



LIFE GROUP MINUTES from May 16, 2016

Dena Van Lith opened the meeting with a prayer.

The meeting started with a Mardi Gras recap by Mandi Pederson. Shady Beach donated all of the food this year. (which we are extremely thankful for) and our profit was \$2,265.

Carrie Novy had a rough estimate on the gala. We are still waiting on the bill from Shady, but the estimated profit is at around \$38,000.

One thing that was discussed was the credit card charges. This year approx. \$15,000 was charged in credit cards, which amounted to a fee of 4% (in the \$600 range) which was added expense. Thoughts were that maybe a disclaimer could be added to the brochure if you are paying with a debit card, to please consider a check in order to avoid the extra fee to the school.

The only other item that was brought up to consider was the lightning during the auction. It could be turned up a little bit.

Brenda spoke about the need for 34 new Chromebooks for grades 3-6 (plus teachers) for next year. This cost amounts to \$8589.70. This includes the management software, a 3-year warranty, and shipping costs.

Paula Rausch is taking classes on Chromebooks this summer. Each one must be managed and licensed with a school-based application. They all need a secure browser installed for testing purposes. The cost of these classes is \$528. Carrie Novy made a motion to have LIFE pay for the cost of the classes and it was approved by the group.

There was discussion by the group on how to fund the cost of the Chromebooks without depleting the LIFE account. Suggestions were to speak to Father Gary about the Foundation money and if any could be spent for this purpose.

Candee Cloos mentioned that we could apply for the \$500 from Catholic United until October 1.

We talked about the giving tree and how we could make it more "user friendly" this year. It was suggested to use a posterboard format (vs an actual tree format) in order to make things more organized. Possibly color coding tags for individual grades and RE. This would be set out possibly the last week of July and also set out at registration, as it was last year.

Brenda also mentioned that we would be discontinuing milk for snack starting next school year.

Brenda spoke about the trip to clean the cemetery for grades 4-6 and asked for volunteer drivers. Some of the 4th grade parents offered to take the students on Wednesday at noon. 5th and 6th grades are covered.

Dine and Donate at Shady Beach this time was on Mothers Day. We made \$172.20. The number was higher on St Patricks Day, but that could have been because of the sale of cookies on the same night. Also, the Mothers Day Brunch was very busy that day, and our promotion was during the evening meal.

Dena brought up Louisa Weissenfluh memorial ideas. LIFE will pay for the tree that was planted outside the 1st grade classroom. The tree is a Brandy Wine Maple Tree and the total amount is \$74.15 including tax.

The group decided on a \$100 scholarship for five years (in Louisa's name). This will be available to kindergarteners that are entering first grade at St Lawrence, and the name will be drawn at the end of the school year.

Open House this year will be on August 22 at 5pm and Registration is tentatively set for August 8 from 8-6pm

Dena Van Lith spoke about the role of LIFE board members. She asked if there was anyone who would be willing to take the role of Vice President for next year and Mandy Pederson said that she would take the position. Rachel Hendricks will take the position of treasurer. Susie Wendland will be president.

Rondi Scoular spoke about the color run and a date was set for September 11, 2016 at 4pm. Brenda and Dena are speaking to the KC's about the meal and bounce house, but the idea is of not having a raffle this year and just making the day about a "fun day".

Terri Brown spoke about the Yeti Fish house raffle idea. This could include an ice auger and cash prizes. Possibly selling the tickets for \$50 each and making a limit of 500 tickets sold.

The idea was presented of selling the tickets this fall and doing the drawing the evening of the Christmas program at school.

She will do some more research and a committee will get together to discuss details.

The next two LIFE meetings will be after the School Advisory Board meetings on September 12 and November 14th, 2016.

Dena Van Lith drew for the winner of the \$100 cash prize and the winner was Sandra Fonder.

Dena ended with a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Susie Wendland, LIFE Group Secretary/Vice President