

FRIENDS OF THE HGM, INC.

Minutes

From: Judy McKelvey
To: Board Members
Subject: Minutes -- Board of Directors Meeting, February 24, 2010
Attendees: Harry Geozian; Brent Lowensohn; Tina Kim; Judy McKelvey;
Fern Wallach; Gene Woo
Guests: Phyllis Spadafora, Dr. Randall Delling (Principal), Michael Morgan (USC)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was held in Kennedy Hall, Room 109, and called to order at 7:24 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

Judy presented the minutes of the January 13, 2010 Friends meeting. The minutes were approved as presented with unanimous consent.

3. NHHS Accreditation -- Dr. Delling

Dr. Delling explained and discussed the current status of the school's accreditation process, including request for HGM parent attendance at appropriate meetings, especially the March 7, 2010 Parent Meeting in the Cafeteria with the Accreditation Visiting Committee; parents are also invited to attend the Focus Group Meetings at 3:30 pm on March 8 and 9, 2010. It will be important for parents attending that meeting to review and reacquaint themselves with the WASC Self Study binder (Dr. Delling passed out copies at the meeting; we will try to get it posted on our website.)

4. Program Improvement Status Update -- Dr. Delling

Dr. Delling sees good reason to believe that our NHHS students stand a very good chance of hitting State's goal of 800 on the next round of tests in May 2010.

5. School Improvement Grant -- Dr. Delling

Most recent School Improvement Grant meeting was enhanced by participation by Harry G. and Brent L., as well as the Zoo Magnet representatives. Goal of this meeting was to maintain unity on campus, and Dr. Delling was happy that our HGM representatives effectively advocated for that goal at the last meeting. That theme will be carried forward at the next School Improvement Grant meeting (currently scheduled for February 26, 2010). Dr. Delling agreed to keep our group apprised of further developments regarding this project.

6. HGM Coordinator Report

All is going well. But there is a lot going on; Phyllis thinks this is the most activities going on at the same time our program has ever had. Students today asked about starting a new Linguistics Club to support a new Linguistics Olympiad. While we want

to do everything possible to support our students' enthusiasm for these programs, the fact is that our credentialed staff (teachers) are completely overwhelmed and unable to take on anything more -- they can't even handle all the activities that are already in place. We need to explore ways that we can increase the numbers of sponsors available to accommodate these teams. Judy will work with Phyllis to investigate opportunities to increase the number of appropriate sponsors available for our students' activities.

Phyllis reported that all 12 of our HGM National Merit semifinalists advanced to finalist status.

Our various teams (AcaDeca, Robotics, Science Bowl, Science Olympiad, Math, etc.) will be competing in the upcoming two months, and all parents are encouraged to attend these competitions and support our teams.

We have a new part-time clerical support person in our office, and we are very thankful to administration for this support.

New pilot project -- online Health classes are starting up and available to our students, space available, if they sign up in advance.

6. Website Update -- Nita

Nita isn't able to be here tonight. Thanks again to Nancy Zekioglu for doing all the work necessary to get this new HGM website up and running. Phyllis, Kirsten, and Nancy will be working together in the very near future to update/enhance the clubs and activities pages. It is already linked to the NHHS home site. At this time, everything posted on the website must go through Phyllis/the HGM office. We will be looking at ways to lessen the burden on the HGM office staff in terms of gatekeeping for website postings (e.g., parent assistance; HGM students involved in HGM yearbooks with photos to be posted, etc.)

Motion made by Brent that, starting with the minutes from tonight's meeting, our Friends meeting minutes (not attachments) be posted on the HGM website after approval; seconded by Gene. The motion passed unanimously without objection.

7. Treasurer's Report

Rowena unable to attend, but her Treasurer's Report as of February 24, 2010 was distributed and discussed.

8. Fundraising -- Gene

Fundraising issues facing the HGM were discussed, as well as what we can do better/differently to raise the funds necessary to fund our needs. Judy and Gene will soon be brainstorming together and with a couple of interested parents regarding new fundraising strategies. Next Friends meeting will devote a significant portion of time to funding issues.

Phyllis also presented the need for petty cash in the office. Motion made by Fern to allocate \$100 to a petty cash supply, to be kept locked in the office and allocable by Phyllis; Brent seconded. Motion passed unanimously without objection.

9. Parent Meetings -- Gene

Last week's parent meeting with presentation by USC financial aid officer was well attended by HGM community. Next parent meeting is tentatively set for March 18, 2010. That meeting will be a panel discussion regarding college-related issues.

10. Next Board Meeting

March 24, 2010 at 6:45 pm, Room 109 in Kennedy Hall.

11. Old Business

No old business.

12. New Business

No new business.

13. Public Comment

None.

14. Adjournment

Adjourned at 9:22 pm.