

PLHS Pointer Association
February 17, 2011 Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Submitted by: Julie Johnson, Co-Secretary

In attendance: Tania Swain, Julie Johnson, Barbara Meserve, Ian Law, Andrea Justus, Bobbie Samilson, Kevin O'Beirne, Karen Duvall Meyer, Justine Otsuka, Scott Hopkins, Renatte Adler, Eleanor Snyder, Lisa Bingham, Lucy DeVito, George Cook.

Meeting called to order at 6:10 pm.

General Business – Kevin O'Beirne:

Vote to approve December 9, 2010 PA board meeting minutes as presented without amendments. Motion: Tania Swain, Second: Renatte Adler. Motion passed unanimously.

Vote to approve January 13, 2011 PA board meeting minutes as presented without amendments. Motion: Bobbie Samilson, Second: Barbara Meserve. Motion passed unanimously.

Donation: A \$1,000 donation from Ted and Julie Cramer to the PLHS PA was acknowledged by Kevin. The PA expresses its sincere gratitude for the generous donation. The donation is designated for use by the PLHS Men's Varsity Tennis Team's booster club.

Three funding discussion items:

PA Website Contribution: First, as a clarification, Bobbie shared that the general PLHS website costs are \$3,600 per year and will continue to be paid by the PLHS school budget. Constant Contact – the eBlast network utilized by all Point Loma cluster schools is \$1,000 per year. The individual schools contribute certain amounts, for example, Dana and Correia each contribute \$200. The recommendation is for PLHS to contribute \$400.

Vote to have the PA contribute \$400 towards the \$1,000 cluster expense for Constant Contact. Motion: Lucy DeVito, Second: Ian Law. Motion passed unanimously.

Scoreboard Controller: Bobbie reported that she is using a portion of her PA-held "principal's discretionary fund" to pay for the scoreboard controller. The estimated cost is \$726.

As a clarification for future PA discussions, the PA-held Lighthouse Fund, which currently amounts to \$1,000, is specifically intended for operations and

maintenance expenses for the lighthouse adjacent to the football stadium's scoreboard. The funds should be held for ongoing maintenance expenses as needed.

PA Funded Scholarships: Laurie Hurl indicated that she is organizing the upcoming scholarship advertising campaign. With that in mind and her pending deadline to finalize the available scholarships, the PA had a thorough discussion and vote about the PA's "general scholarships" (not to be confused with the specifically designated scholarships – e.g. Bennie Edens, Larry Zeiger, Pointer Sisters, etc.).

Bobbie said that approximately \$50,000 in scholarship money comes from various sources each year. Last year, 203 scholarships were awarded. In recent years, the Pointer Association has contributed between \$5,000-\$6,000 for scholarships that were awarded to only 6-8 students. The following points capture the PA's discussion regarding general scholarship funding:

- The Pointer Association feels a strong desire to provide funding for programs and projects that reach as many students as possible.
- With the ongoing State, district and PLHS budget crisis, further exacerbated by the most recent round of budget cuts, which resulted in an over \$800,000 budget reduction at PLHS in 2011-12, the PA has decided that it is necessary to further define our funding priorities on programs that reach the most students that we can.
- The \$6,000 provided in the past by the PA for scholarships that only reached 6-8 students directs too much of the PA's funds for the benefit of too few students.
- While the concept of scholarships provided by the PA's general fund would be nice, PLHS simply has too many large scale needs that can be addressed with the PA's finite amount of funds.
- One factor that gave the PA comfort was the fact that the 6-8 PA general fund scholarships are just a few of the dozens of scholarships provided to seniors each year, with a total that we understand exceeds \$50,000 annually.
- The PA did not feel it would be fair to remove funding for this year's scholarships entirely; therefore, there was a discussion about approving a reduced amount for the 2010-11 year and then a new arrangement for future years.
- Based on discussions at a scholarship meeting in December and in some off-line discussions and emails about focusing the PA's alumni and membership solicitations to clearly identify scholarships as an option for donors to direct their funds. With that in mind, the PA's vote determined that the amount of future scholarship funding by the PA would be the amount specifically designated for scholarships by the donors. This should make it very easy to determine the priorities of our donors and, if scholarships are indeed a high priority, then we will see those specifically designated funds contributed to that cause in the future.

Vote to approve \$2,000 from the PA's general fund for general PA scholarships. The motion also proposed that future PA general scholarship amounts would be determined by the exact amount of funds donated with the specific designation of "PA general scholarships"; no more and no less than that amount of designated funds. Motion: Tania Swain, Second: Julie Johnson. Motion passed with 11 in favor and 1 opposed.

Treasurer's Report – Barbara Meserve: shared the PLHS PA has \$406,395 in assets and \$340,563 funds are earmarked. The PA has \$65,832 in discretionary funds.

ASB Report – Justine Otsuka: shared that they just finished the most successful blood drive to date. The goal was 65 pints of blood and they received 70 pints. She is a member of the Student Congress and is working on a budget paper that will be shared at the Board of Education.

Principal's Report - Bobbie Samilson: shared that students are receiving plenty of information about different colleges. March 8-9 are the dates for CASHEE and they are hoping for proficiency by all students, not just passing the test. Reminder: the school no longer receives ADA for sick children, please try to have students attend every day! March 11-12 is the African- American student conference. Instructional Leadership Teams are looking at student work, based on state standards, to help students in as many ways as possible. PLNU students will be helping seniors with their portfolios.

Bobbie reiterated the \$800K+ reduction from the PLHS 2010-11 budget to the 2011-12 budget. What can the PA do to help? A volunteer coordinator position was discussed to be able to link neighborhood volunteers and PLNU students to help in the classrooms or other specific school needs.

Gifts & Grants Committee Report – Tania Swain: The G&G spring solicitation requests must be submitted by March 15th. \$1,000 was requested for the history banquet, \$1,000 for library chairs and \$1,000 for an LCD projector for ROTC. Bobbie said she would check into the projector and a motion to pass the money for the banquet and chairs was approved.

History Banquet: It is a well-attended event honoring and supporting a lot of students. Money may be used for supporting students who cannot afford the ticket and for awards. NO monetary awards are to be given using this grant.

Library Furniture: \$1000.00 towards improved and sturdier furniture for the lounge / reading area in the library. It is an area well used by many students.

Vote for approval of \$1,000 for the history banquet and \$1,000 for the library chairs. Motion: Tania Swain, Second: Ian Law. Motion passed unanimously.

Roundtable:

Senior Class Activities Report – Tania Swain: Senior awards will be June 2nd. (Note that the year-end PA meeting currently scheduled for June 2 will be moved to a different date.) Disneyland has been confirmed. There is \$9,000 in the PA-held 2011 senior class account for senior activities such as support of Disneyland and Senior Day on Monday, June 13. \$6,000 was returned by the senior portrait company to the ASB-held 2011 senior class account, so there appears to be adequate funding for the senior prom. Future classes need to begin reviewing their finances and available funding for senior prom and other activities. Past PA boards have been very clear that PA general funds are not to be used for the senior prom, as that event does not meet the mission statement or objectives of the organization. If prom funds are needed in future years, it will be a discussion between ASB and the Senior Activities committee, as the latter controls the PA-held class funds.

Auction Idea: A parent, George Cook, had an idea about whether there could be a continuous eBay-type of auction that would go on the PLHS website to help raise funds for various school needs. It was suggested that he take his idea to an organization such as band boosters and see if they would like to pursue that idea.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm