

Townsend Harris Alumni Association, Inc.
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors (as approved on November 14, 2004)
October 13, 2004
Location: Townsend Harris High School, Flushing, New York

The following directors were present and constituted the quorum: Thomas Cunningham, Al Feld, Shari Gruber, Eileen Gunn, Julius Graber, Alicia Hughes, Renata Kobetts Miller, Gia Malka, Lani Muller, Tanya Odom, Craig Slutzkin, Venessa Tan.

Guest: Rachel Acosta.

Gia Malka acted as secretary of the meeting.

- I. Craig Slutzkin and Tanya Odom called the meeting to order at 7:15 P.M. and welcomed the directors. A special introduction was made for Rachel Acosta, who is the Class of 2004 representative to the Board.
- II. Mr. Slutzkin introduced a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the September 12, 2004 Board of Directors meeting and approve such minutes with the one correction that Ted Peck should not be listed as a director. Renata Kobetts seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- III. Executive Committee. There were was one meeting since the last Board meeting. Mr. Slutzkin noted presented a written report (includes as part of the Board package) and highlighted discussions on the progress of THAM, the successful Freshman breakfast, the new webmaster search and a dues update.
- IV. School Report. Thomas Cunningham reported the following:
 - a. Founders' Day. Founders' Day will be held on Friday, October 29.
 - i. Martinne Guerrier '89 will be the keynote speaker, and Mr. Slutzkin will speak on behalf of the Alumni Association.
 - ii. Mr. Slutzkin agreed to try to get 20 alumni to speak to the current younger students as part of the classroom sessions.
 - iii. The theme this year will be "Centennial: 100 Years of Tradition". Debbie Michlewicz, a longtime Humanities teacher, has put together along with her class an inspirational skit.
 - iv. The ceremony will be toned down from prior years.
 - b. School Staffing. Longtime college counselor Marilyn Blier retired last June. Antoinette Teague has assumed that role and has transitioned nicely. Ilsa Cowen and Linda Steinmann have returned to the school.
 - c. School Security. Though not as a result of any Townsend Harris-specific incident, all students and faculty have now been issued identification cards and must have them at all times.
 - d. Retirees/Personnel. Marilyn Blier, College Counselor and David Chung, Lab Specialist, are retiring.
 - e. School Technology. All school computers have been replaced with new ones over the past three years.
 - f. PTA. The PTA, under Elizabeth Schnee, is thriving. They were having their annual phone-a-thon this evening.
 - g. Queens College. The transition from Marvin to Helen Gaudette has been moving along well. Mr. Slutzkin noted that Dr. Gaudette sent him a nice note indicating that she would come to future Board meetings.
- V. Treasurer's Report. Mr. Slutzkin presented the report of the treasurer from September 1, 2004 through September 30, 2004. He presented an overview of the financial performance and cash position of the Association. He also noted that the Executive/Disbursements Committee had approved the annual funding of the Principal's Discretionary Fund as well as expenses for Mr. Cunningham to accept the 21st Century School of Distinction Award. Ms. Odom introduced a

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motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as given; Ms. Malka seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- VI. Events Committee. Shari Gruber and Gia Malka discussed the following events:
- a. Lawyers Event. Donna Manion '90 is organizing a lawyers' event to be held on October 20, 2004 at Skadden Arps Meagher & Flom. Ms. Gruber has been assisting getting the word spread to alumni.
 - b. Reunions. Mr. Slutzkin asked whether there would be a Thanksgiving reunion for the class of 2004, and noted that Ms. Acosta had started doing some research. Mr. Cunningham noted that it would be deferred, as the timing was inopportune for many of the alumni last year. It was suggested that early January 2005 would be a good time for the event.
 - c. "Older Generation" Luncheon. Julie Gruber's suggestion that the pre-1944 graduates have an informal luncheon was revisited. The consensus would be that it would be best done in the Spring. Al Feld suggested that it be held in the school gymnasium.
- VII. Anniversary Celebration/THF! Report. Mr. Slutzkin and Ms. Odom noted that progress is being made on the Anniversary Dinner on November 5.
- a. To date, over 220 people have responded that they will be attending. According to Ted Peck, we will most likely have over 350 people at the event.
 - b. The Board discussed general concerns over the communication of the event, including how the event was communicated to current and former faculty as well as parents, and the onslaught of calls to Mr. Slutzkin and Ms. Odom. Mr. Cunningham noted that he has stepped up his efforts to get current faculty to attend.
 - c. Ms. Odom noted that Ted Peck had put together a program for the event which included remarks from Mr. Cunningham, Malcolm Largmann, Charles Sigety, David Herszenhorn, Tanya Odom and Saul Cohen. Mr. Peck will serve as emcee, and will also present a slide show featuring eminent alumni.
 - d. Ms. Malka has ordered quality mugs for the event as a take-away.
 - e. Several politicians have been invited, but to date, none has responded. Lani Muller will speak to Helen Marshall if needed.
- VIII. Other Items/ New Business.
- a. Discussions on Alumni Association priorities were tabled until a future meeting.
 - b. Ms. Muller noted that she would try to resurrect a potential meeting that includes Helen Marshall (Queens Borough President) after the Centennial.
 - c. Mr. Cunningham reiterated the school's need for a new van.

There being no other business, the Board adjourned at 8:21 P.M. Next meeting will be held on Sunday, November 14 at the Florence Nightingale Health Center in Manhattan.

Respectfully submitted,

Gia Malka