

AUSTIN ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting Date: February 19, 2009

Place: Austin "A" Room

Time: 6:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alex Acosta, Lupe Becerra, David Brown, Nikki Charles, Joan Davis, Diane and Jim Erickson, Joey Fierro, Randy Gschwind, Sylvia Manjarres, Espie Rodriguez, Raul Rodriguez, Beckie Soltero,

GUESTS PRESENT: Lily Fernandez, Sergio Guerrero, Ray Lopez, Isaac Lucero, Ron Perez, David Rivera, Bertha Roque, John Tanner, Martin Trujillo

MINUTES: Minutes were distributed and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Report was distributed and the current balance is \$5,487.81. Of this money \$1000 is reserved for chimes and \$247.29 is reserved for the "A" fund. There are no outstanding payments pending. The current available balance is \$4240.52. Petty cash needs to be replenished. About \$90 is needed. A motion was made and passed to replenish the \$100 in the petty cash fund. A video was made of the lighting of the "A" and the check has been sent to pay for this production, however the check has not been cashed as of yet. This will be coming out of the "A" fund when the check clears.

CHAPLAIN LOPEZ: As per the board's decision from last month. Chaplain Lopez was awarded as an Honorary Panther. Raul Rodriguez presented Chaplain Lopez with a plaque. Chaplain Lopez has been a positive influence on our students. Chaplain Lopez's wife and daughter have also been very generous to our students.

DR TANNER: We are having a great year in sports. Football won district. Soccer took 3rd in state. Our boys basketball team just made it to the playoffs. One of our girls will be competing at state in wrestling. Fine Arts is also very successful. Last year we had 7 students at all region and one went to all state. Orchestra and guitar are also strong. Our theatre team is doing GREASE at El Paso High. Academics is where Austin is currently in some trouble. We are currently in stage 5. Our mock TAKS that was just given show signs of improvement. We are confident that we will be able to meet AYP this year. Austin was the first EPISD school where 100% of the students have taken the SAT. About 90% of our students have already applied to UTEP. Information on College must be introduced to the students when they enter as Freshmen. Alex Acosta reminded the board that New Mexico State also provides in state tuition to El Paso students. On Saturday, February 21, 2009 there will be a Parent Academy. Carlos Flores will be speaking and then there will be breakout sessions for the parents in the classrooms.

Last year there was no A in A. The junior class will be sponsoring A in A this year. It is May 16th in the quad. The theme will be a Hawaiian Luau. Isaac Lucero invited the Alumni Board to chaperone A in A. The prom will be at the Lee Ballroom on Lee Blvd. and will be held on April 18th. There will be a car show here at Austin on the 11th of April.

There was a concern that the band did not march in the Sun Parade. Because the band did not march, none of the other groups from Austin were allowed to participate in the parade. Dr. Tanner assured the board members that this will never happen again.

CHIMES: The Alumni Association is not officially managing the project of the Chimes. The class of 1959 had a reunion in 1989 and they restored the chimes. One of the neighbors complained. Because of that complaint the chimes were not played again. The original machine is still in the building. Lightening did hit the tower in 1971 and damaged the original chimes. Joey has agreed to take on the project of restoring the chimes. The people from Schulmeric Bells came and gave a presentation for a new system. They were offering a laptop type system with fiber optic wiring to the machines. The business office has \$4900 in the chimes fund. The Alumni Association has \$1000 for the chimes fund. James Guye has spoken to Raul and told us that we may have a less expensive alternative to this cost. Joey has been working on getting funds and has collected \$2300 for the chimes. This gives us a current balance of \$8200. Randy will do some research if there is an Alma Mater.

PANTHER PROWLER: Mr. Blackwolf owns the Panther Prowler and would like to donate it to the Alumni Association. The Alumni Association would be responsible for paying for the insurance, inspection sticker and

license plates. Randy says the cost is \$60 each six months for the insurance. Motion made and passed to take over the panther prowler and expenses associated with it. Alex Acosta informed the board that there would be no problems with this as long as it has license plates and the driver has a valid motorcycle license. In return we have agreed to help build a ramp to help Mr. Blackwolf get into his trailer. A motion was made and passed to donate up to \$100 for materials to help build this ramp.

2009 CONCESSIONS: We still do not have a coach for volleyball as of yet. We will table this until we do have a new coach.

2009 GOLF TOURNAMENT: Harvey was unable to attend. Due to the economic situation right now it will be difficult to get the golfers to commit. This will be tabled until next meeting and hopefully Harvey will be able to attend.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP: Joey sent an email to all board members about lifetime memberships. It was suggested that the seniors be presented with a membership card when they are seniors. Dr. Tanner will give the members an opportunity to speak to the seniors during TAKS.

2009 GOLF TOURNAMENT: The committee needs to begin to work on the 2009 tournament at least six months in advance. We would like to see more sponsors, better goodie bags, a presentation dinner/dance, door prizes would make this a great tournament and be a Major fundraiser for us. If we keep it during homecoming, it might be a good idea to have it either the Saturday before or after the homecoming game. This way they can have all day to play and all night to party. Every member of the board should commit to getting one sponsor.

LAPEL PINS: Harvey is unable to attend and this will be tabled until next meeting.

NEWLETTER: Only one new article was added. The new information about this year's outstanding ex. Motion made and passed to mail both in town and out of town newsletters.

NCA CHEER COMPETITION: The Sophomore Class and Student Council are asking for donations for the concession stand on that day. A motion was made and passed to donate \$100 for the concession stand. Additional donations may be made by any board member and will be recognized.

SAM'S MEMBERSHIP: Motion made and passed to renew membership to SAM'S

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be March 26th at Austin in the "A" at 6:00.