

DREAMACRES COMMITTEE MEETING, APRIL 25, 2000

ATTENDANCE

In attendance were: Karen Brock, Maggie Linton, Ruth Borst, Marius de Bruyn, Jeanne Mortimer and Marsha Ahrens.

CONTRIBUTION COUNT

Meeting Hours: 1.5 x 5 = 7.5
Professional Meeting Hours: 1.5
Non-meeting hours 30.5

1. PLANTING AND WEEDING

- 1.1. Planting of perennials at the front of the school is complete, with the exception of 20 trilliums (designated area has to be weeded first) and 50 uvaria that have to be returned to Hortico for replacement or credit for next spring. **(ACTION: RUTH)**.
- 1.2. Sunflower and pumpkin seeds need to be planted, soil turned and the split rail fence at the back is in need of mending. A work evening is planned for Tuesday, June 6th, 6:30 onwards to turn the soil in the vegetable garden and sunflower garden, for weeding, and possibly for spreading of wood chips, if we can get them in time. This will be announced in the Newsletter, asking for volunteers. **(ACTION: JEANNE – NEWSLETTER, MARIUS – WOODCHIPS)**
- 1.3. Weeding in the front has to be done soon, and with great care. We should organize a few weeding “bees”. The first will be Thursday 25th, the next Monday 29th, and these should be arranged on an ongoing basis. Notice of these dates will be placed in the Newsletter. **(ACTION: JEANNE)**
- 1.4. A call for a plumber to donate a few hours of his time to hook up the irrigation system at the front to the main water line is also to go in the Newsletter. **(ACTION: JEANNE)**
- 1.5 We need to arrange a system of monitoring and watering for the summer months. Karen prepared a sign-up sheet for volunteers, to be placed on the flip chart in the entrance hall, and a notice is being placed in the Newsletter.

2. FUNDING

- 2.1 The “Schoolyard Naturalization Project Guide”, co-authored by Maggie and Ron Ballentine, has been produced as part of Ford’s corporate citizenship program, whose theme this year is Schoolyard Naturalization. The program offers schools the chance of applying for funding, and, once approved, the school receives a grant of \$1,000. If it can raise another \$1,000, it will receive \$2,000, and \$3,000 if it can raise \$2,000. Maggie has submitted the initial Registration Form for the funding application, and we should try to take maximum advantage of the program, as it is a one-off initiative.
- 2.2 CN is donating \$1,000 to the Dreamacres project from its Earth Day Fund. An invoice needs to be submitted in order to receive the money. We need clarification as to how the money can be spent (e.g. plants, only, tools etc., or as a possible means of matching the money from the Ford program). **(ACTION: MAGGIE)**
- 2.3 We could apply to the School Council for a donation of \$1,000 to put towards the Ford initiative. Next School Council meeting is June 5th, and a presentation on behalf of Dreamacres could be made then with the support of the Dreamacres committee members. **(ACTION : MAGGIE AND ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS)**
- 2.4 The attempt to obtain funding from TD has been unsuccessful.
- 2.5 A new application should be put forward to Canada Trust. The deadline is September. We should apply for a replacement Red Oak tree.
- 2.6 Karen has prepared the final report to obtain the outstanding \$2,500 from the Shell Environmental Fund. This includes the total spent on perennials, shrubs and trees, plus comments and observations.

3. **PROJECTS**

3.1 Pergola – It is difficult towards the end of the school year to have the Grade 5 students work outside the classroom. It may be a more feasible solution to make it a lunchtime project.

3.2 Margaret's quilt project is well under way.

4. **GENERAL**

4.1 The "Illustrated Historical Atlas of Halton County" is in the Central Library, but cannot be borrowed. Gail made photocopies of the section relevant to Oakville.

4.2 The pond – question of liability insurance etc. is ongoing. Toronto Zoo has an "Adopt-a-Pond" program and several other schools have water programs.

4.3 The Canadian Forestry Association has a Forest celebration in May. We could participate next year (we have created a "model forest").

NEXT MEETING

The last meeting of the school year will be held on **Tuesday, 20th June, 7:00 p.m., in the Abbey Arms.**