***M.I.R. Parents Inc*** 

**Turnagain Elem, Romig J.H. & West H.S.**

**Membership Meeting Minutes**

**January 25, 2017, 6:30pm**

**Elena’s Relo 13 at West High**

**Call to Order and Welcome** Time: 6:38pm

**President's Report-** Heather Probasco

Father frost went well, the consensus is that the room (mpr at Romig) worked much better. We hope we can have it there in future years. Acknowledge that our MIR dollars for the afterschool program were well worth it. The younger children gave a great performance. Everyone here would like it to be at Romig, need 2-3 mikes next time for the kids to sing. Need to rent a sound system,possibly, for next year (and for Maslenitsa?). Heather would like to see signs at Turnagain such as permanent bathroom, library etc. signs in Russian, added to the school. Heather will ask Ms.Cote.

**Secretary Report**- Brooke Dudley

1. Presentation of minutes / approval

1. Angie Cagle motions to approve minutes
2. Jessica Beagley seconds motion

**Treasurer's Report**- Karen Biggs/Kristian Dahl

1. Review of current financial statements

1. Father Frost was under budget -Need to add line to rent a sound system next year.
2. Coffee Sales - $1473 profit made.
3. Spent money for visiting Russian exchange guests, $2000.00 deposit on Seward whale-watching trip
4. Received another check for $2500 from the Carr Foundation presumably to support next year’s running race. We need to check to be sure.
5. Karen notes that Turnagain students will not be competing in the Russian Olympiada this year (as done last year at the ASD Education Bldg.), The decision not to attend was made by the Turnagain Russian teachers involved with coordinating this activity last year. MIR had included $600.00 in this year’s budget for the Olympiada. Inna Erickson and Valerie-Ekberg Brown discussed last year’s event. Inna notes that the event is very competition/memorization driven, which is not the immersion teaching model. Valerie would like to see the elementary students involved again in the future. Inna would like to pursue other more age-fitting cultural activities for K-6 Turnagain students, possibly to include a “Russian cultural day” at Turnagain next year.
6. Budget amendment.
   1. Karen Biggs motions to add $500 to the budget for credit card processing (Square fees - 2.75% - used mainly at the Maslenitsa silent auction) and to add $300 to a miscellaneous expense account. This was an oversight and not included in the original budget.
   2. Angie Cagle seconds the motion
   3. Motion passes with all 11 members voting yes

**Old Business**:

1. Kaladi Coffee Fundraiser Heather Probasco presents. Easy and fast. $1473.00 profit.
2. Russian New Year Celebration- Made $90 from photos. All the rest was donation.
   1. Had extra Saturday gift bags which will be ready for next year.
   2. We need to rent a good sound system next year with multiple microphones
3. Award Committee “The OWL” (The Outstanding Wise Learner) - Owls have been purchased. Minutes from committee meeting provided.
4. Russian exchange students visit (Mar 28-Apr 8) - Planning Committee report meeting coming up on Feb 1. Saturday April 1 - Planned trip to Seward / whale-watching. Tentative potluck on Thursday April 6th (also going to Ak Native Heritage center during the day, prior to the potluck). We especially want to involve the kids who are current 6th grade and 7th immersion students who will be next up to visit Russia (in 2018). We only budgeted $2500 for the Russian exchange guests’ visit. May go over budget. Might want to budget more in the future. High school students plan to sell concessions at sporting events to raise funds to contribute.

**New Business:**

1. Russian Olympiada (Mar. 3) - Turnagain Russian teachers met and decided they don’t want want to participate in the Olympiada, but they are thinking of replacing it with another event at our school. The Olympiada is more geared towards High School students. Olympiada is also a Russian cultural celebration, however, which has a dance performance, Russian craft-making. The FBI might come to present different career ideas. Team Unalaska comes every year. We have lost some of the regular elective language programs because they get eliminated once there is an immersion program -- which is what happened at West High this year. Should we give an incentive to the immersion high school students to compete?
   1. Valerie will let us know when the flyer is done so we can advertise. She still need volunteers.
   2. MIR could sponsor the registration fee $6 and lunch fee $8.
   3. Kids can go to cultural day and just purchase the $8 lunch fee, if interested, with a parent/guardian.
2. International Women’s Day (Mar. 8) - Heather is checking on getting flowers and permission to celebrate.
3. Maslenitsa (Apr 8) - Farewell-to-Winter Russian Festival- Need a main person then sub-committee heads. Maria B will do the flyer using the art from the winner of the 2016 Maslenitsa art contest. Karen B will do the art competition. Heather Probasco will be the chair. The event will be at Romig. Kitchen is reserved 11-3:30pm. We need to get the burn permit from the Fire Department. An idea was suggested of having each immersion grade class sponsor a “carnival-type” game that they are in charge of.
4. Looking ahead…..K-6 Summer Camp- a parent has said that we might be able to use a Shriners facility. Discussion regarding timing. July sounds best to everyone. We need to ask parents for ideas regarding location. Need a facility with 5 rooms and access to a park or playground. Central Lutheran? Consider other schools. Lake Hood, Aquarian, Inlet View.

**Good of the Order**

1. K & 1 after school classes are going to continue.
2. Discussion of how to celebrate 150th year since the sale of Alaska from Russia. Want to have a K-12 art contest to make a poster/calendar. This is not a class assignment; it is independent work. Want to encourage research by families and cultural learning. Start the event March 30 give them a month to turn in.
   1. We will need to budget for printing. Maria B will get an estimate. Karen B volunteers to help with this. We will need specifications size, materials etc.

**Adjourn 8:24 PM**

**Upcoming Calendar:**

***Mar. 8: International Women's Day***

***Mar. 22- 6:30pm: MIR Member Meeting (Relo 13 at West High)***

***Mar. 28-Apr 8: Russian exchange students visit Anchorage***

***April 8: Maslenitsa "Farewell-to-Winter" Russian Festival, noon-3pm at Romig Middle School***

***May 3- 6:30pm: MIR Member Meeting (Relo 13 at West High)***

***May 4- 6pm: 12th Grade Russian Immersion Graduation Ceremony at West High***

**Connect with MIR:**

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