

**LA JOLLA HIGH SCHOOL PTA  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
September 9, 2005**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President, Jamie Ginsberg. May minutes have been approved by the readers, and are posted on the school website. Jamie asked for three readers for this month's minutes: Thank you Patti Nussbaum, Randy Bishop and Madelyn Bennett.

**President's Report** – Jamie Ginsberg reported:

- Please read the back of the agenda for "thank yous", which are numerous. This includes great thanks to David Hingeley, owner of Crown Point Clippers, Inc. who laced and pruned all of the trees on LJHS campus prior to the start of school – at no charge!
- Committee Chairs are requested to conduct PTA business (that which is needed by phone) during the day, to reserve evenings for time with our families.
- The results of last spring's PTA Parent Survey were highlighted, with communication, counseling, and drug use on campus coming up repeatedly in the comments. Due to parent comments, there will be one evening meeting on Tuesday, November 1 to accommodate parents who work conventional hours. Additional PTA response to the issues raised on the survey include PTA partially funding a drug awareness program that Mr. Shelburne is implementing for the school.
- Military recruitment on campus was addressed, as a parent had asked Jamie about this last spring. The military can and does come on campus, and if students are interested, they can initiate contact. Additionally, information is sent home from the school district explaining military recruitment on San Diego City Schools campuses.

**Financial Reports** – Amy Cheshire gave a brief background of the Scholarship being started in honor of Bren Mulkins, son of LJHS coach Maggie Mulkins, who died last summer. An envelope was passed, with donations going to the LJHS Scholarship Foundation.

First order of business was to approve budget overruns from last year. Amy gave a history of the After Prom, and Angie Preisendorfer (After Prom Chair) reviewed last year's event. Changes for next year's After Prom were discussed, with everyone agreeing that this year's event was a success, but that we would like an event that is more widely attended. Patti Nussbaum moved to approve the overruns on After Prom and other events. It was seconded and the motion was carried. Checks requiring ratification were presented. Cheryl McCarthy moved to ratify checks as written, it was seconded and approved.

Barbara Hoffman presented the audit. Katya Newmark moved to approve the audit, it was seconded and approved.

Randy Bishop moved to approve the 2005 budget. It was seconded and the motion was carried.

Amy presented checks written from July 1 through September 8. Patti Nussbaum moved to ratify the checks. It was seconded and approved.

**Programs** – Linda Kalkstein reported that the first Principal's Chat will be held on October 11 at 7:30 a.m. at the La Jolla United Methodist Church on La Jolla Blvd. There will be two other Principal's Chats during the year, dates to be determined. Linda is also working on the directory of teachers' names and phone extensions that will be included in the November newsletter.

**Ways and Means** – Betsy Klene reported that there was only one Mini Grant request this month. Mrs. Behnke requested \$350 for a scanner and printer for the counseling office. Venzel Hammershaimb moved to approve the request, it was seconded and approved. Discussion ensued about recent break-ins in Mr. Del Rio's room and Mr. Volger's room, where several laptop computers were stolen. It is hoped that insurance will cover any losses.

**Membership** – Liz Lindenfeld gave an update on the new PTA form used to solicit dues and Bee Mittermiller reported that we have received 875 new memberships this fall, which brought \$13,125 in dues and \$8,233 in donations, for a total of \$21,358.

**Corresponding Secretary** – Linda Dowley for Micki Olin – All committee chairs are asked to review the roster that is circulating and record any corrections so that an updated roster can be circulated soon.

**Historian** – Venzel Hammershaimb briefly described his position and asked that everyone please sign in and record their volunteer hours.

**Family Directory** – Candy Satterlee reported that work on the directory is underway, and everyone is encouraged to sign up to be included in the directory (fill out and sign the slot on the “Superform”). The deadline for inclusion has yet to be determined, but will be e-mailed via the e-blast once determined.

**Locker Update** – Candy Satterlee reported that there will be enough lockers at the school for every student to receive one this year, with the final 150 new lockers to be installed by the end of September.

**Mardi Gras in May** – Candy Satterlee reported that the first meeting for volunteers will be Monday, September 19 at 7:30 a.m. in the cafeteria.

**Newsletter** – Gail Trimble thanked everyone for the timely submittal of their newsletter articles and thanked the rest of the newsletter team.

**Mailing** – Lee Trahan reported on a successful August mailing. The next mailing will probably take place on September 22 and an e-mail will go out soliciting volunteers.

**Volunteer Coordinator** – Patti Haig reported a record high 1,013 names on our e-mail list. She will send out reminders and important updates.

**Library Liaison** – Jill Ayling thanked volunteers and noted that more library help is needed. An e-blast will be sent out to inform volunteers of opportunities.

**Parent Prep** – Evening event to help inform parents about the college application process will be held in May.

**Money Books** – Money books are available for sale, although we are currently sold out. More will be coming soon, so please support the PTA by purchasing one.

**Hospitality** – Becky Gardner reported that the teachers’ welcome back lunch which was held last Friday was a big success. There will be a holiday breakfast for the staff, and the hospitality committee will be asking for food donations from parents.

**Blast Off** – LeeAnn Weigand and Shane Rose spoke about the planned festivities for September 17. This is a volunteer-intensive event, so please sign up to help.

