

LANSING EASTERN HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Wednesday May 13, 2009
Eastern High School, Eleanor A. Doersam Social Room

Members Present: Lou Hekhuis – Chairman, Stefanie Dummer-Wolter – acting recorder, Jerry King, Virgil Langworthy, Letha Collins, Dave Cushion, Jack Gunther, Dave Panici, , Ron Morgan Guest: Carl Word, Kyle Shumaker

L. Hekhuis gave an update on Elle Doersam saying that she was doing well and was back in Lansing.

L. Hekhuis introduced Kyle Shumaker. He will be working with the website.

Minutes from the previous meeting (Jan 09) were approved.

C. Word spoke on the Honor Roll/Honor Guard program at Eastern. He commented on the increase in participation of the students from 125 for their first trip (bowling) to 225 for their second trip (skating). They have placed the names of the students on the second floor hallway. The school has included the program as part of their school improvement plan for next year. They are looking for ways to sustain the program within the school and will get us a report outlining the success of the program before our next meeting.

C. Word also spoke about the Entrepreneurial Program. Though he fully believes in the power of the program he is unable to chair the program. He suggested that the alumni find someone to run the program and then use available teachers/parents/school administrators/district administrators during the summer to come up with a detailed framework and game plan. He suggested the program start with 30 students for the fall semester. He mentioned that the parent coordinator from Eastern would be a valuable person to have on the team. L. Hekhuis added that Julie Lemond from the district said that Cathy Rumsma would act as liaison for the district. C. Word stressed that the more detailed the plan, the less likely the district would make changes to the program. L. Hekhuis added that with the changing of the school to a Title 1 school, that might also help with funding the program.

S. Dummer gave a funding committee report. She said that this year there would be opportunities for teachers to apply for mini grants (\$300) and Impact grants to help them pay for special projects. The grant applications would be due September 30 and be awarded in October. She reported that the application from the Athletic Hall of Fame was granted for \$2,000 to pay for plaques and signage. D. Panici commented that all the plaques have been found and a permanent installation would be completed by fall of 2009 in the Don Johnson Fieldhouse. R. Morgan questioned if we should start working on an Academic Hall of Fame and L. Hekhuis replied that the idea has been around, but the Alumni Association wanted to get the Athletic Hall of Fame up and running before we started a new project.

S. Dummer also reported the winners of the Jack Gunther award: Monica Edwards and Elaina Gonzales. Each will received \$2,000. The winners of the Hilda Mitchell award were Aseel Machi, Guweyda Magan, Illami Martinez and Fawsio Sharif; each will receive \$1,500. R. Morgan brought up the fact that there

are many scholarships for students from Eastern who chose to attend the University of Michigan and he wanted to know if the students were aware of the scholarships. L. Hekhuis replied that it was up to the counselors.

D. Panici reported on the construction changes that will be made to Eastern and Pattengill in the summer. The reconstruction of the Jerome entrance should begin in July and so there is a possibility that we could use the cafeteria for the Alumni Picnic. If it is not available, then we could request that the parking closest to the fieldhouse be reserved for handicapped parking to make it easier for the alumni. Just in case we have to have it in the fieldhouse, L. Hekhuis reserved the date with D. Panici.

S. Dummer then introduced K. Shumaker and reported on the website. Since January, the Walkers have not been able to work on the website because of health reasons. K. Shumaker is an Eastern Alumni whose company The Shumaker Group specializes in web design. He will work on our website at a cost of \$10/hour and a \$10 monthly fee for keeping the site open. J. King commented that \$10 an hour is a deal. S. Dummer made the motion to hire K. Shumaker, D. Cushion seconded and the motion passed. S. Dummer will work on getting the necessary information to K. Shumaker who will have the site up and running by our next meeting.

J. Gunther reported that Frank Goodell's health was not good and so we needed to look into someone else to provide the beverages.

Our next meeting will be June 24, 2009 at 3:00pm at the Michigan High School Athletic Association off of Coolidge Road.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stefanie Dummer-Wolter, Acting Recorder