

**LA JOLLA HIGH SCHOOL PTA
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 3, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Bee Mittermiller. Bee requested 3 readers for the minutes. Thanks to volunteers Madelyn Bennett, Pam Zuckerman, and Venzel Hammershaimb.

President's Report – Bee will display PTA agenda by overhead, effective today. Several people were unable to attend, so Bee announced:

1. Grad nite meeting Nov. 9, 8:00am, per Candy Satterlee
2. Parents Aware needs ideas for next column, per Catherine Shafer
3. 1102 volunteer hours last month, including 592 by email input, which will continue, per Pam Zuckerman
4. 10th grade will be selling 2009 sweatshirts w/names of students inside numbers, also per Pam. 5. Bee sent flowers in PTA's name to memorial service for parents hit by a car, and to Patti Nussbaum who lost her mother on Tuesday. We discussed setting up a regular fund for flowers.

Treasurer's Report –Sarah Schrier presented report, and a motion to ratify recent checks and approve the treasurer's report was seconded and carried.

Programs – Linda Kalkstein reported on a program with Diane Nichols about sexually transmitted diseases. Asked for volunteer for Jan 18 principal's chat, and thanked Andrea Feinswog for offering her home. Other programs being considered include:

1. Teen activities (toilet papering house, egging) as crimes
2. Domestic violence
3. AIDS
4. A new volunteer parent program is also being planned, for tutoring at-risk students. Discussion re: qualifications and possible times for tutoring.

Membership –Venzel Hammershaimb announced membership is now up to 1012.

Hospitality— Liz Lindenfeld thanked Lee Trahan for hosting Principal's Chat. Next event will be the last Friday before vacation, Holiday Breakfast. Information to follow.

AP Workshop– Sarah Schrier reported that 433 teachers attended and \$5,250 was raised.

Governance –

1. Michael Briggs announced a meeting Monday Nov. 6, 2:30 pm, room 304; everyone is invited.
2. LJHS Site Council now formed, a sub-committee required by the state for deciding how to spend discretionary funds allocated for low performing students (described by Dana last meeting). Jamie Ginsberg was selected chairperson.
3. Priorities will be literacy and math deficiencies, and minutes will be posted on website. Board of Education must approve their recommendation: \$10,000 for part-time staff person, \$50,000 for math lab and 8 new computers for library, \$5000 for answer sheet scanning equipment; the rest for staff-- hourly assistance for personnel to assist students.

VEEP – Manuel Gonzalez reported that students participated in Day of Dead art exhibits, and are getting help with personal essays.

Ways and Means—Micki Olin presented one request for mini-grants from Mike Francis, PE, for \$186 for tools to teach swimming. A motion to fund the request was seconded and carried.

Counseling Dept. Director— Beth Behnke thanked parents for support and for proactive scheduling work last year. Counseling office is fully staffed thanks to discretionary funds. Art Nothrup is currently subbing in District Counselor role, and Cathy Zimmer, an intern, is doing 504 meetings. Beth announced passage of an Assembly bill that will provide more counseling money; LJHS will receive funds for one additional counselor, to be assigned by the district. Beth is optimistic it will be her recommendation, a summer intern, and is waiting for a

budget number for the position. Discussion regarding how many counseling positions presently allotted, and whether this additional one will be permanent, which it will be.

Question about Naviance, computer program for preparation for college applications. This year, seniors will put in their information, including where they have been accepted, so next year, students will have that information.

Reminder that there will be a 10th grade meeting on Nov. 29, 6:30.

CPR and Health and Safety Laura Wheeler announced dates for CPR training, January 16 – 19 and 22-26. Christina was acknowledged for starting the program and for receiving an award for her volunteer work with CPR at LJHS.

GATE—Jamie Ginsberg announced a meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 7th with the new GATE director. She encouraged attendance, and reminded parents that only ¼ of students in a class have to be identified as GATE, so your child is probably in a GATE class. Distinguished Lecturer Series begins on Nov. 15, 7:00-8:30 pm at Ed Center.

Legislation--Mary Fisher reviewed PTA positions on several propositions in upcoming election and encouraged everyone to vote.