**Grade Level Dinners** – Candace Person noted the dates for the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade (Sept. 20) and Grades 10-12 (Sept. 22) events and encouraged everyone to attend.

**AP Workshop** – Sarah Schrier passed around a clip board looking for volunteers to help at this October 22 event. Teachers come from all around southern California for this training workshop, and the PTA is fortunate to be able to earn money by supplying food for attendees.

**Governance** – Linda Dowley gave a brief overview of the function of the Governance Team. If parents have issues they would like brought up at monthly Governance meetings, they are urged to contact Governance parent representatives Linda Dowley, Susanna Flaster, Jamie Ginsberg, Joan Hiser, or Liz Lindenfeld.

**VEEP** – Isabel Vega and Diana Sonderegger were introduced. They act as the liaisons with our sister schools, and host principal’s chats there. They do an excellent job of keeping VEEP families informed about issues facing their

students at LJHS.

**SAT Prep Class** – Sheila Dershowitz noted that the Fall class begins tomorrow. Classes are taught by former LJHS teachers Mrs. Lipton and Mr. Jackson. She stressed the importance of parents being informed about the college testing/application process and noted that there is Parent Prep night in the Spring, and a UC Application workshop in the Fall.

**Foundation Report** – Foundation president, Tony Farwell gave a financial overview of the programs/ departments supported by the Foundation. Annually, they spend approximately \$315,000. This year, they are anticipating spending \$145,000 on academics, \$80,000 on athletics, \$70,000 on buildings and grounds, and \$40,000 on “other” for a total expenditure of approximately \$335,000. The source of funding is 60% from donations and 40% from events. Annual events include the Taste of La Jolla, Mardi Gras in May and the Golf Classic.

This year, the Foundation is having a dedicated campaign called the “Academic Edge” to raise awareness of the need to raise funds for academics. Additionally, the Foundation is funding one full-time counselor (not yet hired) and one part-time counselor (Pat Shaler) to help seniors with college counseling issues.

Tony talked about the security camera system that was installed in 2002, which has been consistently unreliable. The Foundation is spending money to repair and replace the system, which is increasingly important based on the losses sustained during break-ins to the computer lab last year and this year.

The Foundation meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7a.m. in the library – meetings are open.

**Legislation** – No report this month.

**Grade Level Reps** – Candace Person, Grade Level Coordinator, is trying to keep everyone informed about grade level activities.

**12<sup>th</sup> Grade** – Various fundraisers are being planned to offset senior dues; college visits are open to 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders – dates and times for visits from college reps are listed in the counseling office; CSF sign-ups are in the counseling office.

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade** – PSATs are October 15 – cost is \$16 (register in the Finance Office before October 6); October 2 class fundraiser with food from Taco Surf from 5-8pm (adults only) – tickets \$10 through ASB.

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade** – Thank you to all volunteers who worked during registration.

**9<sup>th</sup> grade** – Working to help support Freshmen activities through the ASB.

**Registration** – Elizabeth Allan gave an overview and explained glitches, including new district computer program (Zangle) which affected schedules and new ID program with new ID machines which broke down.

Everyone praised Elizabeth for the amazing job she did (and the incredible amount of time she spent) organizing registration. General thank you to all volunteers who helped. A PTA subcommittee has been formed to see what help can be given to Elizabeth with registration, and forms were passed out at the meeting looking for parent feedback and suggestions.

**Announcements** – Thank you to tree trimmer, David Hingeley, owner of Crown Point Clippers, Inc. for trimming and lacing all LJHS trees free of charge before the start of school.

Club Day is September 14 at lunchtime – encourage your students to attend and find out about all of the extracurricular opportunities available.

**Mr. Shelburne and Mrs. Behnke** spoke:

Mr. Shelburne spoke about enrollment numbers, noting that the current total is 1,739 but it is possible that no-shows are still in the computer, and that we will end up closer to 1,670, with our optimum number being 1,650.

Mrs. Behnke thanked parents for support during registration and noted that schedule change requests are being addressed. She expects things to even out by the end of the second week. She discussed changes in course selection protocol for next spring, which will include parent signatures on the schedule choices by students.

Mr. Shelburne discussed:

Report Cards – noting that they don't always make their way to parents when they are sent home with students. It was suggested that an email go out to parents when report cards are coming home with students (as it is too expensive to mail them four times a year).

Athletics – Course changes due to athletics were discussed.

Naviance Computer System – The counseling intern is being trained on the system and will in-service other counselors when she is entirely trained. The system will help students and counselors track college application process of individual students.

A varsity field hockey coach has been hired, but Mr. Shelburne was unsure if a JV girls' tennis coach had been hired. He will check with Bob Allen, Athletic Director.

Bev Greco, former staff developer, is our new Vice Principal.

K9 Detection Company has been contracted with to provide drug awareness education, followed up by drug-sniffing dog presence on campus. Data shows this program is an effective deterrent to drug use/presence on campus.

Importance of reading the bulletin during second period was discussed. Dana will again ask teachers to read the bulletin – 2<sup>nd</sup> period is 5 minutes longer than other periods to allow for bulletin to be read. It was noted that the bulletin is also posted in the front window of the office.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. – with record attendance in excess of 117 members!

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda Dowley, Secretary.