

Minutes of the Board Meeting of the Townsend Harris Alumni Association  
Sunday, April 19, 1998 10:00 A.M.  
Florence Nightingale Nursing Home

- I. Call to Order: Dr. Grossman called the meeting to order at 10:15 A.M.
- II. Attendance: Abraham Bein, Norman Bernstein, Julie Chan, Irving Gerber, Julius Graber, Saul Grossman, Mara Gruber-Hochhauser<sup>1</sup>, Eileen Gunn<sup>1</sup>, Gerald Halpern, Samuel Malkin, Neil Manis<sup>2</sup>, Gerald Maslon, Gary Mellow<sup>1</sup>, Tehsing Niu<sup>1</sup>, Maurice Paprin, Ted Peck, Charles Puglisi, Charles Sigety, Craig Slutzkin, Tom Sweetin.
- III. Minutes: Dr. Grossman called the members attention to their copies of the Minutes and mentioned that these reflected any corrections to the Draft Minutes (which were previously sent to each member) that have been received. Upon a motion to accept the Minutes by Mr. Halpern and seconded by Mr. Sweetin, the Minutes were unanimously approved.
- IV. Treasurer's Report: Mr. Slutzkin distributed copies of his report to the members.
- A. In response to a question from Mr. Graber, he stated that the values reflected in the report are market values.
- B. In response to a question from Mr. Peck, he stated that since this is an internal document he would see no difficulty in including the \$300,000 set up by the Jay Winston Fund for scholarships despite the fact that the fund is maintained and administered by the New York Community Trust.
- C. Mr. Halpern stated that he would speak to Dr. Largmann about convening the scholarship committee that will nominate recipients for the Jay Winston Fund Scholarships.
- D. Mr. Graber inquired whether Mr. Peck was going to seek an increase in the funding for Hebrew classes from Mr. Sanford E. Bernstein.
- E. Mr. Paprin moved and Mr. Halpern seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. There being no further discussion, the Chair moved the question which was unanimously carried.
- V. Queens College Liaison: Dr. Leiner was not present at the meeting ~~to report~~.
- VI. P.T.A. Report: Mr. Manis introduced himself as the new P.T.A. representative to the THAA Board and reported that the PTA:
- A. Has raised over \$32,000 through the phonathon.
- B. Is funding the purchase of firewall software to make the school's Internet site more secure.
- C. Has already started to plan for its fall 1998 Phonathon.
- VII. School Report: No one from the school administration was present ~~to report~~.
- VIII. Recent Graduates:
- A. Mara Gruber-Hochhauser stated that planning for the tenth reunion of the class of 1988 was underway, that invitations have gone out for the event which will be held at the Downtown Athletic Club, and that she is working on providing Mr. Puglisi with updated information about the Class of 1988.
- B. Eileen Gunn suggested that the THAA publish the Newsletter on the THHS Website and offered to help with such a project.
- C. Mr. Paprin (not a recent graduate) asked if widows of alumni continue to receive the Newsletter. After a brief discussion Mr. Gerber said that he deals with this question on a case by case basis because many widows do not want to receive THAA notices or the Newsletter.
- IX. Nominating Committee:
- A. Mr. Halpern reported:
1. That the Committee needs additional volunteers to serve as Directors;
  2. That the directory that was distributed at today's meeting was not in fact a list of Directors, but a combined listing of Directors and alumni of THHS who have attended more than one meeting of the THAA in the last year;
  3. That the Committee will propose its slate of Officers at the next meeting;
- B. Dr. Grossman reiterated Mr. Halpern's request for additional volunteers to serve as Directors. He suggested that those interested submit their C.V. to the Nominating Committee.
- C. Mr. Paprin suggested that all current Directors be contacted to determine if they want to remain on the Board.

Mr. Halpern, Ms. Gunn, Mr. Friesner, Mr. Maslon, and Mr. Sweetin, Mr. Peck, and Mr. Puglisi.

- B. Dr. Grossman reiterated Mr. Halpern's request for additional volunteers to serve as Directors. He suggested that those interested submit their C.V. to the Nominating Committee.
  - C. Mr. Paprin suggested that all current Directors be contacted to determine if they want to remain on the Board.
  - D. Mr. Halpern suggested that Mr. Puglisi, who has been active in the THAA since leaving his position as PTA President and who has served as the interim acting Secretary for the past year, be formally nominated to the Board. Mr. Halpern agreed to determine what changes need to be made in the by-laws to permit granting Board membership to a non-alumnus.
  - E. Mr. Gerber pointed out that the Minutes of the June 1997 meeting indicate that the Board has previously granted membership to a non-alumnus, Mr. Sweetin.
  - F. Mr. Paprin moved and Mr. Maslon seconded a motion to make Mr. Puglisi a Board Member. There being no discussion of the motion, the Chairman moved the question which was unanimously carried.
- X. Old Business:
- A. Mr. Puglisi asked if the Board was interested in pursuing the "Legacy Project" which was presented by Ms. Freeling at the January Meeting. The general consensus was that the Board would consider that issue when and if there was clear communication about the specific nature of the project.
  - B. Mr. Halpern stated that Mr. Fleischman has agreed to set up another luncheon with the NAIS foundation scholarship winners who attend Yale. Mr. Sigety said that as a graduate of the Yale Law School he would like to attend that luncheon.
  - C. The members of the Hall of Fame Committee (Mr. Paprin, Mr. Sigety, Mrs. Gruber-Hochhauser, and Mr. Peck) agreed to meet at Mr. Paprin's offices on June 3, 1998 at 11:00 in the morning.
  - D. A discussion of the tone and mission of the Newsletter was initiated by Mr. Peck. The Editorial Committee was expanded to ten members (Mr. Peck, Mr. Friesner, Mr. Malkin, Mr. Bernstein, Ms. Chan, Mr. Lisser, Mr. Bein, Mr. Sweetin, and Mr. Maslon) who agreed to meet and to discuss the Newsletter and to prepare a mission statement.
- XI. Announcements:
- A. The class of 1939 will be holding its 60th Anniversary Reunion in May, 1999 at the school.
  - B. The meetings of the New England and Southern California chapters were attended by Mr. Peck and Dr. Grossman, respectively. Both functions were rewarding experiences and will be followed-up in the future.
  - C. Dr. Grossman mentioned the excellent write up of THHS in New York Magazine.
- XII. Good and Welfare -- Mr. Malkin informed the Board that Dr. Milenbach has been ill. Mr. Peck agreed to be the Board's voice and call him in the name of the Board.
- XIII. New Business:
- A. Mr. Paprin asked the Board to remember Henry Shereff's project -- to create a mechanism for establishing dialogues with other specialized high schools.
  - B. Dr. Grossman asked the members for ideas and suggestions about ways to increase the accuracy of information in the database.
  - C. Mr. Sigety sought guidance from the recent graduates about the proper approach to take on May 7th when he will be serving as Principal for a Day at THHS.
  - D. The question was raised about the amount of remuneration that local chapters are to receive. Mr. Halpern moved that issue be tabled until the next meeting and Craig Slutzkin seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried without further discussion.
  - E. Mr. Peck asked that the question of setting a single dues rate for all alumni be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. The Chair agreed to do so.
- XIV. Adjournment: Agreeing to meet again on May 17, 1998, the Board adjourned at 12:13 P.M.

Notes

<sup>1</sup> Attendee

<sup>2</sup> P.T.A. Representative replacing Mr. Dwyer