

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Townsend Harris Alumni Association, Inc. held at the offices of Shereff, Friedman, Hoffman and Goodman at 919 Third Ave., New York City on November 22, 1987. Present were:

Abraham C. Bien
Alvin P. Dobsevage
Victor Feingold
Lester Friesner
Gerald P. Halpern
Irving Gerber
Julius W. Graber
Eugene J Heil
Herbert Kadison
Malcolm Largmann
Burton Milenbach
Ted Peck
Henry D. Shereff, Presiding
Kenneth Shorter
Harold S. Spielman

Also present was Jules Kaufman of the THHS PTA.

The meeting was called to order by Henry Shereff at 10:20 AM.

Henry Shereff gave Mort Lisser's Treasurer's report. We have paid for the window shades at the school which was somewhat less than \$5,000. Mort has also sent our check to the principal's discretionary fund and paid for the books for the student's college courses.

Julie Graber reported on the Charter Day event at the school. Gerry Halpern did an excellent job as M.C., the few Alumni who were there enjoyed meeting with the students and sharing our own memories and experiences at the old THHS. Julie's concern over

the lack of alumni support on this day was shared by Mal Largmann.

Mal Largmann replied to Julie Graber's question as to the small number of boys varsity teams. This was an issue raised by several students. Mal pointed out several problems in this area. First was the lack of money for teams that needed expensive equipment, then the need to try to recruit coaches considering the small staff and last but by no means least was the relative size of the school and the male student body. Considering these problems, Mal assured us that teams were being fielded when there was a sufficient demand for them.

Henry referred to the rumor that we had refused to become associated with CCNY because that school was in a black neighborhood. Hal Spielman has written an article about this matter which relates our efforts to get CCNY to support the revival of THHS. Only after CCNY refused us did we start to consider other schools. Vic Feingold has submitted the article to the CCNY Alumni Magazine. We have been told that there have been some editorial changes made which do not alter the principle thrust of the paper. The Board and Hal Spielman regret that the editors saw the need to make any changes but in the interest of making a speedy response to the unfounded rumors, no action is being taken at this time.

Henry brought us up to date on the site selection problem for

the proposed THHS building on the Queens College campus. Bowne HS has objected to the present plan which takes away some of the land they use for their agriculture and landscaping program. They (Bowne) have mounted a vigorous PR campaign to defeat this plan. Although we do not particularly like the present plan which puts the building next to Bowne and sets up potential conflicts between student bodies, it is the only one being considered at this time. As Mal Largmann pointed out, we would not like to see the present plan discarded without another to take it's place. We have been advised not to take any overt action at this time but to await the Board of Education decision on this matter. Jules Kaufman, Ken Shorter and Gerry Halpern all spoke and agreed that public sympathy would be on the side of Bowne and the Board of Education would find some alternate property.

Mal Largmann reported that Henry Hart Rice, an Alumni has proposed a \$10,000. fund to be used for extra-curricular activities. The plan is now before the Board of Education for their approval. Mr. Rice, as a student, could not afford to buy the school yearbook and he is now funding extra-curricular activities at several schools. The funds are to be administered by the Guidance Counselor, Principal and a representative from the Superintendent,s office.

Abe Bien reminisced about his appearance with Henry Rice in a THHS drama club presentation. Henry acted the female role!

Irv Gerber gave a summary of some of the correspondence from members. P. Breskin '42 wants to know what further purpose the alumni have now that the school is established. This resulted in some vigorous exchanges. Ken Shorter suggested that we drop the rosy glow in our newsletters and let the members know of our problems. Several suggestions were made to get Mr. Breskin to one of our meetings. Julie Graber noted that this was a good time to sit down and clarify our aims and purposes.

Irv continued his report. Bernard Pizzani '35 is President of the Medical Society. He is the fourth THHS alumni to hold this position in the last 25 years. Harry Heflich would like to honor the '28 class next year. Irv Haymont questions whether THHS fills a true need in New York City.

Ted Peck has been delayed in his planning work for the next annual meeting which is to follow through on the Hall of Fame concept. Ted will report back at the next meeting.

Henry has requested Les Friesner's wife to prepare a grant proposal to the Council for Aid to Education. They are an organization funded by major U.S. corporations that give scholarships to high school graduates.

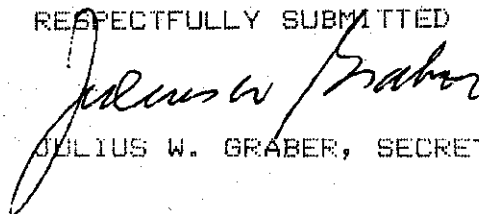
Hal Spielman noted from a recent publication that CCNY is the second largest academic source of corporate executives. Harvard is the first. Burt Milenbach said that one of the publications

he gets reported that CCNY was the largest source of Ph. D.'s in psychology.

There was some general discussion about having the graduating class join our alumni organization. Mal Largmann told us that there was a \$5. graduating fee being charged and we agreed that this would include the first years membership. A discussion on further allowances of dues while the recent alumni were in college was postponed.

The next meeting is being planned for December 20th.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



JULIUS W. GRABER, SECRETARY