

AISB
January 24, 2008
AISB Library, 1600h
MINUTES

In Attendance: Lara Prihodko, Claudia Vondrasek, Kymberly Tiffany, Maria Ramillo, Gary Holsten, Rachel Strozeski, Omar Saibou, Karen Diarra, Muriel Durand

Absent: Kelly Dalton, Jan Derpak, Richard Koczwarski

I. Call to order

- a. The president called the meeting to order at 1605
- b. The president discussed the agenda

II. Approval of minutes from November 15th meeting

- a. Omar moved to approve the minutes, Rachel seconded. November 15th minutes were approved by majority.

III. Author's visit wrap up

- a. The PTO outlaid 280000CFA on the event: 25000 CFA on the author's gift, 70000 CFA on refurbishing the terrace, 148000 CFA on cheese and wine. 40000 CFA were returned to PTO coffers, so the PTO spent a total of 240000 CFA. This is about how much the PTO has made on other events this year (Halloween), so we are more or less still even. 50000 CFA was donated to the library fund. It was a good evening overall. The general set up was good. There was a suggestion to do the whole thing on the terrace (wine, cheese and authors talk) next time. We estimate that 50 people attended.

IV. New Business

- a. **Elementary school lunch proposal by Karen Diarra from ACSAM**
 - i. Lunch proposed for elementary students for Tuesday/Thursday only. Main details are listed in a handout from Karen. ACSAM will deliver, serve, cleanup, bring all utensils. ACSAM would have a monthly menu. They can accommodate

all elementary school children and could feed staff too. There just wouldn't be a drink available, there is not really anything practical that's a healthful alternative to water. They would use a debit method to pay. Money would be given first, the child's account would be debited for lunch when purchased, and then children would be notified when their account was low. Extra money would be refunded. ACSAM would need some help from the office and teachers, but not much. Student council could collate the numbers and bring to the office. A 2 month trial period was suggested. ACSAM can start in February. Last year the attempt at hot lunch was problematic, the PTO was responsible and it was too much work, this would be more regular. All agree it sounds good. The program can be announced at Monday morning assembly to the elementary students. Kim and Omar will talk to David about it.

b. Google club proposal by Muriel Durand

- i. Like a mailing list, but not exactly. If you are a member, everyone receives messages that get sent to it. Everyone who is a member can post messages to it. Informal, but reactive. You can check a website or get it by email. Members won't get sent spam. It would be a resource for adults associated with the school. Time commitment for the person who oversees the group? Not much if people are polite, just to approve people joining. If it gets too spammy, however, it can take time. The PTO should be the owner of the group, not the school, so there is not a conflict of interest. Muriel will be the moderator. People can send email addresses to Muriel to join. The name of group will be aisbcommunity@googlegroups.commembers, and (at least initially) the group will be restricted to adult members of the AISB community (teachers, parents, staff, not students or prospective parents (yet)). PTO should have an email address, and then it could be the owner of the list. aisbpto@aisbmali.org. Access to the email address should be

universal. We can notify the AISB community of the email address and the google group in the school newsletter.

c. Order for 2008–09 school year approval

- i. Kym placed an order for the Halloween carnival and international festival for next year, about 400\$. Toys and games mostly. Kelly has the order.

d. Lartigue award

- i. Omar suggested the PTO institute an award in honor of Kelly Lartigue. It could be an award to honor someone who is a 'community' builder, coolest parent, whatever. Award could be a revolving plaque and should be made locally. We need an occasion to present it. End of year assembly? Present it twice, in front of students and at an adult event, perhaps the teacher appreciation dinner? Or during a cocktail hour before hand? Or we create the occasion on the terrace. A suggestion to serve Karims special coffee. The PTO should ask Karim about the award as well as David.

V. Committee Reports

a. International Festival updates

- i. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 2:30 in the library. Embassy envelopes went out and fliers to businesses have been delivered. Good verbal responses so far. The committee will ask parents for donations at the general association meeting and at the general PTO meeting. Need to continue to ask for donations and help. Need people to help distribute letters.

b. Scholastic Book order update

- i. The book fair is cancelled for this year. It was going to be too expensive to ship the books; basically they need to be in the container. Perhaps the book fair should be held in the fall. Maybe the PTO can sponsor a book swap either at the end of literacy month or in May instead? You would bring your

books in and get the same number back. Book reviews by the kids? Reading rainbow video clips? Reviews by kids would be great fun for literacy month. We could do a beer and book swap for adults separately.

c. Other fundraisers

- i. Maria and Gary suggested a February 22nd fund raiser on the terrace, set menu, charge 40–50000 CFA per couple, where they would do the cooking. Some suggestions that this might be too expensive. Maybe a 5000 CFA per person wine and cheese with music? Maybe both events so that people could choose what they are comfortable with? 5000 CFA beer, pizza, book swap at the end of the year?

VI. Adjournment

- a. Move to adjourn the meeting, approved by majority.
- b. Meeting is adjourned.