

## **PERC Meeting**

**February 24 2015**

### **Carman Elementary School Library**

**Present:** Barb Lepp, Darlene Keith, Anne Friesen, Cindy Phillips, Lisa Carlson, Louise Duncan, Mandi Zacharias, Allison Abbott-Wiebe

**1 Call to Order**-Chair Barb Lepp welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

**2** The minutes of the November 17, 2014 meeting as circulated and posted on the PERC wiki were moved for adoption.

**m/s** Lisa Carlson/Darlene Keith **carried**

### **3 Committee Reports**

**a Treasurer**-Darlene reported a bank balance, as of this date, of **\$4346.48**. All outstanding bills have been accounted for and paid.

**b Membership**-Mandi reported PERC currently has **47** members. This number includes **36** people who became members as a result of their participation in last year's PERC event as well as **11** new members. Current PERC Board members are also included as part of the member total of 47. Following discussion, it was determined that memberships paid at the upcoming March 10 2015 PERC event, will be valid for a full year from that date.

**c MRA**-Louise reported current efforts by the group center on preparations for the Adolescent Literacy Summit April 9 and 10 2015 at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg. Registrations have already reached the 400 participants per day mark and it is

certain the event will be sold out. The renovations to the Victoria Inn with plentiful parking and spaces conducive to an event of this size will further add to the success of the Summit.

**d I Love to Read Month**-Barb reported that many people have been sending their event suggestions to MRA. Twitter has been abuzz with ideas. PERC members had expressed a concern at the last meeting around the timing of the receipt of I Love to Read Month materials. Many schools begin their planning in the late fall previous to the February event and need the materials earlier to facilitate planning. Barb reported MRA has received our concern regarding this timing issue.

Lisa reported Elm Creek School has undertaken a number of events and projects for I Love to Read Month. The school followed the theme of Literacy is a Human Right. Some of these included:

- No Shoes Day-to highlight the fact that in many countries children cannot attend school because they have no shoes.
- a trip to the Human Rights Museum for Grades 7-12
- a trip to the Winnipeg Symphony's presentation on a Human Rights theme for Grades 4-6
- many speakers visited the school speaking on a range of topics celebrating diversity
- Elm Creek School participated in the Global Backpack Program by donating items

e **PD**-Barb and Lisa reported that registration for PERC's March 10 event sits at approximately 30 which is close to the same number as had attended last year's event. Friday is the last day to register. Many thanks to PERC Board members Darlene Keith and Annie Bergen for providing the Early Years portion of the morning session on **How to Inspire Reluctant Readers**.

#### 4. Business

a) Cindy Phillips presented information on the **Winkler Imagination Library**. This is an initiative begun by Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and has been embraced by the Winkler Family Resource Centre as an exciting literacy opportunity for preschoolers in the Garden Valley School Division area. The Imagination Library is an early childhood education initiative, which provides free books to children from birth to age five. A total of approximately \$100, 000 will be needed to run the program for five years. Cindy brought this information as an opportunity for PERC to participate with a donation.

**Motion:** *That PERC make a donation to the Winkler Imagination Library program in the amount of \$600.00 each year for the next five years.*

**m/s** Cindy Phillips/Louise Duncan **Carried**

A cheque will be presented to Joyce Sawatzky (acting on behalf of the Winkler Family Resource Centre) at our March 10 event.

b) **St. Louis Leadership Conference**-virtual training will be held at the Caboto Centre on June 6<sup>th</sup> as part of leadership training for the AGM

#### c) **PD in 2015-2016**

1. PERC will follow up with Sandi Shaw-Lyons regarding the possibility of PERC and MRA co-sponsoring a speaker for an event.
2. Discussion around SAGE events. PERC to follow up with the Manitoba School Library Association regarding the possibility of a SAGE session in rural Manitoba.

#### 5. **Calendar of Events**

March 10 2015 PERC event Carman United Church

April 9/10 Adolescent Literacy Summit Victoria Inn Winnipeg

April 25 MRA meeting

June 6 MRA Annual General Meeting Caboto Centre Winnipeg

Keep checking the MRA website for upcoming events.

**Question:** Are any parent events scheduled in the near future?  
Brainstorming of possibilities for PERC involvement with such an event. Two suggestions:

1. Sally Bender-book handling and read aloud and
2. Bunch of Munsch upcoming drama event in Winkler

**6. Celebrate Literacy-member sharing:**

Louise-**Alan Turing-The Enigma** by Andrew Hodges; **Brain Rules**  
by John Medina; **Great by Choice** by Jim Collins

Barb-**If I Stay** by Gayle Forman

Allison-**Orange is the New Black** by Piper Kerman; **Hockey for Dummies** by John Davidson

**7. Next meeting date:**

**PERC Annual General Meeting 4:30 May 25<sup>th</sup> 2015 Carman  
Elementary School**