



**Stowe Community Group Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2017 ~ 6:30 PM
Harriet Beecher Stowe Elementary School**

1. Call to Order/Welcome: Amy Hamilton, SCG Co-Chair

The fourth SCG meeting of the year was called to order at approximately 6:30 PM by Amy. Eight parents were in attendance including one new to Brunswick, plus Assistant Principal Josh Levy.

2. Assistant Principal's Report: Josh Levy

Mr. Levy reported that John Paige completed his role as Interim Principal at the end of December as planned. He is still helping with HBS projects including the scheduling committee, developing RTIB behavior support for non special education students, and next year's school budget.

School Board budget workshops, open to the public, are scheduled for March 1 and 15, with a public forum on the budget on April 5. School board workshops typically take place at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall at 85 Union Street.

Eight new students have enrolled since the beginning of January.

Randomly selected 4th graders will take NAEP assessments in February.

3rd graders will have the Northern Stars Planetarium program at school tomorrow.

4th graders will visit the Maine State Museum next week.

The WATCH D.O.G.S. kickoff event is planned for Thursday, January 26 from 6-7 PM in the HBS cafeteria with an information session and pizza party. All fathers and father figures and kids are welcome.

Mr. Zach Theberge will be the long term substitute during Mrs. Norton's maternity leave.

Mrs. Charity Kaiser was Mrs. Orr's student teacher and is now serving as her long term substitute while she recovers from an injury and surgery.

HBS is hiring an Ed Tech to replace Mrs. Jenny Gaghan, who has moved into an ESL role for the Brunswick School Department.

Retired teacher and community member Kathy Koerber has scheduled this year's Poem In Your Pocket Day for April 27.

There was a brief discussion and strong recommendation of *The Read-Aloud Handbook* by Jim Trelease, which is a great resource for teachers as well and parents and contains excellent reading lists up through high school level.

5. Co-Chair Report: Amy Hamilton (Open Co-Chair Position)

Amy thanked everyone for their continued work on behalf of Stowe Community Group. Once again, she is still hoping to find a co-chair. As a reminder, Amy suggested at our first meeting that if each person at the meeting could recruit one friend to get involved in SCG, we would have a broader base of volunteers this year.

Amy reported that our most pressing leadership need at the moment is someone to chair the Bobcat 5K this spring with Katie Cole.

6. Secretary Report: Becky Wilkoff

The minutes from the November 14, 2016 meeting were approved as written. Becky reminded everyone that the meeting minutes and other SCG information are posted on SCG page of the HBS website.

7. Treasurer Report: Erinn Rossignol

Erinn was unable to attend the January meeting. The draft budget report for January 2017 is attached.

8. Committee Reports

Community Events: Mary Dinsmore, Alyssa Goodwin, Stacey Jenkins -

The HBS and Coffin event at the Bowdoin College hockey game on Saturday, January 7 went well and raised \$275 to be divided between the two schools (based on school population), thanks to Dead River's generous donation of 100 gallons of heating oil.

HBS Movie Night is planned for Friday, January 20 from 6-8 PM in the HBS gym with *Road Chip*. Popcorn poppers are needed for Friday daytime and chaperones are needed at the event.

Fundraising:

Box Tops & Labels for Education - Billie Jo Wallace & Shawn Gerwig - We have raised over \$1066 so far this year. We are considering a grade vs. grade contest starting very soon to give this program a boost.

Bobcat 5K - Katie Cole - Race will be Saturday, May 20. We are looking into having a kickoff event at Portland Pie Co. in Brunswick to encourage early registration, and Portland Pie will donate pizza on race day.

Fall Fundraiser - Mixed Bags catalog in 2016 - Amanda Similien

All Elementary School Craft Fair - Erika Lichter, Gail St. Pierre, Meg Davis (CFC), Becky Kirker (CFC)

Hannaford Helps Schools - Kym Shoemaker

Helping Hands: Terrie Cope leads this group and comes in on Tuesday and Thursday mornings to work on teacher projects. Kym Shoemaker and Margarida Mapletoft have been helping regularly. Volunteers are always needed for this very important program to help the teachers.

Hospitality (Teacher & Staff Appreciation): Samantha Marini, Keisha Payson, Becky Wilkoff, Denise Zavitz - We have received gracious thank you notes and feedback after the ceramic travel mugs we gave to every staff member as a holiday gift to express our appreciation. We will provide a warm, homemade dinner to thank the custodial staff on Friday, January 20.

Logo Items: Samantha Marini

Scholastic Book Fair: Erica Parthum Leitzell & Sheryl Palese - New book fair co-chairs will be needed for next year, and we would ideally have them shadow the current co-chairs at the spring book fair.

Sustainability (We Compost It!, CLYNK, Harriet's Haven, etc.): Bonnie Gilman, Kim Bolshaw Noetzel, Keisha Payson - The CLYNK Maine Recycles Championship will run from February 17 through April 24, earning extra cash for our bottles and cans.

Volunteer Coordinator (Walk/Bike to School Days, misc. volunteer requests): Becky Wilkoff - The next monthly Walk/Bike to School Days are Fridays, January 20 and February 17. Becky is recruiting volunteers for the cafeteria and playground on January 17-20 and other days when the bus drivers are unavailable. Please contact Becky with any misc. volunteer needs for a project or event that is not already covered by a SCG committee.

Winter Gear Give & Take: Jill Ellis & Sarah McPherson - Please continue to contact Jill and Sarah if HBS families have winter gear needs.

9. New Business: Prompted by the new parent in the group, there was a discussion about how to get teachers more involved in SCG and have more of a partnership. Should we try to personally invite teachers to our meetings? Could we write a letter to the staff and encourage them to point parents to SCG if they are looking to volunteer and/or get more involved at school?

10. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:40 PM.

2016-2017 meetings (2nd Mondays at 6:30 PM in the HBS cafeteria, subject to change): no February meeting, March 13, no April meeting, May 8, June meeting TBD

Thank you for supporting Stowe Community Group!

January 17 2017 Stowe Community Group Budget Report

Balance on account on November 14th \$33,714.52

Withdrawals

Maine State Music Theatre	\$1515.00
Planetarium	\$620.00
Arts are Elementary	\$3400.00
Apples for movie night	\$40.00
WATCH D.O.G.S	\$559.79
Scholastic Book Fair	\$8495.42
Brunswick Downtown Association	\$75.00
Criterion Pictures-Movie License	\$100.00
Custodian-Craft Fair	\$484.90
Shad's-Dec. Staff Gift (travel mugs)	\$1804.81
Shad's Ceramic Mugs (welcome gifts)	\$325.23
Amy Hamilton	\$30.26
TOTAL WITHDRAWALS	\$17450.41

Deposits

Hockey Game	\$199.00
(part still needs to be transferred to Coffin)	
Box Tops-Fall Submission	\$1066.00
Book Fair Deposit	\$8479.11
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$9744.11

Balance on after withdrawals/deposits \$26,008.22