

Minutes from Central PAC meeting 7 November 2017

1. Principal's Update:

The school year progressing well although extremely busy. Topher noted ongoing challenge with space and anticipates that the new portable (expected January 2018) will help alleviate this concern.

2. Don Evans, Executive Director for Our Place Society

Don provided overview of the Yates Street Shelter, expected to reopen Nov 28 – Dec 1, in the Boys and Girls Club on Yates Street (owned by City of Victoria – CoV). His presentation at the evening's meeting was a part of Our Place Society's public consultation process. Don reviewed the following aspects of their proposal:

- Our Place provides services to people living in poverty from all walks of life.
- They provide 1600 meals/day and run 60 programs on health care, employment and education.
- Stemming from Victoria's Tent City issue, the Yates Street Shelter originally ran successfully for 18 months, closing in July 2017. During that time they housed upwards of 70 residents and developed great relationships with surrounding community and Central Middle School.
- If approved, there will be notable differences in the reopening of the Shelter including:
 - There will be a lower incidence of mental health and substance use issues as the 40 residents have already stabilized through their stay in the First Metropolitan Church.
 - There will be no tents set up inside the Shelter (they contribute to sense of isolation) and instead residents' space will be delineated by dividers.
 - Security for the neighbourhood will be onsite 24/7.
 - Residents will be put in charge of cleaning up surrounding area.

Don welcomes any further questions or concerns as Our Place Society seeks to positively contribute to the community. He can be reached at don@ourplacesociety.com.

3. 6th Annual Craft Fair at Central December 2nd

Calling all adult volunteers to help out on the day of the sale which runs from 9am – 3pm. Set-up, bake sale, take down – any and all help is much appreciated! Please contact Kristine (nirasolo@yahoo.ca) or Jessica (j.harvey@outlook.com) to let them know your availability.

4. Upcoming Parent Education Night (date TBD)

Several suggestions for the \$250 grant received for the purpose were discussed and **will be added to December's agenda for decision:**

- Barry McDonald – focuses on educating boys
- Darren Laur – focuses on online literacy
- Nikki Lineham – educates parents on “the new way to learn math”
- Cheryl Rolston (Vice-Principal at Quadra Elementary) – mental health awareness in youth
- Julie Ann Richards - focuses on anxiety in youth (\$2,000+ for one talk)

5. Staff Appreciation Trolley for Friday December 15th

Jen Lloyd, assisted by others, will be cruising the halls on December 15th in the morning serving the wonderful staff coffee, tea and treats.

6. Fundraising ideas to be discussed at December's meeting:

- filtered water fountain (approx. cost \$1500)
- more bike racks (approx.. cost \$500/section)

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7. Other business

- PAC minutes need to be posted publicly. It was suggested a hyperlink be added to the Central Weekly, directing interested readers to the school website.
 - Jessica/Carolyn to research further and report back at December's meeting.
- Into the future, it was decided that the Central Weekly will include choir practices as well.