

MINUTES

Penn Manor Alumni Association
September 8, 2009

The Penn Manor Alumni Association met on the above-cited date in the Alumni Room in the Library at Penn Manor High School. The meeting was called to order by Frank Geist at 6:35 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Mike McDonald, Joyce Ludwig, James Huber, Judy Duke, Linda Millard, Kathy Sangrey, Fred Wilds II, Dolores Warfel, Dennis Herr, Nancy Smith, Arlene Brenner, Ethel Charles, James Stauffer, Cindy LaMaster, Polly Kauffman, and Frank Geist.

The Minutes of the May 5, 2009 meeting were approved on a motion by Fred Wilds, a second by Kathy Sangrey, and a unanimous voice vote of those in attendance.

Judy Duke presented the Treasurer's Report. It was approved on a motion by Linda Millard, a second by Nancy Smith, and a unanimous voice vote of those in attendance. Reinvestment options for the money currently in a Certificate of Deposit were discussed. Frank Geist said the money could be kept in a CD or the association could consider reinvesting the money in investment grade bonds or corporate bonds. Investment grade bonds are fairly safe with corporate bonds being slightly more risky. The return on either of these options would be greater than that received on the current CD. Discussion ensued regarding reinvestment. It was determined that the association would check with financial institutions in addition to the one currently holding the CD in order to obtain the best rate for a CD should the association decide to continue this type of investing. Frank Geist asked that association members think about this matter until the October 6 meeting when a decision will have to be reached. Judy Duke informed those in attendance that \$1,400 was collected after the Treasurer's Report was prepared as a result of the mailing of the new association newsletter, *Comet Chatter*. Annual expenses for the association were discussed. Judy Duke said the annual expenses are typically between \$3,000-\$4,000. The largest expense anticipated for the current year will be for the association's participation in Homecoming. A \$2,000 budget was approved for that event. Frank reported that to date a large portion of anticipated costs for the event have been donated.

The following old business was discussed.

- **Community Outreach Project:** PMAA pre-approved \$100 for this project. The purpose of this project is to provide assistance to an alumnus in need. A \$100 gift certificate to John Herr's Village Market was presented to the chosen alumnus. Frank Geist read a thank you note from the recipient.
- **Harris Electronic Directory:** Can be accessed from your personal computer. Frank Geist said it is a free service and a very successful means of communication. The broadcast e-mails that have been sent appear to be getting results. Frank is working with classes to get updated information entered into the directory.
- **PMAA Volunteer Support Update:** Nancy Smith reported that the volunteers helped with report cards at the end of last school year. She stated she would be getting a list of the dates when volunteer assistance will be needed in the near future and will contact volunteers at that time.
- **PMAA Senior Awards:** Cindy LaMaster reported that the applicants for the Luella Mellinger Award were very impressive. She stated that she received good feedback from the Art Department regarding the art award given by PMAA. It was a great evening for all involved.
- **Homecoming Committee Update:** Frank Geist said the committee would meet following the conclusion of this meeting. Fred Wilds provided an update for those in attendance. He said everything is moving along well. PMAA will have a tent at the event, to date 10 previous Homecoming Queens are scheduled to return, there will be a trivia quiz with three prizes awarded, and t-shirts will be given out to the first 100 alumni visiting the tent. Fred Wilds said the committee would meet one more time prior to the event. That meeting will follow the Alumni Association meeting scheduled for October 6.
- **First Edition of Comet Chatter:** Frank shared a copy of the newsletter. He stated that it was done entirely in house at a great savings to the association. He thanked Cindy Rhoades for a great job of setting up the newsletter, Shelley Hodson for updating the mailing list and preparing the labels, and Nancy and Nelson Smith, Dolores Warfel, and Kathy Sangrey for helping him with the mailing of it. The newsletter was well received and will continue to be produced periodically.
- **Letters to Each Member of 2009 Graduating Class:** The letter was sent to approximately 460 students with their last report card. It welcomes them as new alumni and gives them their first year of membership without dues.

The following new business was discussed.

- **Welcome Letter to Kindergarten Students:** Incoming kindergarten students will be given a letter welcoming them as future alumni of Penn Manor School

District. Included in the letter will be a “Welcome to School” pencil. The letters are scheduled for delivery to each elementary building mid-September.

- **Membership Renewal Letter/Homecoming Invitation:** The information was mailed with the newsletter. Annual dues are \$5.00 per alumni or \$7.50 if Penn Manor alumni are married to another Penn Manor alumni. To date approximately 6 alumni have changed their membership from annual to life membership status.
- **Updated Class Contacts List:** A note has been sent to class contacts and most have agreed to continue in that position. Four of the contacts have requested a printout of their class information from the directory. They will compare the Harris information with their information and return any changes to the association for directory updating.
- **Football Alumni Reunion:** Will be held Friday, September 18 at 5:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.
- **Should PMAA Have “Annual” Alumni Banquet This Year:** Frank Geist reported that he had considered going to every other year for a banquet so that it could rotate with the Athletic Wall of Honor which is going to every other year. He asked for input from those in attendance. Nancy Smith stated that she fears attendance would drop if we changed to every other year. Kathy Sangrey asked if there is a financial concern if the banquet is held every year versus every other year. Frank Geist said that he does not feel finances are a concern. He informed those in attendance that the association received a nice amount of money as a result of people sending an extra donation with their registration at the last banquet. The banquet is held in late spring and the consensus was that holding the banquet at Penn Manor is well received. Mike McDonald stated that he favored holding the banquet annually. Frank Geist asked that members give this topic thought until the next meeting. He said a decision would be made at that time.
- **2009/2010 Committee Sign-up Sheet:** Frank Geist said he would bring a sign-up sheet to the next meeting. On that sheet individuals are assigned to the same committees they served on last year. Those individuals will be able to make changes or additions to committees and other individuals in attendance will be able to sign-up for committees they are interested in.

Wish List items.

- **Update Website Plus Create a Presence on FaceBook:** Frank Geist said creating a presence on FaceBook would allow us to reach out to the 20-30 year olds since this is their domain. Updating our website and keeping it current will also be valuable.

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m. on a motion by Linda Millard, a second by Nancy Smith, and a unanimous voice vote of those in attendance.