

Lake Forest High School APT Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2009

Room #113

Members Present: Donna LaVitola, Ruth Muscarello, Jan Richman, Julie Eckert, Terri Karst, Michele Medzigian, Susie Athenson, Marcy Kerr, Katie Begley, Linda Torcivia, Sheri Passalino, Sue Wagner, Ana Kapoor, Jill Moutvic, Julia Fiske Parker, Linda Ganshirt, Mary Flagstad, Lesley Guido, Chrystal Gannon, Marianne Stride, Justine Santello, Pam Salm, Karla Schwartz. Laura Cox, Lorraine Freedman, Laurie Sirius, Mischelle Hopfinger, Mary Sanders, Sally Burns

Members Absent: Diane Quon, Leeni Ellis, Kathy Dasso, Roberta Zicarelli, Mary Kay Jaekel, Tracy Tolmie

Donna LaVitola called the meeting to order at 9:07 am.

President, Donna LaVitola welcomed the LFHS APT Board and thanked all for their help with the Be True to Your School event. She especially thanked the co-chairs, Pam Salm and Karla Schwartz. She urged all to complete the school survey available on the website that Jen Knight spoke of last month.

Secretary, Jan Richman made a motion to approve the minutes from the September APT Board meeting. First given by Katie Begley and a second given by Terri Karst. Motion passed with all approving.

Treasurer, Terri Karst passed out the monthly financials and lead discussion that in the future months the financials will be emailed prior to the meeting. The Be True to Your School event financial numbers will soon be finalized. The accountant's financials are on file with Terri. (See financial report attached).

Principal, Jay Hoffman reported that Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for tomorrow, November 5th. There are many concerts and plays coming up, please check the school calendar for dates. Winter sports have begun. First quarter grades were mailed home. Last week was "Teen Read Week".

Communications, Anne Whipple stated that E-news letters have begun; please sign-up since they will be taking the place of Highlights. She reported that parents should keep sick kids at home. The attendance office is tracking students called in with "flu-like symptoms". Please check out the City of Lake Forest website's "Forest-Green Transit Study".

Faculty Liaison, Carolyn Konz thanked the board for providing meals for the upcoming parent/teacher conferences. She also introduced the guest speakers Lance Ferges and Miriam Swann.

Guest Speakers, Lance Ferges and Miriam Swann, Forest Scout Advisors informed the board about the revamped newspaper and new Journalism program at the high school. The paper consists of 16 pages and is a self-sustaining newspaper. They have sold ads throughout the community to support printing the paper. Students enrolled in a journalism class have hands-on experience on the newspaper. Each journalism class lasts a semester and is currently enrolling juniors and seniors. However, students can also participate in the after school program. Please contact the advisors if you have knowledge of people in the journalism field that would speak to the students. The website is: forestscout@lfschool.net.

Vice-President, Ruth Muscarello reported that she has organized volunteers to be available to help parents at parent/teacher conferences. They will also sell additional directories and urge parents to complete the school survey in the library. Additional volunteers will be located in the library to help parents navigate the survey. All volunteers that she contacted were eager to help. Also, she stated the first Liaison meeting took place on October 20th with a wonderful turnout. The purpose of the liaison meeting is to disseminate information to community organizations, feeder schools, etc. The next Liaison meeting will take place on December 7th in room #113. The main topic of discussion for the December meeting will be the new athletic code as introduced by the athletic director. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Talent Show, Linda Torcivia and Sherri Passalino announced they still need volunteers for various committees for the talent show. There will be one ticket price of \$20 per person. On November 16th they will be meeting with the student producers. On November 17th they will hold auditions for leadership positions available to juniors only. On December 3rd the master of ceremonies auditions will take place. Talent show tryouts are scheduled for January 23 and 24.

Directory/Membership, Mary Flagstad stated that the directory was mailed last week. Andy Shaw's artwork was chosen for the cover. Additional directories will be available for sale at conference for \$5.

Grants, Sue Wagner stated that grants offered by the APT have always been academic and enrichment in nature offered to both students and faculty (not leading to an advanced degree program). The grant application has been updated on the high school website. Faculty requests are ongoing throughout the school year. The LFHS Foundation also offers grants not to students, but to the faculty that are technology-based requests. Grants helped underwrite the "Teen Read Week" last week for \$500, which paid for an illustrator and an improvisational group that offered workshops to the students. The annual budget allotted to the grants program is \$5000. The deadline for submissions is May 1.

Special Events Chairs, Pam Salm and Karla Schwartz announced the annual parent social and fundraiser, "Be True To Your School", was a success! The evening included dinner, raffle, silent and live auctions. Chris Torrence of CROYA was the evening's master of ceremonies and successfully entertained and engaged the audience. Julie

Eckert generously donated the raffle item, A Beatles Rock Band. The evening's attendance was over 200. Thank you to all who helped to pull together a wonderful fundraiser for the school.

Senior Class Representative, Katie Begley reported that the next Senior Class meeting is scheduled for November 9th at 7:00pm, with the topic of discussion on financial aid and scholarships for college.

New business: Sue Wagner led discussion regarding the planters in front of the Raymond Moore auditorium. Since 2006, these planters were established in memoriam to families who have suffered a loss. They provide a great deal of comfort to these families. Mary Kay Jaekel has lead the efforts and has requested funds in the amount of \$100 to cover the cost of flowers.

Open Doors, Laura Cox submitted the following report:

The Open Doors committee has implemented and is in the process of testing the 2009 suggested modifications to the online registration system. Thanks again to the APT for the funding. In addition, the committee has completed an orientation video for students and is working on significant website enhancements as well as a marketing piece which will educate parents and teachers about the benefits and advantages of the Open Door program. We hope to be able to present our final products to the APT in February.

Please check your email for the location of our next board meeting scheduled for December 2nd at 9:00am.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45am.

Respectfully submitted
Jan Richman, Recording Secretary