

Stuyvesant High School Alumni Association
Board of Directors Meeting,
Held in the Principal's conference room, #107 at 345 Chambers St., New York, NY
Mar. 2, 2016 Meeting Minutes Final

Directors Present: Shakil Ahmed '98 (phone), Christina Alfonso '01, Richard Braun '72, Dan Egers '03 (phone), Felix Freshwater '64 (phone), Carl Hendricks '75, Jukay Hsu '02, Soo Kim '93, Beth Knobel '80, Vanessa Liu '92, Harry Malakoff '62, Serphin Maltese '51 (phone), Robert Sherwood '68 (phone), Eleonora Srugo '04

Trustees Present: Jeff Kestler '64 (phone), Phil Lehman '72 (phone)

Staff Present: Lisa Tepperberg '88, Evelyn Krejci '76, Josh Ralske

Guests: Yvette Miller '04, Harvey Blumm counselor, several on phone

Start 7:15 pm 11 directors (including 5 on phone), 1 trustee

Principal's Report

Principal Zhang spoke. This is the start of the spring semester. All college applications are done and in 3-4 weeks students will start to receive regular acceptance. She stated 100 chorus members were joined by 100 other singers for a performance at Carnegie Hall of the full Messiah. She thanked the students & music teachers. Principal Zhang said graduation this year will be back at Carnegie Hall, this does bring challenges regarding number of tickets to students (will be 2 maybe 3). Jim Stergio is happy graduation is at Carnegie Hall so he can again host people at his house. Stuyvesant has 3 finalists in the Intel competition. She said we are still looking to improve the program and are still recovering from the loss of the coordinator. Mr. Kim asked, how does budgeting for this work. Principal Zhang said this is tricky; person can be hired as a consultant outside of DOE. Ms. Liu asked, what is budget for this position. Principal Zhang said about \$100,000. Ms. Tepperberg said former coordinator, Mr. Gastel, might be available.

Principal Zhang said speaking of support from us she feels it is great to be connected to alumni. She was at a conference in DC last week and Stanly Litow spoke, (need spelling & title) along with President IBM int'l Foundation (check). Mr. Litow first announced that he is a proud Stuyvesant graduate. She went on to say at the same conference she met Grace ?, friend of Ms. Tepperberg, who is very involved in Virginia school. Principal Zhang said along same note she had a gentlemen ask us to send a 100th birthday card to his father who graduated from Stuyvesant. She got a card and had several people sign but sadly the man died few days before his birthday.

Lastly she said as you walk thru the halls you will see all the SING practices, which are exciting and they are grateful for our support. Mr. Kim asked about having the winner do a performance for us someplace.

7:25 pm Mr. Hsu and Mr. Braun arrived, 13 directors

Ms. Tepperberg indicated that one thing being done with SING is producing a professional CD/DVD. So maybe we could have a showing. Ms. Srugo said she thought full run-throughs are done on Saturday during the day. Maybe alumni could come then. Ms. Tepperberg said she could look into this.

Minutes

Mr. Kim asked if there were any changes to the February Minutes.

→ **Motion** Ms. Knobel To accept the February 3, 2016 minutes as written.

Second: Mr. Malakoff unanimous

Executive Director Report

Ms. Tepperberg said she is closing the last SING donation. Performances are on March 11th & 12th. The students have been practicing outside our offices for days now. We got tickets for the 3 initial match donors.

She stated the guidance people are looking to hold a Career Day on April 1st, and are asking for alumni help. We will send a blast soon including this.

Ms. Tepperberg said our last blast asked for feedback from alumni to help parents & teachers. We got 94 responses.

Responses indicated a disconnect of older classes to what's going on now.

She went on to say she attended Allegiance with some alums, they had a meet & greet after. It was all well received but very difficult for us to execute.

Homecoming. We are faced with challenges, reserve discussion for Executive Session. The event's committee has dwindled; the event planners used last year are not available. In conclusion, outsource this? Maybe scale this back to same as last year and then have a bigger event?

Spring Feast is next month, Lucy Liu has donated a set visit, Rich Berry offered City Hall tours plus a lunch with Josh Mohrer are part of the auction.

Simply voting. The office is working with them to execute electronic voting. They gave us a discount but still \$4200+. Since this was not in budget is a vote needed?

Continuing the work with Wealth Advisors to flush out donors. Pushing to close. In initial return we determined 15% error rate.

Fundraising event with Boaz Weinstein is being worked on. Pulled together a group but he would prefer a group he doesn't know.

Lucy Liu is really excited and has offered to attend a Soulcycle event. We can do a lot with this.

Does Board want to buy table at Spring Feast? Lisa has bought a table.

Mr. Kim asked for more info on Career Day. Ms. Krejci explained. Ms. Srugo and Mr. Blumm added this is something that should be done in conjunction with our Mentoring Program.

Mr. Kim feels we should own career day. Set up 4 or 5 verticals. Ms. Srugo & Mr. Kim said use mentors as well as call for additional

7:45 Ms. Alfonso arrived 14 directors present

Ms. Knobel said we could post on FaceBook. Ms. Srugo taking ownership of this.

Mr. Kim asked for elaboration on Homecoming. Ms. Tepperberg gave more detail.

Treasurers Report

See attachments. Ms. Srugo stated we already achieved our goal for designated income as well as the endowment.

Unrestricted revenue is double last year's numbers however it is at 65-70% of budget. Allocations Committee has met twice & given approximately \$30,000.

Merchandise has been listed on our website for sale and \$700 has been sold. Late start so missed fall reunion season.

Mr. Kim spoke of Humans for Stuyvesant book. How it came about us selling the book. The Humans for Stuy club continues.

Overall focus is on unrestricted revenue. Ms. Srugo said Homecoming must take place and make money.

Mr. Braun: how does treasurer follow up on motion from Feb minutes related to SING that has missing text.

→ **Motion** Mr. Braun To correct the February 2016 minutes relating to the SING motion adding the words 'general fund' at the end.

Second: Ms. Knobel **unanimous**

Mr. Hsu: asked what period this covers. Explained %

Mr. Braun requested we don't call the report a profit & loss since we are non-profit. Unfortunately this can't be changed; it is the name from QuickBooks.

Ms. Knobel noted the end of year giving was impressive

Ms. Tepperberg: We have uphill battle between now and end of year.

Mr. Blumm said our allocations have been noticed by the school and students and are much appreciated.

Ms. Srugo: On track to give to extracurricular but not to actual school departments.

Mr. Kim asked for a running report year to date of all we've done for school. Give qualitative/quantitative reports at end of each year. Use to publicize and raise money.

Ms. Tepperberg: Suggest run a detailed report for Executive Committee quarterly. Mr. Kim said to call it impact report.

Ms. Knobel said this needs to be on front page of our website.

Committees

Allocations

The committee met on February 9th and suggests approving \$3580 to the Chess Team, half of their request, also \$8,749 to the Technology Dept.

→ **Motion** Mr. Egers To allocate \$3,580 to the Chess Team for travel expenses and \$8749 to Technology Department for laptop smart boards.

Second Mr. Malakoff **Unanimous**

Mr. Malakoff: Scholarship season is coming up so committee needs list of the scholarship descriptions,

Communications

Ms. Knobel said committee has been working away trying to help staff create content. Will work with Governance Committee to effectively communicate the voting process. Still working on social media policy.

Mr. Kim gave ownership of impact report to Ms. Knobel & communications committee.

Development

Ms. Liu said, as talked before in treasurer's report, create specific moments to raise money. Decided to do 3 things. 2 cultivation events between now & June (one with Boaz then one in May with someone else). Also potential of a gala in the fall, conversation format. All about getting right people in the room. If cultivation events go well proceed to gala.

Mr. Kim said you honor people then selling tables easier. Said again, we should do things well.

Ms. Srugo: What is the update on endowment plaque and chairs. Ms. Tepperberg: takes about 6 weeks. There is a chair plaque problem, the chairs are curved but the plate is not. Ms. Tepperberg said we may move to plate on arm but there are concerns there as well

Mr. Malakoff: when merger is completed we could highlight at a gala.

Diversity

Ms. Alfonso said she is excited; there is a new bill in city council. This one is much better. She feels it is a good mix and hopes will be well received. Supposed to be press conference tomorrow but postponed so sometime in next few weeks. The Black History month dinner was a success. Angel opened discussions about race. Committee is having a big event April 12th, 4 to 6 pm, Jose Vargas & Rachel Swarm are part of a panel discussion.

Equality Coalition Festival is in April then Diversity Open House in May or June.

Outreach working to develop test prep program for students from several locations.

SHSAT results coming out on Friday.

Events

Mr. Ahmed is now the chair of this committee. Ms. Tepperberg: no board engagement to move this forward.

Mr. Kim said he needs to know when a committee is in bad shape. Ms. Srugo just focus on Homecoming. Finalized great activities for the day, pricing that committee was comfortable with, action items.

Ms. Tepperberg: added event has developed into a complex one; when done couple years ago we had more resources which are no longer avail

Mr. Kim: see the problem and will get involved so table here. Asked for directors & trustees to get involved.

Governance

Nominations. Mr. Hsu: Committee worked on interviewing 10 applicants for nomination slate. Divided up the candidates amongst the committee & then interviewed. Afterward the committee gathered to discuss and decided on slate.

Mr. Kim asked for description of the 3 candidates not as well known

Mr. Balaban is a retired shop teacher.

Mr. Stergio has been involved, donated money, hosts a luncheon each year

Mr. Lewis is a classmate of Mr. Hsu. He attended several meetings. Works for a private equity fund. He is real interested, involved in class reunion

Ms. Knobel asked who were other 4 people, why were they deemed not viable.

Mr. Hsu: Number of candidates to nominate was discussed and committee determined best to offer a slate of 1 to 1.

Ms. Knobel asked their names be sent to Board so chairs can reach out to them for committees. Mr. Hsu said each would be asked to get involved

Mr. Maltese: are there any present members of the Board not being nominated? Mr. Hsu: he spoke with Mr. Braun whose term is up and has given a lot to the organization.

Mr. Kim asked was slate agreed upon unanimously. Mr. Hsu: there was one abstention

→ **Motion** Mr. Hsu Propose the slate of nominees, Mr. Balaban, Mr. Egers, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Liu, Mr. Stergiou and Mr. Weinstein, to the full Board for approval.

Second Mr. Hendricks **12 in favor 1 abstain 1 oppose**

Ms. Knobel went against only because feels members should get a real choice.

Bylaws Changes.

Nomination by petition. This is the required second vote. Motion passed at February meeting 12-1-1. Open for discussion.

→ **Motion Mr. Braun** To Amend the Bylaws-Article IV, Sections 3 Nominating Procedure as follows.

Section 3 will now be named Nominating and Election Procedures.

Current content will be retitled subsection (a).

New subsection (b) will be added, reading as follows.

(b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, candidates for Director may be nominated by petition. Candidates nominated by petition must:

(i) be Alumni Members at the time of nomination and for at least one year immediately prior thereto;

(ii) have served on a committee of the Association for at least one year within the preceding three years;
and

(iii) be eligible to serve as Director in accordance with these Bylaws.

Candidates may be nominated by the submission of one or more petitions signed by at least 50 Alumni Members or 5% of the total Alumni Members as of the end of the immediately preceding fiscal year, whichever is less. Not more than five (5) of the requisite number of signatures may be from members of the same graduating class, and no more than one candidate may be designated on a single petition. Nominating petitions shall contain such information and be filed with the Association by such date as the Governance and Nominations Committee shall determine. Upon verification by the Membership Committee that such petitions contain the requisite number of Alumni Member signatures and comply with the provisions of this Section, the candidates so nominated by petition shall be candidates for Director in the ensuing general election.

Second Mr. Freshwater **12 in favor 2 abstain**

As 14 directors were present we met the 2/3 requirement for the 2nd meeting vote. This will now be added to the Bylaws.

Alumni members. This is the first time these changes are being presented and put to a vote.

→ **Motion Mr. Hsu** To remove the following sentence from Article IV, Section 1, "Committee chairpersons shall be chosen from Board members".

Second Mr. Hendricks **Unanimous**

→ **Motion Mr. Hsu** Change Article II, Section 1(a) to "Alumni Members. There shall be one class of voting membership consisting of individuals who attended the school and who pay dues. Alumni Members shall be eligible to vote in elections of the Association, serve on the Board, Chair and serve on committees of the Board, serve as Trustees of the Endowment Fund ("Trustees") and hold office in the Association, except as provided for in these Bylaws". Unanimously approved.

Second Mr. Hendricks **Unanimous**

At the next meeting the required second vote on these changes will take place. We require a 2/3 majority of the current seated Board be present for that vote.

Mr. Kim asked for explanation of upcoming voting process Ms. Tepperberg: explained an email explaining how to vote including voting credentials will be sent to all with a valid email address in our system. All other alumni will receive instructions and voting credentials with the US Postal mailed newsletter.

Ms. Tepperberg: gave report on Friends of Stuyvesant as Donovan Moore had reached out asking for update. Ariel has filed with the attorney general on behalf of Friends. Also dissolution has not been filed but is close for Campaign Mr. Kestler: this week 990s prepared and then filed with Attorney General.

Membership

Ms. Tepperberg: Next meeting is April 12th. Included in the meeting packet is a request to survey our alumni to review. They will feed results back to us. Mr. Kim said this is for the committee to decide.

Introduced guest Yvette Miller '04. Mr. Kim asked her to tell us about herself.

Mr. Kim asked Ms. Knobel to join Governance committee.

→ **Motion Ms. Liu** To adjourn

Second Mr. Hendricks **unanimous**

9:02 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Alfonso '01 and Evelyn Krejci '76

