

Morningside High Monarchs Alumni Association
Board Meeting General Minutes
September 28, 2020
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

- I. **Welcome:** The MHMAA Board meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m. by President Beverly Silsbee. Members present: Beverly Silsbee, Charlene Brax- Ospital, Hal Hunt, Carrie Anthony, Patsy Brierley, George Sirovy, David Bustamante and Dawn Vincent.

- II. **MHS Update:** Beverly gave the Board a brief update on the status of the school and IUSD and the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic. She has been in contact with Dr. Ericka Torres the LACOE appointed administrator for IUSD to update her on the organization's efforts with the MHS community. She also talked to the MHS leadership team about the ways MHMAA could support teachers and students while in the distance learning mode. Dave mentioned that he contacted fellow UCLA Alum, Trustee D'Artagnan Scorza, to share all the ways our organization has helped MHS. Trustee Scorza thanked MHMAA at a recent IUSD board meeting. Beverly reported that former MHS principal, and longtime friend of MHMAA, retired from IUSD. She also noted that due to distance learning, long planned MHS construction projects have been able to continue across the campus without interruption.

- III. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the February 15, 2020 meeting were presented to the Board. A motion was made by Dawn to approve the minutes and was seconded by Carrie. The motion was unanimously approved.

- IV. **Committee Reports:**
 - A. *Finance* - Charlene provided actual financial results through June 30, 2021. Currently we are ahead of budget thanks to very generous Spring Campaign donations. Of note, two alums from the class of 1954 and 1955 donated \$100k each. These funds were provided specifically for scholarships, allowing the Board to increase the annual student awards for the next few years. The actuals included over \$250k in scholarships funds to be used for new, current and qualified graduate students. \$126K was disbursed to current and former MHS scholars. \$5.3k was provided to Silsbee Torch recipients.

 - B. *Teacher Grants* – Beverly provided an overview of grants made to date. As in previous years, MHMAA supported various teacher grants for college trips (Omega Gents), science competitions, library books, special ed technology, mentor meeting expenses (LINKs), robotic team expenses and funds for the principal's teacher appreciation luncheon. In addition funds were provided to help with the cost of mailing out learning packets to students during stay at home orders.

 - C. *Scholarship* - Dave updated the Board on the current scholarship process. Due to the pandemic, the committee presented a process that assumes no in person meetings or interviews would be conducted on campus. Instead, the committee would rely on MHS counselors to choose the top 10 students. The selected students would each receive an

award of \$3k. The checks would be presented at the annual awards ceremony in May or mailed if the event was cancelled. As for past scholars, Charlene has been in contact with the college students receiving annual funds in order to maintain the current database. Charlene has also communicated with the Broady Foundation about their award this year and to coordinate timing to be sure that both organizations avoid possible tax consequences.

- V. **Proposed 2020/21 Budget:** Charlene provided the Board with an overview of the assumptions built into the budget. The 2021/22 budget will assume that \$50k from the Broady Foundation is secured, but no other large donations materialize. In addition, \$3k awards would be provided to all new scholars through 2023, thanks to the large donations received this year. For the 2021/22 school year, Beverly noted that due to the pandemic, teacher grants were not solicited. Given all the unknowns, \$20k will be budgeted for distance learning needs. Previously, MHMAA provided \$6k for the purchase of iPads and stylus at the onset of the pandemic. In addition to teacher and student support, Beverly thinks we should plan to provide financial support for items requested by the incoming MHS principal. Charlene will have a better update on the 2021/22 budget once Spring Campaign numbers are available.

VI. **2021 Election of Officers:**

Beverly Silsbee, President
Hal Hunt, Vice-President and Parliamentarian
Dawn Vincent, Secretary
Nancy Larr, Treasurer
Dave Bustamante, Scholarship Committee Chair
Charlene Brax-Ospital, Finance Committee Chair
Patsy Brierley, Member at Large
Carrie Anthony, Member at Large
George Sirovy, Member at Large

A motion was made by Hal to approve the slate of candidates and was seconded by Patsy. The election of the 2020/21 officers were approved by a unanimous vote.

- VII. **New Business:** Nancy discussed getting better PayPal payment details. She will help Hal with the administration of the payment site.

- VIII. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 4:11 pm.

Respectively Submitted,
Dawn Vincent, MHMAA Secretary