

**LA JOLLA HIGH SCHOOL PTA
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
January 11, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Bee Mittermiller.

President's Report –Bee announced the following:

- Pam Zuckerman, Venzel Hammershaimb and Cheryl McCarthy volunteered to read and comment upon the draft version of the minutes from this meeting.
- Bee indicated that the PTA Executive Board discussed the possibility of using available surplus funds in order to buy copies of Strunk & White's Elements of Style for an English class. She explained that any requested budget allocation would be brought for a vote at a future PTA meeting.
- Bee explained that Sara Feeney, PTA president for Muirlands Middle School PTA, asked her to announce that a program regarding identification theft benefitting teens will be hosted on February 7, 2008, at 6:30 PM.
- Bee shared information regarding a UCSD Faculty Ambassador Event program on "Anorexia and Bulimia Nervosa" by the UCSD Health Services Department on February 7, 2008, at 7:00 PM. Reservations are required.
- Bee announced that CPR training had commenced at LJHS. In response to a question. She explained that sophomore students in "regular" 6th period PE class were being trained in CPR but, while athletes with 6th period PE classes are welcome, they have not participated.
- Bee reminded attendees of an encore presentation of "Beyond Google," a program on accessible databases presented by Steve Grant, at the LJHS Library Media Center on January 30, 2008, at 9:00 AM.
- Finally, Bee explained that an electronics recycling event was being held the following day, Saturday, January 12, 2008, at 7716 Claremont Mesa Boulevard (near Convoy Street). Linda Dowley mentioned that a similar recycling event was being held on January 19, 2008, at SeaWorld.

Treasurer's Report –Sarah Schrier presented the Treasurer's Report, including a schedule of checks issued, the 2007-2008 budget to actual amounts and itemized journal entries, all included in the PTA's 2007-2008 budget. Sarah explained that an intra-budget transfer of funds for mailing expense was included and detailed. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and ratify the checks that were written was seconded and carried. (Note: the actual report is filed with Minutes.)

Audit Report – Sophia Wong announced that she had examined the books of the LJHS PTA and found that they were correct and accurate. A motion to approve the Audit Report was seconded and carried.

ASB Report

- ASB President Whitney Wing announced that the LJHS canned food drive resulted in a record 3,800 pounds being donated by students. In addition, ASB held a toy drive and a classroom door decorating contest before the Winter Break.
- Whitney reminded attendees that LJHS had been selected as a participant in the Hurley Fashion Show with three other San Diego high schools to be held at the House of Blues on January 25, 2008.
- Whitney announced that upcoming ASB events include Air Band and the ASB Ball.

Programs – Tina Greenberg reported as follows:

- The next Principal’s Chat will be hosted at Tina’s home on January 24, 2008, at 9:30 AM.
- A drug awareness program will be held with a Phoenix House volunteer as primary speaker on February 27, 2008. Tina asked for opinions regarding using a volunteer speaker from Planned Parenthood to discuss statistics regarding the correlation between the use of drugs and teenage sexual activity. Comments were made by several attendees, including a suggestion that Tina consider using a speaker who made presentations to the Advanced Placement Economics Class.
- A College Information Night is being planned for the spring.

Ways and Means – Micki Olin reported that she received mini-grant requests immediately following the last PTA meeting in December, with a plea for urgent approval, which was given by the PTA Executive Board and needed to be ratified with other current requests. Micki presented the following requests for mini-grants:

- \$295.00 for cow femurs to dissect and rabbit muscle for lab use, requested by Ms. Brammer in the Science department (from December);
- \$254.19 for eight textbooks for 9th grade English classes in order to increase the number available for students, requested by Ms. Hamilton; and
- \$350.00 for a color desktop printer and Printshop® software for use by the counseling, attendance, registrar and general office staff, requested by Ms. Doll.

A motion to ratify the December request and approve the January mini-grant requests was seconded and carried.