Newsletter—Deadline is tomorrow. Prefer email submissions to Debbie Pastor. Opt-out program includes 200 people so far and everyone is encouraged to consider opting out of mailing to save trees and mailing costs.

Reflections—Mary Fisher reported on this new program celebrating the arts. Nov. 10th is deadline for entries, and theme is “My favorite place.”

After Prom –Linda Rutgard has visited Dave and Buster’s but very expensive. She is looking at other venues, too, for midnight to 3:00 am.

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Grade Level Reports –

12th Grade – Susan Sparks reported the senior dinner was a big success; 80 people raised \$2000. Seniors won first place for their Disney float at Homecoming. Thanks to families who donated costumes and money. Hired Dave Olsen from Legacy Videos for senior video, and every senior will get a video at the senior breakfast. Upcoming Election Day: 20 seniors may work at the polls, as excused absence for 18 hours of community service credit; \$75 stipend (\$90 for bilingual students) goes directly to senior class.

11th Grade--Julie Matibag: Dinner on Sun. Dec. 3, for parents only. LJHS license plates for sale.

9th Grade--Tina Greenberg announced plans for various fund-raising activities.

Foundation – Katya Newmark thanked everyone for Taste of La Jolla, and provided info about upcoming fundraisers:

1. Jan 22-28, SOS- \$15.00 all money goes back to Foundation
2. Jan 27-Vines and Vintners at La Jolla Country Club \$55, will be looking for donations
3. April 28 instead of Off the Wall, going back to traditional dinner dance at Hyatt.
4. Moneybooks available in office.

La Jolla Rotary Club—Susan Fox, Youth Services Director, described 3 programs sponsored by Rotary, for students to go abroad:

1. One school year—exchange student from France was introduced
2. Two-week summer exchange program
3. Approx. 6 weeks during summer

Deadlines before Thanksgiving. Susan would like someone to host an inbound student.

InterAct Club President Allen d'Escagnolle announced Esperanza Work Day, Sat. Nov. 4, in Tijuana 7am-7pm. Students will paint a school and need volunteers. Rotary Interact Liaison, Cal Mann, described Model UN, and solicited applications for 2 positions in March. Recommended InterAct for yourselves and for your child. Website is www.LJInteract.org

Principal's Report –

- Dana reported that 96% passed English and math High School exit exams on first try, which is why LJHS does not give practice exit exams. Work tutorially with few who did not pass.
- MySpace-- Dana encourages parents to go on their student's page, also Facebook, a college one, but our students are getting involved too.
- Dana announced the office is calling daily to get the funds released for the new counseling position, and also working on getting a new (permanent) District Counselor.
- Looking for someone to fill Financial Office Secretary position, and probably will alter the job description to make it 7 hours instead of 8.
- Winter sports: They are trying a new system, asking all students to come to balcony of gym next week. All pre-qualified and new students who turn in forms by Nov. 1 will be cleared to play at that time. Others who do not meet Nov. 1 deadline will still be able to turn in forms.

Questions:

- Cross country girls banned for carving a name in a tree? Dana will check.
- What action was taken re: someone breaking into band room during last football game? Dana was unaware, but will check this too.
- Homecoming Dance—Please comment on rules established for the dance that were not enforced. Semi-formal Dance: dress shoes, collared shirts and ties—within 10 minutes, Dana observed boys not wearing the ties, shoes. The girls take their shoes off to dance. Also had an incident of physical altercation. Another question about freak dancing. Discussion about whether or not to have dances any more. There were 850 students. Close to \$10,000 raised. Some decisions will have to be made about behavior.
- Has drug dog been a success? Yes--One young man drinking that morning before school, and another young man had paraphernalia and also was under the influence. Discussion about bringing dogs to the dances. Dana said, by law, dogs cannot smell people. However, we own 2 breathalizers and might use those for dances.
- Cross country results? Girls came in 2nd and freshman boys came in 2nd.
- Boys Water Polo Team—Is it true that they do testing? No.
- Grades will be sent home on Thursday.
- For those who are transferring from sport to sport, Sat. at midnight is when they become eligible, so Monday is the first day.

Announcements – Money books are available.

With no further announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.
Minutes submitted by Sheila Dershowitz, Recording Secretary