

**LA JOLLA HIGH SCHOOL PTA
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
April 7, 2006**

The meeting was to order at 9:00 a.m. by Jamie Ginsberg. She asked for three readers for this month's minutes: Thank you Patti Nussbaum, Sheila Dershowitz and Madelyn Bennett.

President's Report –Jamie Ginsberg reported:

All executive board members are encouraged to attend PTA training on June 10 – this is for incoming officers.

The quarter ends on April 7.

LJHS received PTA 9th District Awards for our newsletter and tri-fold piece.

District Counselor, George Pentano spoke about upcoming STAR testing, and asked for parent volunteers. Candace Person, who works a great deal on this, and organizes parent volunteers was thanked for her efforts.

Treasurer's Report –Amy Cheshire gave a financial update. Patti Nussbaum moved to ratify the checks that have been recently written. The motion was seconded and carried.

Amy explained that our budget needs to be amended to reflect certain changes. Grad Nite, while still a revenue neutral event, has different parameters this year – it will cost \$21,000, but should also bring in \$21,000 in revenue. Additionally, our SAT Prep Class generated more income and more expense than previously expected. The cost of our planners is greater this year but we will receive a larger donation from ASB toward the cost. The executive board has reviewed and approved these budget changes. Patti Nussbaum moved to approve the amended budget. It was seconded and approved.

Election –Linda Kalkstein read the slate of proposed officers for next year: President – Bee Mittermiller; Executive VP – Jamie Ginsberg; VP Programs – Linda Kalkstein; VP Ways and Means – Micki Olin; VP Membership – Betsy Klene; VP Membership – Venzel Hammershaimb; Treasurer – Sarah Schrier; Corresponding Secretary – Linda Dowley; Recording Secretary – Sheila Dershowitz; Auditor – Sophia Wong; Historian – Pam Zuckerman; Parliamentarian – Joan Hiser. Karen Bohrer moved to elect the slate. It was seconded and approved. It was noted that our Governance Document requests that Governance representatives be elected through the PTA. Proposed members are: Michael Briggs, Linda Dowley, Jamie Ginsberg, Joan Hiser, and Liz Lindenfeld. Patti moved to approve the Governance representatives. It was seconded and approved.

College Prep – College Prep Parent Panel will be held May 24. Parents of seniors who wish to join the panel should contact Jamie Ginsberg.

Programs – Linda Kalkstein reported that the final Principal's Chat for the year will be April 19 in the auditorium.

Ways and Means –Betsy Klene reported that we have reached the end of our budget for Mini Grants. Sandi Pawl of the Foundation gave Betsy a copy of the letter the foundation uses for mini grant requests. Any requests that are received by the PTA will be forwarded to the Foundation.

Membership –Bee Mittermiller reported that there is no change, and the final count for the year is 1,029 members. Membership is closed as of March 31, so we can now begin working on membership for next year.

Historian – Venzel Hammershaimb reported that we have over 485 volunteer hours last month and encouraged everyone to record their volunteer hours.

SAT Prep Classes – Sheila Dershowitz reported that there was a great response to the spring class. A summer

class will be held in August. Anyone interested in attending should contact Sheila.

Governance – Liz Lindenfeld noted that the next Governance meeting is April 25, and read a report from the March meeting. She encouraged parents with any issues to submit to Governance, to contact parent reps: Linda Dowley, Susanna Flaster, Jamie Ginsberg, Joan Hiser and Liz Lindenfeld.

VEEP – Isabel Vega reported that she went to Chicano Park to check on students during recent walk-outs and immigrations protests, with the goal of making sure the students were safe. Fortunately, there was not a great number of students who missed school, and the gatherings were peaceful.

Nominating – Sheila Dershowitz noted that the nominating committee has completed most of their work, with the majority of committee chair positions filled. Some jobs still need to be filled, and Sheila mentioned splitting up the duties of the Hospitality committee. Mary Fisher and Liz Lindenfeld volunteered to chair the Welcome Back luncheon in the fall (the Friday before school starts). Other events for hospitality still need chairs and we need a registration co-chair, which is a very important position.

GATE – Lee Trahan reported that there will be a GATE meeting for all of our cluster schools (LJ Elem, Torrey Pines, Bird Rock, Muirlands and LJHS) on April 27. Dr. Cohn will attend and all parents of GATE students are encouraged to attend.

