

**BAKAS PARENT MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 3, 2009**

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

June 6<sup>th</sup> – Summer Sizzle Dinner 5 - 8  
August 5<sup>th</sup> – Parent Meeting 6 p.m. Potluck  
Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> – Horse Auction

**NEED LIST:**

Sunscreen, ice pops, bottled water, DAWN dish soap,  
Toilet Paper and Paper Towels  
Arts and Crafts supplies, big foam dice, rings for class

The meeting started at 6:30 p.m. at Bakas and ended at 8:10, with about 10 people in attendance.

Beth sadly informed us that she went to the PROPOSED budget meeting for the upcoming year and was shocked to be informed that the Parks and Recreation budget will be severely slashed starting in Oct. of this year. (Which begins the 2010 budget year). The Bakas budget will drop by about 70% or so and that all eleven staff positions at Bakas will be eliminated by Oct. 1, 2010. We hope we are safe through the 2010 summer, but the staff will face benefit cuts, mandatory furloughs, hiring freeze, and a few staff members might be cut right away.

Among other cuts, are afterschool programs at Recreation centers, Parks will be open only 5 days a week in 2010 and maybe down to 3 days a week in 2011. Special event Roving Rangers, Camp Sparks, and adult athletic programs are on the chopping block too.

Beth said we need to find ways to raise money to keep the program running. We might have to charge for classes, rent out the place for special events, and Beth Hemmert suggested becoming a certified provider for Med waiver. Amy Chirinos said that at the main library, they have a database with information on different grants. The Board of County Commissioners will have public hearings June 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, and Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Any support at these meetings are appreciated.

On the plus side, Susan Gordon's party was a huge success and she can donate \$1,000 to Bakas. She is also picking up the snow cone machine and things from Sams for the Summer Sizzle.

Regarding the Summer Sizzle, we will have a singer, cloggers, dunk tank, potluck, and raffle and auction items. Set up starts at 3 and the party runs from 5 to 8. Joyce Garrett showed us stamped horse items she will put in a basket for the auction. If you are interested in personalized stamped things or having a stamp party, get in touch with her. We also will have new Bakas tank tops, t-shirts, and baseball caps for sale in many different colors.

Kim Hajastron went over last month's minutes and if you need me to amend something, my email address is [kimandmichaelh@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:kimandmichaelh@tampabay.rr.com). From last month's minutes, we are still waiting on the check from Tampa Bay Downs.

Sandra Van Dijk went over the Treasures report, and due to the cost of the Rider Banquet, we have \$4,000 less than last month. We received a \$1,500 donation from Mr. Sylvestre's bank where he works. Every bit helps, so see if where you work can help with donations.

We are going to approach the Bucs organization again this year. It was discussed about running one of their concession stands, but that involves volunteer commitment for each game and we are not sure that all the parents will help out.

Lorraine Potocki has a great fund raising kit that will be going to press soon. Beth and Lorraine will have to re-word some of the information in light of the recent budget meetings.

The State Special Olympics went well. Three teams competed in the drill team and we won 1<sup>st</sup> place. All the results for our riders will be placed on the web site. Beth mentioned that 4 riding centers didn't come, so there were fewer riders.

We could use some Arts and Crafts projects for the upcoming Summer Camps, and for the classes, we could use some new things like rings and big foam dice.

Amy showed us some of the photos she will be displaying at the Jewish Community Center's cafe.

There will not be a July parent meeting, so the next meeting will be held at Bakas on Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>. It will be potluck again, and we will discuss upcoming events such as the September Horse Auction.

Have a relaxing summer and see you on Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>.

Remember, if your child cannot ride, please call to let staff know they won't be at class that day.

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