

Next
Meeting
Nov 20th

Founders
Day

Nov '30

8⁰⁰ Q1855
1-3

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 September 25, 1988. Present were:

Abraham E. Bien
Norman Bernstein
Nathan Epstein
Lester Friesner
Irving Gerber
Julius W. Graber
Gerald Halpern
Saul Grossman
Eugene J. Heil
Herbert Kadison
Arthur Katz
Kenneth Kaufman
Morton Lederman
Morton Lisser
Serita Lopez
Burton Milenbach
Melvin Moore
Seymour Roistacher
Henry D. Shereff, Presiding
Sidney Silverman
Dan Wallach

Also present was Robert Haan.

The meeting was called to order at 10:10AM by Henry Shereff who then called upon the new members to introduce themselves. Especially noted was Miss Serita Lopez Class of '88.

Mort Lisser gave the Treasurer's Report. We have \$11,321. in earmarked fund with about \$600 coming in. Our budget for this coming school year may have to be adjusted because of significant reductions in Federal and N.Y.C. Board of Education funding for extra-curricular activities.

Since Mort Lisser had to leave early we decided on our next meeting date at this time. We would meet on October 23rd.

Henry Shereff reminded the Board that he would be retiring as President after the ground breaking ceremonies for the THHS building on the Queens College campus. Gerry Halpern said that his Nominating Committee had not as yet met but he would have a report at the next meeting as well as a proposal for changes in the By-Laws which will create a position of Chairman of the Board.

Henry Shereff reported on the meeting of the Quo Vadis Committee which had taken up the question of how to involve our membership in the various problems faced by the Board on behalf of the school. Of immediate concern was the issue of 19 students who had been transferred to THHS by the Board of Education by-passing all established entrance procedures. It was noted that one of these students is on probation from Criminal Court and most of them could not keep up with the THHS curriculum.

Joe Flom, Ken Shorter and Felix Royaten tried all summer to speak to Dr. Green the School Chancellor, but could not get an appointment. Calls to Robert Wagner, the President of the Board of Education were also of no avail. The students are now at school and current Board policy is such that THHS must keep them.

There was an extended discussion as to the desirability

bringing this issue to the membership as a matter of information and as an issue which required their support at this time.

We were informed by Bob Haan that Mal Largmann did not want this issue to become a media event. This was the general consensus of the Board. With a dissenting comment that this was a clear and present danger to the existence of the school as a place for education of bright, motivated students, the consensus was to 1) respect Mal Largmann's wishes in this matter 2) wait and see what the actual results of incorporating these students into THHS and 3) maintain our vigilance.

Bob Haan pointed out that the school is making every effort to bring these students up to THHS standards. Queens College is providing student tutors to give one to one assistance which will help many of the nineteen, but Bob did not hold out much hope for one youngster who is reading on a third grade level.

Irv Gerber believed that we did have a duty to report this matter to the alumni and it will be written up in our next newsletter.

Henry reported on the status of the new building. We are now waiting for a ULURP hearing. This is process in which members of the community are given an opportunity to express their support or opposition to the proposed building. Although this may take several months we have been assured that there does not appear to be much opposition to the presently proposed site.

Henry also informed us that Claire Shulman has indicated her support for having THHS made a Collandra school, i.e. that is a school which is permitted to use an examination as its admission requirement. Ms Shulman has said that she will try to work with the Board of Education to give THHS the right to have an entrance examination. Henry added that he and other THHS alumni will meet with N.Y.State legislators to have the appropriate legislation introduced.

Sid Silverman passed around copies of a proposed fund raising letter. On a motion by Seymour Roistacher seconded by Irv Gerber it was decided to mail the letter as finally approved to the membership.

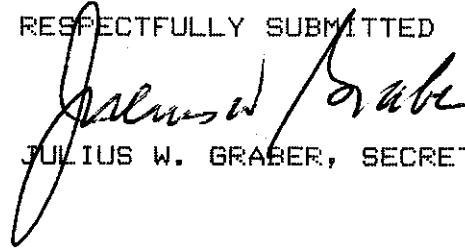
Harold Spielman told us that at the time he started teaching Education courses, bright students were considered problem students in the same class as handicapped

We have been informed that the funding for Enrichment Programs at the school has been reduced from \$48,000. to \$16,000. Before considering any allocations from the alumni, the Board requested Mal Largmann to prepare a "Wish List" together with related costs.

Bob Haan announced that Founders Day this year would be on Thursday, November 17th. All alumni are invited to events both at the school and Colden Hall on the Queens College campus.

Henry Shereff passed along a request that she receive fees amounting to \$24.50 per hour for work on a Who's Who type directory of the Alumni. No action taken at this time since we have no idea of the total committment.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Julius W. Graber". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned over the typed name below it.

JULIUS W. GRABER, SECRETARY