

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Townsend Harris Alumni Association, Inc. held at the offices of Shereff, Friedman, Hoffman & Goodman at 919 Third Ave., New York City.

Present at the meeting were:

Abraham C. Bein
Alvin Dobsevage
Lester Friesner
Irving Gerber
Julius W. Graber
Gerald P. Halpern
Eugene J. Heil
Herbert Kadison
Arthur Katz
Kenneth Kaufman
Malcolm Largmann
Morton Lederman
Jack Matusow
Norman Merino
Melvin Moore
Maurice Paprin
Ted Peck
Henry Shereff, Presiding
Harold S. Spielman
Sidney Silverman

Also present were Robert Haan of Queens College and J. Kaufman a representative of the THHS PTA.

Henry Shereff called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM.

Mal Largmann reported on his conversation with Frank Smith, the Director of High Schools for the Board of Education regarding the new rules for high school admissions. Dr. Smith is of the opinion that students must be taught to make decisions and a choice of high schools should be in the student's control to the extent possible. A school like THHS would be able to use

academic records in the admission process but Dr. Smith is opposed to any testing, interviewing or even submission of a written paper. Dr. Smith is interested in THHS and is considering proposing the school as one of five to work with the Harvard University School of Education. A problem in this area is that the THHS contract between the Board of Education and Queens College has never been signed and as a result the exact relationship of Queens College to the school has never been defined. Dr. Smith is meeting with Dr. Kenney of QC and Mal to learn of the course of study at THHS, the relationship between THHS and QC and the extent of the use of QC instructors. Dr. Smith is most interested in having a school dedicated to the humanities but at the same time he is opposed to written tests and interviews as admissions criteria. Further meetings between Smith and Largmann are to be held.

Henry Shereff is arranging a meeting with Claire Shulman, President of Queens Borough, Dr. Kenney and other interested parties to push forward on the building project. The immediate problem is that Dr. Kenney is holding up signing over the land to New York City awaiting a "Statement of Mission" for THHS. There is a question as to who is to prepare such a document and what the contents should be. Henry proposed that Largmann and Haan prepare a draft of such a document which he (Shereff) would edit and submit on behalf of the alumni.

Bob Haan said that Smith and Quinones were going to prepare the

Statement of Mission. He noted that they anticipate an agreement between the Board of Education and QC without any input from THHS.

There was considerable discussion on this issue.

Gerry Halpern proposed meeting with Smith to set up a THHS involvement in the proposed agreement.

Mal Larmann opposed this since it would reflect back to Bob Haan and himself.

Ken Kaufman thought such a meeting solely on an inquiry level would be productive.

Maurice Paprin thought that it was a good idea to get a draft of a mission statement from Larmann and Haan so the Alumni could have something to work with.

Bob Haan pointed out that the mission statement Kenney is referring to relates to the extent of collaboration between THHS and QC. There is no input expected from the Alumni for that agreement. In fact, not even THHS is being consulted.

Mal explained to us the finances involved in the relationship of the Board of Education, QC and THHS. Generally, QC seeks reimbursement from the Board for all expenses relating to THHS whereas the Board believes QC should bear some of these costs. He believes that Smith is agreeable to having THHS as an

experimental school for bright, motivated students without the social problems endemic in other schools.

Henry pointed out that the Alumni concept of THHS was more than merely having bright students. We look for a total educational environment with extraordinary faculty and facilities.

Maurice Paprin referred to an agreement that we had worked out with Saul Cohen regarding DC involvement. Unfortunately that agreement was never formalized.

Mel Moore said that the Alumni was instrumental in starting the school and we should have a say in its operation.

Largmann noted that Quinones inherited THHS. It was not one of his projects. The realities of current politics call for minority involvement in schools.

Paprin agreed that Smith's proposals were popular with the minority representatives. Also Wagner and Sadowsky appeared to agree with Smith.

Herb Kadison suggested that we concentrate our efforts in working with Kenney and avoid as much as possible getting involved in politics.

Gerry Halpern brought us back to the original issue. Lets do what is necessary to get the building and that meant moving ahead on the release of the land.

Mal Largmann was told that the Bd. of Ed. is moving ahead on the project which is expected to be completed in 1991.

Maurice pointed out that nothing will be done until the land is released to the City.

Norman Merino raised the question of having THHS become an Exam school. Could this be done without the approval of the Bd. of Ed? Henry replied that although we did not need the approval of the Board of Ed. it would be most difficult to get legislative approval for an exam school if they actively opposed it.

Gerry Halpern thought that the pivotal issue in the legislature was the vote of the minority legislators.

Bob Haan said that the land for the building was the key issue for Dr. Kenney. She would release the land only if she was assured that DC would be reimbursed for all costs relating to THHS. This is something that the board is most reluctant to do. When asked, Bob indicated that the money in question was about \$100 to 120 Thousand.

There was a general consensus that this was a manageable sum that could be met with some Alumni participation in both the funding and in the use of the funds. All agreed that we should concentrate our efforts to moving the building project.

Gerry Halpern reminded us that the State Legislature session starts in a few months and we should know by then if we want to

request an amendment to permit THHS to be an exam school.

Les Friesner read a letter from Harrison Golden to the New York Times favoring educational programs for the gifted.

J. Kaufman introduced himself as a representative of the PTA. He concurred with the Alumni approach of both getting the building for THHS and meeting with Dr. Smith to clarify admission requirements.

Henry Shereff excused himself at this time to go home and administer to a cold. Irv Gerber took the chair.

Henry had requested direction from the Board on how to proceed. There was a general discussion of this topic. A motion by Ken Kaufman seconded by Maurice Paprin proposed that Henry meet with Claire Shulman and whomsoever can assist us in getting the land necessary for the building project. The motion was carried with one dissent from Al Dobsevage.

Abe Bein called the Board's attention to a request for funds from Wanda Nix at THHS for use by the fencing team. Abe believes we have broken our word to consider this request. Maurice Paprin and Julie Graber reminded Abe that this request was voted down by the Board and never was referred to the Finance Committee.

The Board tabled any further discussion as to whether to request an amendment of the Collandra Act. Mal Largmann assured us that student selection would be essentially similar to the

previous procedure.

Bob Haan acknowledged a gift from Norm Merino in the amount of \$250. to the QC Fund for account of THHS. This sum has been doubled by Norm's employer, Mobil Oil.

Hal Spielman reported that a bill sponsored by Rep. Biaggi which will provide for Federal Funds to schools for the educationally gifted. The bill has passed the House and is now in a Senate Sub-committee. Gerry Halpern pointed out the unless the bill is voted out of committee this summer, which is most unlikely, it will die when Congress adjourns in the Fall. Marice Paprin suggested that the Board write of its support of the bill to the Senate Sub-committee.

Ted Peck noted that there was an impressive graveside ceremony at the rededication of Townsend Harris's grave. Full details will be in the next issue of the newsletter.

Ken Kaufman reported on his work on the transportation problem at the school. There are at present 630 students; 37 from the Bronx, 16 from Manhattan, 47 from Brooklyn, 1 from Staten Island and the balance from Queens. The cost of a bus run from an outer borough is approximately \$40,000. per semester.

There was considerable discussion on the need for this service to attract students from other boroughs. Proposals included having a jitney service to the school from the closest subway

stop; starting a service only in one borough; getting more information on student travel habits. The question was not resolved.

Sid Silverman discussed a program to raise \$100,000 among the alumni. A letter will appear in the next newsletter. Sid requested discussion by the board to provide suggestions for fund raising. This was tabled until the next meeting.

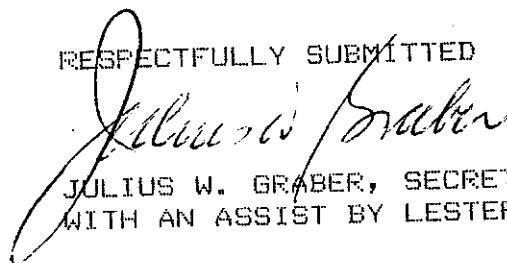
Mal Largmann cited difficulties in obtaining a location for the Charter Day celebration. All the College facilities seem to be taken. He is still trying for one of the QC Theaters. Mal also noted that the school needs shades for 171 windows that have a southern exposure. Herb Kadison will take this up with the Finance Committee.

A discussion started regarding the space allocations per pupil in the new school. It was tabled for the following meeting.

J. Kaufman closed the meeting with an enthusiastic description of his daughter's progress in THHS.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:14 PM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



JULIUS W. GRABER, SECRETARY
WITH AN ASSIST BY LESTER FRIESNER

PREPARED BY	INITIALS	DATE	REFERENCE
CHECKED BY			
APPROVED BY			

LINE NO.	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	LINE NO.
			1-17-84	7-1-84	7-1-83	4-1-84	4-1-83								
			6-30-84	6-31-83	3-31-84	3-31-83	3-31-84								
1	CARRIED FORWARD		1066	4109	13645	16006	38309								1
2															2
3	RECEIPTS														3
4	DUES		5993	7143	12040	13490	2710								4
5	CONTRIBUTIONS			690	970	44500	30151								5
6	ANNUAL LUNCHEON														6
7	RECEIPTS		9337	9580		10759	7090								7
8	DISBURSEMENTS		(10211)	(1500)	(7618)	(10210)	(5919)								8
9	INTEREST			64	197	1377	3039								9
10															10
11	TOTAL FOR PERIOD		4459	15977	5889	57914	5709								11
12															12
13	TOTAL AVAILABLE		5515	17080	119524	73920	9340								13
14															14
15	DISBURSEMENTS														15
16	PROGRAM ACTIVITIES														16
17	BANNER		140												17
18	VAN FOR SCHOOL					15000									18
19	TEACHER'S COURSES					1686	1699								19
20	QUEEN COLLEGE					1000									20
21	ADVERTISING STUDENTS					2471									21
22	CHARTER ACTIVITIES					600	657								22
23	CHARTER DAY					2540	1007								23
24	JAPAN TRIP STUDENTS						4000								24
25	COMPUTER SECURITY ROOM						2899								25
26	STUDENT NEWS PAPER						200								26
27	SCHOOL AND ALUMNI BROCHURE						1500								27
28	OTHER														28
29	ADVERTISING - LOCAL ALUMNI			1418		1458									29
30	POSTAGE		777	480	740	3771	1280								30
31	PRINTING - JOURNAL		404	3855	1859	5787	3143								31
32	SUPPLIES - OFFICE EXP.						5079								32
33	CLERICAL ASSISTANCE			635	417	2532	1001								33
34	COMPUTER COSTS				118	299	1726								34
35	MEETINGS				100										35
36	ORGANIZATIONAL COSTS			171		10	224								36
37	MISCELLANEOUS		31	84	64	268	100								37
38	FLOWERS AND OBITUARY					183									38
39	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		1416	6441	3525	35611	25495								39
40	BALANCE - CARRIED FORWARD		4109	13645	16006	38309	70985								40

NOTES

(1) FINANCIAL OPERATION FOR THREE YEARS WERE AUDITED BY CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

(2) THIS EXPENSE INCLUDES \$500 PAID TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN REIMBURSEMENT OF HIS EXPENSES IN FOUNDING THE ORGANIZATION

(3) INCLUDES THE EXPENSES OF THE NEWSLETTER

(4) THIS STATEMENT COVERS THE PERIOD SINCE THE FORMAL ADOPTION OF BYLAWS AND CONSTITUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION. APPROXIMATELY \$600 WAS COLLECTED FROM INTERESTED ALUMNI IN THE PRIOR TWO YEARS. PRINCIPAL EXPENDITURES IN THIS PERIOD WERE PRINTING, LITIGATION, INITIAL ALUMNI MEETINGS AND ADVERTISING

(5) UNAUDITED