

St Mary's Academy Parents' Guild AGM Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 17, 2019
Durocher Library

In attendance: Ramona Thomson, Venus Denis, Gillian Hauser, Anita Auriti, Connie Yunyk, Joanie Smalley, Colleen McFadden, Chrissy Werestiuk, Rosa Bovino, Erica Nickel, Tina Chakraborty, Paula Chorney, Alexandra Franco

1. Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm
2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement: Joanie Smalley
3. Opening Prayer: Connie Yunyk and attendees
Introductions around the table
4. Approval of Agenda: Ramon Thomson
Motion to accept by Colleen McFadden and seconded by Rosa Bovino
All in favor
5. Approval of Previous AGM minutes – September 11, 2018: Ramona Thomson
Motion to accept by Chrissy Werestiuk and seconded by Anita Auriti
All in favor
6. Parents' Guild President's Report: Ramona Thomson

As President of the Parent's Guild last year it is my pleasure to be able to provide you with a summary of the Guild activities for the 2018/2019 school year.

The purpose of the Guild:

- 1) To bring together parents to foster a sense of community and to promote the well-being of St Mary's Academy
- 2) To help further the work of the school and to endeavor to assist financially by raising funds for special projects

The Guild raises money through our major fundraiser the St Mary's Academy lottery, International Day as well as raising money through the Corner Store.

This year International Day was chaired by Meagan O'Laughlin and Shannon Cisneros and was held on Sunday October 21st. We moved the International Day ahead to October to beat the snow we had the previous year and tried a few new ideas (bringing in seniors from the community). We had a very successful International Day which celebrates our Cultural Diversity here at SMA.

The SMA lottery was chaired by Melanie Jones who, with her committee, worked tirelessly to ensure our major fundraiser was a huge success. A variety of incentives were offered this year to the students to encourage sales from weekly draws to classroom prizes for most sales.

Our revenue, combined for our 2 major Guild fundraisers was just over \$27,000.

Our Corner Store is our third area of revenue for the Guild and was chaired by Tammy Zach and her dynamic Committee! The Corner Store sells a variety of SMA branded items, gently used uniform items as well as a variety of snacks. This past year was very successful with the store raising just shy of \$13,000 (\$12,966).

Our Hospitality Committee that was chaired by Devon Ostir and Caroline Douthart organized and hosted a variety of special events this past year including the New Student Open House, Staff Appreciation breakfast catered by Stella's, and provided refreshments at the New Student Uniform sale and Convocation. The committee also hosted a Christmas Party in conjunction with "Hand Bags for Hope" charity where Guild members put together over 20 purses filled with toiletries, gift cards and bus tickets for women in need. We were also able to donate over \$350 to "Willow Place", a shelter for women and their children in need.

On February 9th the Parents' Guild hosted our fourth annual Torch Talks which was chaired by Nancy Shippam and refreshments were arranged by Lucia Whitney. This is a fabulous event open to the SMA community. The topic this past year was entitled "Challenges Facing Adolescent Girls" with guest speaker Dr. Rayleen De Luca. The event was well received by the attendees.

Shawn Morrison and Cindy Hasselmann managed the Tartan Shop, scheduling volunteers and organizing sales.

The money raised through the Guild is used to fund a variety of annual commitments for the school, including a \$3,000 donation to the Bursary fund, two - \$1,200 scholarships awarded at convocation, a gift of a framed print by local artist Kal Barteski that read "Hold High the Torch" to each graduate and we supported the Marian Awards and Evening at the Academy by purchasing a table at each event.

Since this was a very exciting year at SMA, being the 150th Celebration of St. Mary's Academy, the Guild donated the commemorative stained-glass mural and plaque which now sits outside the atrium, symbolizing the Grey Nuns journey to this special place and all women's journeys through their time at SMA.

I would like to extend my thanks to all of the Guild Volunteers, Committee Chairs and Executive for all of their time and dedication to St. Mary's Academy, as well as a special thank you to Mrs. Connie Yunyk for her support and enthusiasm of the Guild. It is also with excitement that I announce that all executive Guild members will remain together for another year of service to the SMA community.

7. Treasurer's Report: Anita Auriti

Anita Auriti presented the financials from the period ending June 2019.

Motion to accept by Chrissy Werestiuk and seconded by Gillian Hauser.

All in favor.

8. Report of Results of Election of Officers (No election – all members returning):

Parents' Guild Executive for 2019/2020:

- President: Ramona Thomson
- 1st Vice President: Venus Denis
- 2nd Vice President: Gillian Hauser
- Treasurer: Anita Auriti
- Secretary: Joanie Smalley
- St Mary's Academy President/Advisor to Parents' Guild Executive: Connie Yunyk

9. Miscellaneous/New Business

Proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws of the St. Mary's Academy Parents' Guild:

ARTICLE VI – Officers:

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| From | The term of office for the President, 1st Vice-President and 2nd Vice-President is one year. These Officers are eligible for re-election for a second consecutive one-year term. The Guild President must inform the Executive Committee of his/her intent on re-election for a second consecutive one-year term by December 1 st . |
| To | The term of office for the President, 1st Vice-President and 2nd Vice-President is one year. These Officers are eligible for re-election for a second consecutive one-year term. All Guild Executive members must inform the Executive Committee of his/her intent on re-election for a second consecutive one-year term by December 1st. |

Motion moved by: nil

Second the motion by: nil

Motion decision: Held over for further discussion at future Parents' Guild meetings.

ARTICLE VII - Duties of Officers:

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| From | The Treasurer shall: ... <input type="checkbox"/> A minimum of \$10,000 has been internally restricted to maintain the Guild operations. |
| To | The Treasurer shall: ... <input type="checkbox"/> A minimum of \$15,000 has been internally restricted to maintain the Guild operations. |

Motion moved by: Anita Auriti

Second the motion by: Venus Denis

Motion decision: Passed. All in favor.

Article IX – Meetings:

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| Add | The agenda for the General Meetings shall include: ... “Approval of the Financial Report as presented” to follow the Treasurer’s report. |
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Motion moved by: Anita Auriti
Second the motion by: Rosa Bovino
Motion decision: Passed. All in favor.

Motion to end meeting by Gillian Hauser and seconded by Rosa Bovino

Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm