



SCA Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: June 10, 2011

Call to Order: 9:35 AM

Meeting adjourned: 10:45 AM

Officers Present: Karen Blando, Diane Gershkowitz, Jeanine Toes, Laura Tranchina, Mary Jane Reilly, Tricia Cash, Peggy Gajdjis, Kathleen Kosciusko

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of 2011 SCA Award Recipients: Elena Dellis and Prinston Palmer

SCA Executive President's Welcome - Karen Blando

- Karen Blando stated the year was a very profitable year and went over the 2011 - 2012 budget in detail.

Review of Interim Board Votes – Kathleen Kosciusko, Executive Secretary

Executive Treasurer's Report – Peggy Gajdjis

- Membership in 2010-2011 was a little low, the directory, speaker's bureau, and 8th grade t-shirts were slightly over budget, but all other areas came in under budget. As a result of the lower Membership numbers, the budget for Membership was set at \$28,000 instead of \$32,000 (2010-2011).
- There are still some Munsey Park and Shelter Rock activities taking place, so we don't have the final numbers for those areas quite yet.
- Ways and Means was a great success. Numbers went from \$105,000 to \$150,000 from the period 2009-2011.

Executive Vice President's Report – Diane Gershkowitz

- The SCA is still committed to the Benefit Bash and Champions for Charity going forward.
- Project Share is reaching new levels. Junior League just donated 125 L.L. Bean backpacks filled with school supplies to be given out to students in need in the Fall. The group is also starting to provide food prior to school events to students in need. They are also collecting dresses, etc. for Frolic.

President's Reports

Jeanine Toes – High School

- The high school recently held student elections for grades 9, 10 and 11 and all Class Officers for '10-'11 are in place.
- The Staff Appreciation Luncheon-Co-Chairs Tammy Kelly (HS) and Loretta Abracciamento (MS) hosted a wonderful luncheon to thank the Manhasset teachers and Staff on May 12th. The food was outstanding and the mood was very festive.
- The SCA provided refreshments for the District's Annual Retirement Tea, which was held on June 1st. This celebration honored retiring faculty members across the district.
- The technology committee is phasing in the Parent Portal, which Dr. Schlanger and Sean Adcroft introduced at our May 13th MS/HS Parent Council Meeting. Please look for more information about this so you can get registered in time to use it in September.
- The Senior Awards took place on June 2nd. The SCA presented the 1st Annual SCA Scholarship to Prinston Palmer and Elena Dellis. The SCA Executive Board felt that these students best exemplified the mission of the SCA. The SCA Head of the Class Awards were also presented at Senior Awards. This award and scholarship is given to students whose GPA places them at the top 20 of the class.
- The SCA sponsored a College Presentation on May 17th. Don Betterton, 30 year Princeton Admissions counselor and author, offered tips on the increasingly competitive college application process. His Powerpoint is on the SCA website for anyone that missed it.
- The Summer Studies Committee finalized the winners earlier this spring with 13 winners receiving over \$12,000 in SCA Summer Studies Awards. The process is rigorous and a great experience for juniors as they prepare for college.
- Two of three mandatory Parent/Student Frolic meetings have taken place. All seniors and guests, accompanied by a parent or guardian, must attend one of the meetings in order to attend the Frolic.
- The Class of 2012, 2013, and 2014 have recently or are about to host their Annual Class Frolic Fundraisers. These social events are early seed money for class Frolics, but more importantly are an opportunity for parents to come together as a class.
- The Graduation Committee, which are the 12th grade GLCs, Senior Class Officers, Mr. Sippin and Mrs. Ferguson have met monthly to plan the 2011 commencement ceremony. The ceremony will take place in the front of the school, with an inclement weather set up in the MS gym. The ceremony will be filmed by our technology department so out of town family and friends can watch it.
- Jeanine states, "I have a final thank you to my wonderful Vice President, June Sutter. It has been a wonderful 2 years of working together. Thank you also to my HS Finance Chair, Diana Cotumaccio, Secretary Donna Gillis, and all of the amazing people on the HS Parent Council. Thank you to Dr. Schlanger, Mr. Sippin and Mr. Vercessi for all that you have done to enhance our children's educational experience."

Mary Jane Reilly – Shelter Rock Elementary School

- Shelter Rock has had two parent council meetings since the last executive board meeting. First, 3/17, Amanda Gimondo spoke to parents about "Bringing Balance into Your Family". Second, 5/10, four teachers presented on the Great Body Shop.
- Earth Week was held the week of April 11-15 and was organized by Planet Manhasset. The students did a Carbon Footprint project and assemblies were held to emphasize the importance of recycling.
- The 5TH and 6TH grade BBQ was held in conjunction with Field Day.
- The annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon was held on May 11.

- Library Week was held in April. Parents dressed as Geronimo Stilton and Revolutionary War figures came to read to our students.
- Shelter Rock published one issue of the newsletter this year, timed to be distributed directly before the budget vote.
- Shelter Rock has sold the majority of the Spiritwear stock and will have one more sale at the final SCA meeting of the year.
- The 6th grade yearbook will be arriving next week.
- Since this is her last president's report, Mary Jane Reilly stated, "I want to take this opportunity to say what an honor and a privilege it has been to serve our community as the President of Shelter Rock School's SCA. I have had the support of an awe-inspiring group of women: Sari Kulka, our VP, Susan Powers our Finance Chair, Anja D'Angelo our secretary, and Diane Kraft our Webmaster, as well as the incredibly enthusiastic and wonderful GLCs and the Committee Chairs. I marvel at their talent, never ending energy, and grace. It has been most rewarding working closely with Robert Geczik. He is an outstanding administrator and leader, a kind hearted person, and he is a lot of fun, too. Perfect qualities for an elementary school principal. I want to thank the Executive Board for their tireless commitment to the SCA and the children of the district. I thought that I had a lot of energy until I met these women! I wish Nancy Schlaefer and Kathy Tiliakos all the best in their time in office. They are going to be amazing!"