Membership – Venzel Hammershaimb announced that 991 members had joined the LJHS PTA to-date. Betsy Klene indicated that letters were being sent to the LJHS faculty to ask for additional memberships. In addition, a request targeted to parents of freshman students will be included in the upcoming LJHS PTA Newsletter.

Historian – LJHS Historian Pam Zuckerman announced that 506 volunteer hours had been recorded by PTA volunteers for the month of November 2007. She encouraged volunteers to record their volunteer hours either on the Historian’s clipboard or by sending an e-mail.

Governance – Michael Briggs, Governance Chairperson, introduced Pam Zuckerman, another parent representative to the LJHS Site Governance Committee. Pam circulated copies of the draft guidelines for civility and behavior between all groups of stakeholders at LJHS, entitled “We All Need R.O.O.M.” During the discussion of the process and content of the draft guidelines several comments were made, including a recommendation that behavior consistent with the guidelines should be a part of every employee’s job performance evaluation at LJHS. In addition, the subject of student cheating at LJHS was raised, and whether it was addressed by the draft behavior guidelines. Upon request, Michael agreed to place the topic of cheating on the agenda for the next Site Governance Committee meeting.

Registration – Mary Fee made a presentation about the plans for upcoming student registration in August 2008. She circulated a sign-up sheet for interested attendees.

Senior Exhibitions – Kathy Marsh explained that a few more volunteers were needed in order to judge the LJHS Senior Exhibitions. She indicated that an orientation session was held, but any

new volunteers would be placed on a panel with at least one experienced judge. Kathy confirmed that volunteers will receive reminder e-mails and phone calls.

Newsletter – Newsletter Editor Jane Pulliam announced that the deadline for submitting articles for the next LJHS PTA Newsletter was tomorrow, Saturday, but that she could accept articles as late as Sunday through the website.

Nominating Committee – Linda Dowley, Parliamentarian, explained the procedure for nominating PTA officers for the upcoming year, including announcing the nominees at the March 2008 PTA meeting and then voting on them at the April 2008 PTA meeting. As required by the Bylaws, a motion was made, seconded and passed that the nominating committee be composed of Sandra Sloan, Cheryl McCarthy, Betsy Klene, Margaret O-Hara and Linda Rutgard with Pam Zuckerman and Venzel Hammershaimb serving as alternates.

GATE/DAC – Linda Dowley stated that Ms. Greco, Vice Principal at LJHS, was concerned that some parents heard a rumor that LJHS would not offer the seminar program in the 10th grade next year – which is totally false. The new SDUSD rule is that students from outside the LJHS attendance area that are not currently in the seminar program at LJHS or a feeder school cannot apply and transfer freely into the LJHS seminar program. Linda stated that the next District Advisory Council (DAC) meeting will be held on Monday evening, January 14, 2008.

Grade Level Reports –
12th and 11th Grades – No report.

10th Grade – Tina Greenberg reported that members of the sophomore class are engaging in fundraising activities: They are selling tickets to the Buick Invitational Golf Tournament and they will be selling Smarties and DumDum candies at school. The sophomores are seeking student volunteers for the Air Band competition. ASB Ball is also approaching.

9th Grade – Student Melissa Pouk announced that she intended to sell tickets to the Buick Invitational Golf Tournament, but that she did not have any. Jackie Helm, President of the LJHS Foundation, accompanied Melissa to the Foundation office and provided her tickets to sell. In addition, Melissa announced that she was selling LJHS scarves.

LJHS Foundation – Jackie Helm, President of the LJHS Foundation, reported that La Jolla Moneybooks are still available for \$20. In addition, Jackie announced that the major fundraiser for the Foundation – The Scarlet and Black – “Have a Ball” – will be held on March 8, 2008. She explained that the Foundation is seeking items to be auctioned and sponsorships. The band “Energy” will play. It will be held at the Hyatt Regency.

Announcements:

- The Senior Class is going to Disneyland for Grad Night, and parent chaperones are needed on June 11, 2008, which is the day that final exams end for seniors. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Cheryl McCarthy.
- The LJHS Foundation’s popular “Vine & Vintners” event is scheduled for May 2008, on the Saturday immediately after Memorial Day.
- Salon José is hosting a fundraising event for the LJHS Foundation.
- In response to a question about steps being taken for more teacher accountability, LJHS Site Governance Committee chairperson Michael Briggs explained that (i) the escalation

policy was reviewed and adopted at LJHS for whenever a parent has an issue with a teacher and (ii) the administration has compiled the California Standards Test scores and API scores since 1999 for analysis and high schools comparable to LJHS are being identified for benchmarking purposes. Still to be compiled are the Advanced Placement test scores.

Principal's Report -- Principal Dana Shelburne gave a summary of campus activities, including the following:

- minor construction activity will start tomorrow, Saturday, when a trench will be excavated outside the Library Media Center in order to lay fiber optic cable to the campus' main distribution link. The work should be finished on the following Saturday. The result should be a 10x improvement in data transmission speeds on campus. Dana explained that applications such as computer use and security cameras were using a lot of bandwidth, and that voice over internet protocol (VoIP) phone service would now be used.
- the Technology Committee at LJHS is examining the direction of future technologies at LJHS, and might visit other high schools in order to get ideas. He indicated that the group has room for another parent volunteer.
- LJHS is almost at the end of installing teacher workstations in every classroom with the financial assistance of the LJHS PTA.
- Summer school will start on June 19th (after classes end on June 16th). There is still a question as to whether summer school classes will be offered 2 hours each day for 6 weeks or 4 hours each day for 3 weeks (with two sessions in the later case).
- Dana is meeting with a City of San Diego Traffic Engineer on Tuesday, January 15, 2008, in order to walk around the campus perimeter and discuss some of the dangerous traffic situations that exist, such as the intersections at Fay & Nautilus, Draper & Westbourne, West Muirlands Drive & Fay and ways to slow down the speed of drivers going too fast. Many comments were made about dangerous traffic conditions around La Jolla High School.
- In response to a question about the 2-hour parking limits on Draper Avenue, Dana said that the La Jolla Parking Committee accomplished that with the City of San Diego one summer over 4 years ago based upon complaints from neighbors. The loss of those parking spaces was subsequently offset by the additional spaces created with the diagonal parking spaces on Fay Avenue.
- In response to a question about staggering the start time between LJHS and Muirlands Middle School in order to relieve traffic congestion, Dana explained that there are issues of shared students and shared use of the Muirlands Middle School athletic fields by LJHS sports teams.
- In response to a compliment regarding the quality of the new sound system in Parker Auditorium, Dana explained how the \$130,000 of equipment was specified and paid for.
- Dana discussed the San Diego Unified School District budget and the implications of Governor Schwarzenegger's proposal for a 10% across the board budget cut. He stated that the SDUSD Interim Superintendent (who is the Chief Financial Officer) sat with the high school principals and explained that would result in a 2% reduction in state funds to the SDUSD.
- In response to a question about the existence of cheating by LJHS students, Dana reviewed some of the creative ways that students have found to cheat on tests. He reviewed the LJHS policy of cheating: the student receives an F on the test or paper and if caught cheating a second time receives an F and U in the class. Dana said that 8-10 referrals are made annually for cheating, but no student has ever received the penalty for

twice cheating in a class during the school year. He remarked that students are very reluctant to inform on other students who might be cheating. He said that new test scanning equipment at the school will permit teachers to give more than one version of a multiple choice exam to a class, which will make some aspects of cheating more difficult. In response to a report that tests for the ALEKS on-line Algebra program can be taken outside the classroom, which permits cheating, Dana promised to investigate. He noted that the California Standards Test results for Algebra had been improving at LJHS recently.

With no further questions or announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 AM.

Minutes submitted by Michael Briggs, Recording Secretary