

District 39 Educational Foundation

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting August 30, 2006

Chairman Alice Schaff called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Members present include: Ann Barrett, Jane Donaldson Bliamptis, Mimi Brault, Randi Brooklier, Lisa Carlton, John Flanagan, Ron Gilbert, Claire Goulding, Deneen Hill, Siobhan Hill, Wendy Irwin, Chuck Jameson, Treasurer Lori Kann, Secretary Pam Martin, Wendy Rice, Laura Slowey, Andrea Ventrell, Tip Walker, Lali Watt and Jason Weller.

Chairman's Report

- Alice welcomed all Board members, both returning and new, back after our Foundation's break over the summer months. She first made a housekeeping correction to upcoming meeting dates, noting that the corrected dates are April 11 and May 30 in 2007. Alice also distributed a new Board list.
- Alice provided a report on the mural restoration project at Harper School, which is being led by Holly Berman, an outgoing Board member. This project was made possible by Foundation funding in Spring 2006. The restoration has received high acclaim and was recently the basis of a cover article for Chicago Magazine. Holly Berman is also leading the production and creation of a documentary to highlight the process of the mural restoration. Alice noted that the visibility of this project will be extremely beneficial to the Foundation and will be highlighted in the future in our fund-raising efforts.
- Alice reported that the new Foundation office in the MEC building is now fully operational. Byrd Matejka, our part-time Foundation Assistant, has been working on establishing our donor database on our new software system.

Approval of Minutes

- John Flanagan made a motion for the approval of the May 10th minutes with 3 small corrections as noted. The minutes will be amended. The motion to approve the minutes then passed.

Liaison Reports

- Harper- Mimi Brault reported that the school is getting ready to celebrate the Harper Hoe Down. She said the scheduling of this event might have a negative impact on the attendance of Harper families at the upcoming circus.
- Romona- Andrea Ventrell reported that she has heard some negative feedback on the Foundation's plans to sponsor the upcoming fundraiser. However, she noted that tickets were being sold during the starting days of school.
- McKenzie- Tip Walker reported that the school community was dealing with the tragic death over the summer of one its students, Lydia Martin. There will be a

- memorial fund established by the school in Lydia's honor. Tip also noted that plans were underway for 2 McKenzie events, Lady Palooza and the Fall Frenzy.
- Ann Barrett reported that some circus tickets had been sold at the opening day coffee. In addition an upcoming Family Fun night was scheduled.

Financial Report

- Alice Schaff reported that Matt Tanner, our outgoing treasurer, was in the process of preparing his final financial report and transferring all of the materials over to our new treasurer, Lori Kann.

Science/Math Initiative

- Pam Martin reported that her committee has continued to make progress towards launching the Foundation's science/math initiative. A number of event and programming possibilities are being explored including a NASA astronaut speaker, a Discovery Day at Lake Michigan and an appearance by the "Human Calculator". In addition, a request for local scientist participation will be made in the next month in each of the school newsletters.

Marketing

- Jane Donaldson and Laura Slowey reported on their most recent marketing initiatives. They are still in the process of reviewing options for an update tour Foundation's logo. In addition, they will be organizing an upcoming In-service breakfast for teachers to give them information about the work of our Foundation.
- Lali Watt stated that there would be Village Hall welcome event for all new Wilmette residents. She suggested that we could possibly have a Foundation member present to discuss the important work of our organization in our community.

Gripp Grant Committee

- Wendy Irwin outlined and clarified some of the changes that have emerged on the Gripp Grant committee based on revisions approved last year by our Foundation. She defined the 2 categories with-in the committee, one group that is the Working Committee and the other which is the Recommendation Committee. She then listed the individuals who are in each group.
- Members of the Gripp Grant committee will be meeting with D39 teachers and administrators who sit on the Administrative Council. The purpose will be to continue to introduce and reinforce their understanding of the Gripp Grant funding process and encourage submission of grant applications.
- Wendy also noted that there are three grant applications in process at this time and that she expects more to be submitted prior to our next grant
- Finally, Wendy reported that the Outdoor classroom at WJHS is being dedicated on Tuesday, September 5th at 9:15. This classroom was made possible through Gripp Grant funding.

Fine Arts Committee

- Andrea Ventrell and Jason Weller reported that D39 students would be participating in a Young Artists exhibition on Oct. 22. The artists will include the genres of drama, music and art.

Kelly Miller Circus

- Deneen Hill and Lisa Carlton reported that 200 tickets had been sold to date. There will be a major push to generate ticket sales over the next 2 weeks.
- They also noted that \$11,000 in expenses had already been underwritten which will help to increase our fundraising revenue.
- Deneen and Lisa requested all Board members to volunteer for a shift to assist during the day of the Circus.

As there was no other business, the meeting was concluded at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Pamela de Mars Martin

