to reap rewards. At this time, we are planning to keep the hybrid model for next year.
- **Elf Auction**
  - Elf Auction is very fun for the kids! 😊
- **Bake Sale**
  - This station went well. We will ensure to offer Mrs. G. the option to move to another station next year, though, or to be a helper at the Bake Sale table rather than the Lead.
- **Karuna's Kitchen**
  - This seemed to be very popular and was a great last-minute addition!
  - **Action Item:** Andy to follow up with Karuna and source any specific feedback she has.
- **Santa's Workshop**
  - This went very well! A special thank you to Christine for all her work with this complex station! 😊
  - We had 397 gifts "bought" in the workshop, and we have about 130 items left over that can be reused again next year. We should aim for a total of 430 items in the Workshop.
- **Wrapping Room**
  - This went very well! A special thank you to Robin, who is now done. Crystal Valade (Carie's sister) might be able to help with this station again next year.
- **Creeker Café**
  - This ran smoothly and turned a profit this year!
- **Fishpond**
  - The kids love this station, but it is very busy (there were 442 tickets used here!) and it needs at least 4 dedicated volunteers. Ideally some older teenagers will be able to help with it next year.
- **Cake Walk** – This went very well! The kids love it. 😊
- **Cookie Decorating**
  - Nicki believes we should have 300 cookies to ensure we do not run out again next year. The cookies that came from the Bake Sale were also a hit, so perhaps we would like to look at having two kinds of cookies donated next year? Samantha mentioned that it might be worth looking at Kookie Kutter in addition to Happy Baker, possibly.
- **Reindeer Food**
  - While we had to close this station early as we ran out supplies, we have adjusted the amounts of supplies needed on the cheat sheet and this should all be in hand next year!
- **Facepainting**
  - We had a backlog at this station this year. We will need at least 6 strong face painters in the room, or to consider switching it up and using higher-quality stencils (that are sourced and ordered beforehand).

### **School Representation: Updates / Requests**

- The entire school is going to the Playhouse to see *The Alphabet of Awesome Science* in March. The cost is \$2500 for the tickets.
  - **Decision Made:** Home and School will pay for the tickets.
    - First: Rebekah
    - Second: Emma
- The estimated cost for the Grade 5 Trip to Greenhill Lake is \$2600, including buses.
  - **Decision Made:** We approve donating up to \$2600, to include whatever profit is made from the Grade 5s running the final Movie Night again this year.
- The teachers are hoping for ~ \$100 each.
  - **Decision Made:** We will provide \$3000. The teachers can each have \$140, and the support staff can split the remaining funds.
- Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> is Teacher Appreciation Day.
  - **Decision Made:** We will supply lunch for 40 at 12:45.
  - **Action Item:** Andy to check-in with Karuna about catering the lunch and, if she is not available, check-in with the Feel Good and/or Scout's.

### **Any Other Items/Questions/Concerns**

- Alex is still waiting on a quote for the playground, will hopefully be within the next week.
- **Action Item:** Exec will arrange to release a Bazaar roundup post on social media.
- **Open Item:** Is anyone interested in taking over posting to social media for Home & School?

**Meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.**

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Submitted by Marcia Franklin

Garden Creek Home & School Association