Foundation – Jackie Helm thanked parents for their support, and noted that \$140,000 is being cut from the school's budget for next year. She noted that the wine tasting event, "Vikings and Vintners" made approximately \$50,000, and the Academic Edge campaign netted over \$100,000. Now the big push is on for Off the Wall on May 20. Bee Mittermiller is in charge of ticket sales, so contact her if you need tickets.

Legislation – Mary Fisher noted that there is a phone number for the Consumer Credit Industry to opt out of receiving credit card solicitations 1-888-567-8688. She urged parents to be proactive in cutting off unsolicited credit card inquiries. She noted that the State PTA supports Proposition 81 on the June ballot, and noted that there will doubtless be other resolutions adopted at the May PTA state convention, including one about screen time awareness – noting the connection between childhood obesity and time spent in front of a computer/ or TV screen. The PTA also is voicing support for civic programs in schools, as these programs are declining. Additionally, the PTA weighs in on the issue of illegal immigration, noting that it is in everyone's best interest that the children of illegal immigrants get any help they need.

Band – Mary Fisher reported that the band raised \$600 through the Pernicano's fundraiser. She noted the importance of a strong band program at Muirlands, and noted there were some difficulties for Muirlands students signing up for band in the fall.

Off the Wall – Candy Satterlee showed a production board with the locations of the band stages and various concessions. Underwriting has been very successful – now we need to get people to attend the event. The website is www.offthewallajolla.com and tickets are available on line – or ask Bee Mittermiller. There are many volunteer opportunities like setting up, the day of the event.

Grade Level Reports –

12th Grade – After Prom will run from midnight until 3:00 a.m. Angie Preisendorfer, the chair, reported that the planning is going smoothly and all parent permission information forms are online. The event is themed, "Hollywood After Hours" and will premier the senior video. Volunteers are needed – please contact Angie.

Candace Person reported that senior packets are about to be mailed with complete senior information with dates of all events. She noted that volunteers are needed for Grad Nite – to attend the event and to sell tickets in advance. Parents of non-seniors should get involved so they know what is coming up for their children.

11th Grade – Susan Sparks reported that the junior class is continuing their fundraising selling food at the lunchtime food fair. They are also making junior class videos, and parents and students should get photos to the ASB room. Parents of juniors usually volunteer at the Prom in the coat-check, and junior parents also help with the graduation tea. Next year Linda Rutgard will chair After Prom and Candy Satterlee will chair Grad Nite.

10th Grade – Sandra Sloan reported that the 10th grade reps are recruiting parents to work at registration next fall.

9th Grade – Pam Zuckerman thanked parents who have supported the 9th grade class this year.

Announcements –

The school club SMAC (Students Making a Change) are sponsoring a film “Life After the Tsunami” April 24 in the auditorium. A \$5.00 donation is requested.

Retirement party for Bird Rock teacher LeAnn Kelley is June 9 – please see Patti Nussbaum for more information.

May 5 – our next PTA meeting, Superintendent Carl Cohn will be at the meet and greet from 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Parents are encouraged to attend to say hello.

Principal’s Report – Dana Shelburne Reported:

- Graduation is at 2:00 p.m. – an earlier start to accommodate Knott’s Berry Farm Grad Nite.
- 10th graders interested in CSF should see advisor Mrs. Shamrock – students need to attend weekly meetings.
- LJHS Academic League team has had a great year and is going to the county competition, and qualified to go to national competition in Chicago in June.
- Summer school at LJHS consists of two enrichment classes – biology and chemistry. Remediation classes will be offered in English and math for students who failed courses during the school year.
- There will be additional construction on campus the last week of summer school – correction of some issues dating back to Prop. MM construction.
- Summer camps run by the Coggan Aquatic Center help support the pool and provide employment for LJHS students as counselors. Parents are urged to support these camps, and it was suggested that they be more widely publicized at the elementary schools.
- Attendance Changes – efforts are being made to improve the attendance system. An attempt is being made to separate blue slips from absence calls. Parents are urged to call ahead for blue slips, and students must pick up a blue slip before leaving campus. Additionally, if a student feels sick, they must go to the nurse – not call home on their cell phone. The nurse will call home and excuse the student if necessary. This policy does not change when students turn 18 – students who are 18 still cannot call themselves in sick.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m. Minutes submitted by Linda Dowley