

Eastern High School Alumni Association Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 25, 2017, 4:00 PM
Meeting Report

Attending were Lou Hekhuis, Chris Barajas, Letha Collins, Cheryl Cushion, Judy Williams, Jeri Haber, Eleanor Doersam, Donna Pohl, and Lynne Martinez. Guest attending the meeting included Andy Kilpatrick and Deborah Snyder.

Lou called the meeting to order at approximately 4:05.

The draft agenda was distributed for consideration and approved.

The report from the March 28, 2017 Board meeting was received. Ellie pointed out that Chris's name was misspelled. The report was approved with one amendment.

There was discussion of electing people who expressed interest in becoming members of the LEHS Alumni Association Board. Lou pointed out that the Bylaws require that Board members be nominated at a meeting and the motion to elect them be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. Several people noted that it's important that members attend meetings and participate. Lynne noted that Tracy Owens sent a note that she had to miss the meeting because of teacher conferences. Patricia Moreno has not responded to any messages. It was agreed to postpone consideration of their election to the next meeting.

There was conversation about Donna Pohl's announced retirement from LEHS at the end of this school year. Ms. Pohl discussed her love for LEHS and the community attached to it and explained the considerations that led to her decision to retire. Board Members expressed sincere appreciation to Donna for all she has done for the school; and sincere sympathy about the family situation that led to her decision.

It was noted that LSD had posted the position and that applications were now closed. Lou informed the Board that he had reached out to the Superintendent and her Chief Deputy Mark Coscarella about the Alumni having a role in selecting the next principal and have a representative on the interview committee. Lou noted that Mark invited the Alumni Board to make a list of characteristics that would be important in the new principal. He will continue to request a meeting to discuss the process and a possible Alumni role.

There was discussion of planning for the 90th Anniversary of LEHS. Ellie introduced Chris Barajas, who offered assistance with planning and carrying out the event. It was agreed that the event should happen in the spring and celebrate the first graduation for LEHS. The consensus was to try for May or June; avoiding the possibility of snow, and graduations at MSU and Lansing School District High Schools. Saturday, May 19, 2018 was tentatively selected. It will be necessary to check with Sue Mills at the School District about reserving the Don Johnson Fieldhouse for that date. Chris agreed to co-chair and requested a co-chair who would help with communications among committee members. There was brief discussion of setting up committees and reaching out to local East Side business partners, historical groups and individual alumni for support and assistance. It was agreed that Cheryl, Lynne and others will pull together the names of people who expressed an interest and try to convene a meeting.

Judy distributed again her draft of information that should be included in a Board Member Orientation packet. She requested approval of the outline. Ms. Doersam moved approval with appreciation to Judy for her work on the packet, Letha seconded. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Andy Kilpatrick, LEHS parent and PTSA member invited Alumni to attend the Quaker Dash 5K on Sunday, April 30. He noted that the Alumni could set up a table with information and signup sheets inside the Johnson Fieldhouse. Lou and Jeri agreed to attend.

There was brief discussion of a request for support for the LEHS Class of 2007 with their 10th anniversary. There was consensus that the Alumni Board doesn't have funds for helping with Class reunions. Lynne will get back to Laura Castenada to let her know and inquire whether she wants help with how to plan the event.

Judy presented a draft letter of congratulations that the Alumni Board could send to students, teachers and others who do well. (copy below) It was agreed that people will review the draft and send comments and suggestions to Judy so that we might consider a reviewed and perhaps revised copy at the May meeting.

Two items on the agenda were postponed to the next meeting

- Discussion: preservation of LEHS Alumni Historical Documents now and during the move to the new LEHS
- Continue conversation about better communications with staff, parents and students and with EHS Alumni. Facebook page?

The meeting adjourned about 5:30.

The Next Meeting of the Alumni Association Board will be held on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at 4:00PM in the Lansing Eastern High School Social Room.

Draft Alumni Association Letter of Congratulations from Judy Williams. Please send suggestions to her.

Congratulations!

The Lansing Eastern High School Alumni Board are very proud of your special efforts and talents that you have been recognized for recently. Continue sharing your thoughts, ideas and talents after graduation. When you graduate, you become an alumni too. The LEHS Alumni Association is a group of alumni who are entrusted with the preservation of 90 years of tradition and enhancing communication and education. The Alumni Board is open to any Alumni from LEHS. If you are interested contact

Alumni President:

Signature

Email Address:

Telephone:

Best Wishes in your future endeavors!

Sincerely,

Your LEHS Alumni Association Board