Laura Tranchina – Middle School

- The Middle School hosted a Cinco de Mayo dance on Friday, May 6. It was very well attended by 235 students. The proceeds from the dance and Outpost sales, \$1,250 were donated to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief.
- The Secondary School Staff Appreciation Lunch was held on Thursday, May 12. It was a very nice day and the teachers were extremely appreciative.
- The HS/MS Joint Parent Council Meeting was on May 13. Following a guidance update by Jane Grappone, Allison Rushforth gave an overview of the Best Buddies Program that was implemented in the Secondary School last year. Dr. Dean Schlanger also discussed the Parent Portal the school will be implementing in the fall.
- The Middle School held its production of the musical "Annie, Jr." on Friday, May 13 and Saturday, May 14. Everyone who saw it raved about it. It was outstanding. Congratulations to all the students who participated in the production.
- The Middle School held its annual 6th Grade Lunch on the Lawn on Friday, May 27. Over 275 6th grade students had an orientation and tour of the Middle School. They also ate their lunch on the front lawn and were treated to Italian ices by the SCA.
- The 8th Grade students received a "Class of 2015" t-shirt as a gift from the SCA.
- The Middle School had its annual End of Year BBQ/Dance on Friday, June 3. It was beautiful weather and a really fun night with more than 355 students in attendance. Students brought in donations of canned goods for Neil's Wheels and/or donations of toiletries for The INN.
- The Middle School held their spring concerts on Monday, June 6 and Wednesday, June 8. The concerts were wonderful.
- Tonight the Middle School will be hosting its annual Marie Rogers Friday Night Live for incoming 7th Grade students. It is a nice event for students to make new friends and meet their teachers. Students will take part in activities coordinated by the Guidance Department and they will be treated to pizza by the SCA.
- Congratulations to Alex Brobmann, advisor to the Outpost. The donations made this year are from two years of fundraising and are as follows: \$500 to MDA, \$500 to Red Cross

Japan Relief, \$2,731 – used to purchase books which were sent to troops in Afghanistan, \$649 to SEPTA, and \$500 to MWCABC. Part of the funds that the Cinco de Mayo dance donated to the American Red Cross Relief Fund also came from the Outpost.

- The Middle School Valentine's Day Dance and breast cancer awareness pen sales raised \$2000. The monies were donated to the MWCABC. The MWCABC will be receiving a second donation from the Outpost (from the month of February). This donation will amount to \$500.
- SCA MS volunteer form, HS/MS directory form and school supply order form will be posted on the SCA website this week.
- Laura also stated, "Thank you to Karen Blando who is one of the most incredible people I have ever met; how you do it all is a mystery to me. Thank you also to Jeanine Toes who has been so helpful to me and extremely patient as I feel I am always calling her and asking questions. Thank you to Diane Gershkowitz and Mary Jane Reilly both of whom I have enjoyed working with this year. I will miss working with all of you but I look forward to working with Christy Wepler, Lisa Belinsky and Nancy Schlaefer. Good luck to all!"

Tricia Cash – Munsey Park

- The new Munsey Park playground is in and being enjoyed by all!
- Munsey Park had their 5th and 6th grade concert - it was great fun!
- Tricia Cash offers sincere thanks to Caryn Cirella and her team for transporting the Munsey Park Staff to Little Italy for lunch. The multipurpose room looked and smelled spectacular and the food tasted even better.
- National Library week was a big hit with the children. There was a visit from Nancy Drew and a whole cast of characters from great mystery novels.
- The Kindergarten walk through was so much fun. The children were given the opportunity to visit a classroom and draw a self portrait. The parents watched a video of the current Kindergarten experience and heard all about the district from Mr. Cardillo, Dr. Kendall and Tricia Cash.
- Field Day took place on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. The children had a great time even in the record breaking heat.
- Munsey Park will have its final Parent Council meeting on Wednesday, June 15th at 9:30 AM. We are fortunate to have 2 amazing guest speakers: Dr. Shannon Leon a functional neurologist and MaryAnn Jones a certified health coach and certified nutritionist. This meeting was inspired by our new "go healthy" initiative.
- In an attempt to unite all of the parents, Munsey Park has changed the allergy team to a Nutrition committee. The nutrition team will focus on the health and nutrition of all children in the school. It will encompass healthy snacks, alternatives to sugary treats and cakes & safe foods for all food related issues as well as monitoring classroom celebrations.

CASA Report – Cathy Samuels and Lisbeth Shibley

- The CASA group showed a presentation highlighting the key successes from this past year. One important aspect stressed the decision to reach out to the community as a whole and have the messages of CASA supported by all in the community. The activities involving CASA are exciting and being well received by both parents and students.

Liaison Report – Pat Aitken

- Showed appreciation that this was the first time since 2002 that the budget approved with a rate of over 60%.
- The retirement tea and tenure celebrations took place and were both successful.

Superintendent's Report – Charles Cardillo

- The budget was approved with the highest approval rating in many years.
- Charlie thanked the SCA board for all it has done in the past years and stressed that he is very pleased with the partnership between his team and the SCA executive board.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Kosciusko
SCA Executive Secretary