

WHHS Association Meeting Minutes

August 26, 2014

1. Welcome and introductions (President, Beth Ewing)
2. Unfinished business: At end of last Association year our slate was approved with a few missing positions. We have filled most positions and will vote tonight to approve revised slate. New positions to be approved are highlighted (attached). Note: We do still need a Beautification Chair.

Motion to approve revised slate:

Motion: Felicia Williams, 2nd Alex Stillpass. Motion passed

3. Final 2013-14 Financial Statements (Treasurer, Jen Rodes)

At each meeting the Treasurer will provide an overview of the Association's balance sheet and details on income and expenses. The details provided will be for the preceding month's activity. The financial statements are available on the webpage.

Motion to approve monthly report/budget:

Motion- Joyce Steiner, 2nd - Felicia Williams

4. Committee Updates:
 - New Family Welcome – (Beth) Over 500 new incoming students so this committee has been very busy. In the past month they have hosted: new student orientation (grades 7-12), 2 ice cream socials for 7th & 8th grade new students, lasagna dinner for families of new 11th & 12th grade students and there is upcoming 9th & 10th grade event.
 - LUDI Festival – (Beth) This event is the new, revamped Walnut24 – a student fundraiser. LUDI is Latin for Festival. This will be a 3-4 hour event held on Sept 19, immediately following school. This is Homecoming weekend and the festival will be a lead up to the Homecoming football game. The committee will be working with Student Congress to help generate interest in the event. In order to participate in this event a student will need to either raise or pay a minimum donation, the amount is still TBD. The event will take place on the new athletic field. Some initial ideas include having games, food trucks, grade levels competing against each other and participants may parade over to the game. The event will need parent help. The committee will utilize Signup Genius for volunteers. The event goal is \$13,500. Stay tuned for more details.
 - 7th& 8th Grade Tailgate (Sharon Smith) will take place Friday, Sept. 12, prior to football game. Tickets will be \$6 cash or \$6.50 (via PayPal) in advance or \$8 at

door. Will be held on the back terrace overlooking field. Included in ticket price is pizza, dessert, DJ, ticket to the football game. This is a great opportunity to meet other families. They need volunteers to sell tickets, hosts/hostesses, setup/cleanup. Communications begin a week prior to the event. The committee is looking for a graphic designer and chair for ticketing. Please let the committee know if you have any potential contacts for these roles.

- Newsletter (Tim Bonfield) currently looking for fresh ideas for newsletter. The first edition will come out in early September, prior to Ludi so it can be publicized and highlighted. Tim would welcome any information on summer events that might be interesting to be highlighted, any special student accomplishments, etc. Pictures are welcome.
- Hospitality – (Laura Deck) Requesting help for Curriculum Night (Sept 30). Committee provides refreshments, volunteers to sell directories and nice touches around the building. The 2nd event they will be working on is Prospective Student Open House on November 9. We will need volunteers.
- Directory & E-Communication (Renata Scanio)- Directory will be for sale at curriculum night. It is created from the information on PowerSchool. Opting out directions were sent out earlier this month and you can also find them on the website. There has been a request made to do a zip code sort in the directory to help with carpooling. It is being considered. There is not an electronic or online version of the directory for the protection of everyone's privacy. Also, we need to encourage and educate families on how to sign up for Constant Contact online. This allows you to sign up to receive information in the areas you are interested in (i.e., grade level information, WHIP, Boosters, clubs, sports, etc)
- Legacy of Excellence (Alex Stillpass) There are a few new co-chairs this year. A survey has also been created and the committee is looking for as much feedback/participation as possible. The feedback will allow them to perfect their pitch and figure out the best ways to reach out on the campaign and, hopefully, get greater support. The committee believes there are roughly 1300 families which they view as target donors. Last year the campaign received contributions from just over 300 families. This is far below what they would like to see. The committee recognizes there are a lot of asks but want people to understand and support the thought that there is no such thing as a "free" excellent education, like the one student's receive at WHHS. To continue to make the Walnut experience and education unique we need the support. The first phone-a-thon will be in November. An attendee asked the question whether there is adequate communication of how and where the money actually is spent emphasizing that there needs to be transparency so families see specifically what the money has gone to support. Tim Bonfield stated he would like to put something in the newsletter. A suggestion was also made to visually highlight what the money went to support during Curriculum night. Also, since the faculty directly benefits from the money raised we need to engage the faculty in helping to support and recognize publicly how they benefit from these funds.

5. Walnut Fest – Jan- Michele Lemon Kearney, Reva Henderson, and Iris Siao – The event is scheduled to take place on February 28. There are two real purposes of this event: 1. To build our school community and 2. To raise money. The proceeds from the event are equally divided between Parent Association, WHIP and Boosters. The committee really wants to get more people involved. Jan said families can help by: Signing up to be a host, sign up to help, attend the event and/or donate an item. They are currently forming a steering committee and working to nail down the location.
6. Any questions? None were raised.
7. Close (Beth Ewing)