

SCA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Date: April 9, 2010

Meeting Opened at: Call to Order 9:30 AM; End of Meeting 12:20 PM

Officers Present: Karen Blando, Diane Gershkowitz, Jeanine Toes, Caroline Kenlon, Christy Weppeler, Mary Jane Reilly, Jill McCarney, Kathleen Kosciusko

SCA Executive President's Welcome and General Announcements - Karen Blando

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes – Kathleen Kosciusko

- February 5, 2010 minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Jill McCarney

- Membership continues to do well.
- There are many committees wrapping up in the April and May timeframe. The bills from these committees will be reflected in the next treasurer's report.
- Saturday Series has had a very successful year. This does not account for many outstanding bills and once the bills are paid, the budget will reflect the updates.
- The treasurer reports include some Non-Budgeted Activities for the elementary schools. This is because these schools do a great deal of fundraising on their own. As the budget shows, the schools are both doing well financially, however, there are many outstanding bills that will be paid shortly not reflected in the numbers. (i.e., Scholastic for the book fair, Splish Splash)
- The audit fees are over budget. This is a result of the SCA starting the audit process earlier in the year.

Executive Vice President's Report – Diane Gershkowitz

- The SCA is embarking on a new adventure called, Project Share. The project will focus on helping families in the community that are financially challenged.
- Currently, there are 80 children in the Manhasset community who fall into the poverty level category.
- The SCA and the Manhasset schools have been assisting students with academic needs in past years. This is expanding that to include financial need.
- The principals of all schools are very supportive of this new committee and have been working hard to support the effort, transporting students when needed, collecting clothes and donating books).
- Shortly, the SCA website will have a link to Project Share and the link will show the needs at any given point in time so that community members can contribute if they are able.
- The website for Project Share is SCAProjectShare@optonline.net.

O'Keefe CPA, LLC – Tim O'Keefe

- Tim O’Keefe, the auditor for the Manhasset SCA from O’Keefe CPA, LLC, presented information on the financial process and status of the Manhasset SCA.
- For the 2008 year, revenues for the Manhasset SCA amounted to about \$800,000. Expenditures amounted to about \$700,000. Most expenditures were program related and administrative expenses were minimal.
- In August 2010, we will be filing the 990 tax form. It has many more governance type questions on it. These governance questions help the government determine which organizations they want to audit.
- Also, in 2010, there will be a new tax instituted that requires a special tax to be paid on raffles or gaming activities, so any raffles going forward will have to be disclosed as a separate line item in documentation.
- We are currently completing the audit and tax records for the 2009 school year.

Executive Committee Reports

1. Family Theatre (Presented by Jill McCarney)

- Family Theatre did very well this year. The performances put on at Munsey Park were Christmas Carol and Charlotte’s Web. The total profit from these programs was \$2,201.

2. SCA Fall Luncheon – Katherine Lane and Janice Rohlfing

- 305 people attended the fall luncheon.
- The total revenues for the SCA Fall Luncheon amounted to \$46,215. This is an increase of 37% over last year.
- The silent auction raised \$6,000 more than last year. The Calendar Raffle was a new fundraiser that raised about \$4,000. There was a slight decrease in revenues for the 50/50 raffle. The Drop in the Box Raffle revenues increased by about \$12,000.
- There was a \$2,000 increase in expenses over last year.
- All silent auction items were donated by the community.
- Total profit for the luncheon was \$28,676.

Superintendent and Principal Reports

- Superintendent Charles Cardillo and all school principals hosted an open forum focused on bullying in the Manhasset schools. It was well attended, with many community parents sharing their concerns, feedback and ideas on how to mitigate the bullying problems that exist in our school system. Prior to the end of the meeting, Charles Cardillo stated they would consider all discussion points and that the SCA should reconvene on the topic next month to determine next steps.
- Any community members who want to discuss this topic further or share any ideas on the topic should discuss the topic with their children’s school principal.
- Some specific topics discussed include:
 - a. Types of Bullying: physical, verbal, relational, cyber
 - b. Tools Implemented to Tackle the Problem: behavior code, parent conferencing, diversity day, hiring a bullying consultant, project self-esteem, conducting presentations in individual classrooms based on what is taking place in the classrooms, etc.
 - c. Consequences for bullying: apologizing, counseling both the victim and the bully, and time outs or suspensions

- Parents in the audience stressed the need for a documented set of procedures for how bullying is being handled at the school. They also stressed that they would like the school to educate them on the topic so they can support the schools in its effort to minimize the problem of bullying.

President's Reports (School presidents did not present at the meeting due to time constraints, but submitted their highlights to be printed for informational purposes.)

1. Jeanine Toes – High School

- It is a very busy time of year as seniors have received college letters and are making final decisions. Students are gearing up for upcoming SATs, ACTs, AP Exams and Regents.
- The HS has hosted 3 successful dance/proms since January. The Junior Semiformal was in March and was a terrific event and without incident. The SCA will sponsor the "Promenade" in the HS gym for picture taking and light refreshments prior to the Senior Prom on Saturday, April 17th.
- Summer Reading Book Fair order forms will be sent out in late April. The chairperson is Laura Hull.
- Jeanine Toes has attended monthly graduation meetings with Senior Class officers, Mark Sippin, Advisor Robert Novak, and 12th grade GLCs Lis Shibley and Kathleen Katzmann.
- Frolic Chairpersons, Oriana Cyprus and Marie Horowitz, have organized the committees and have frolic plans finalized. They are working with a very enthusiastic group of parents and this event should be a wonderful way for our Seniors to end their MHS days. We are still accepting names for the Class of 2011 Frolic Chairs and Senior Banquet Chairs. Please contact Jeanine Toes if interested.
- The Junior Class Mock Interview Workshop was held on March 16th. Twenty community members conducted mock interviews for over sixty students to prepare them for college and career interviews. The feedback was excellent and we hope to make this an annual event. Thanks to Jennifer Landman and Guidance for spearheading this program.
- The SCA is sponsoring author Peter Van Buskirk and The Admission Game presentation on May 18th at 7:30 PM in the HS auditorium. Parents and students are welcome. We will be selling Peter's book and workbook before and after the event. The presentation will end by 9:30 PM to allow parents time to go to the gym for the Budget Vote.

2. Caroline Kenlon – Middle School

- The Middle School Musical, Beauty and the Beast, was a terrific success performing to large crowds both nights
- MS Friday Night Live was April 16th, featuring band music by teachers and students.
- Help is needed to sell prepaid ride tickets for the SCA Fair on Tuesday, April 20th from 10 AM to 4 PM and on Saturday, April 24th from 10 AM to 1 PM. Please contact Caroline Kenlon (crk7@optonline.net) or Victoria Parisi if you can help.
- A donation from the Manhasset Teacher Retirees was used in the MS/HS to refurbish the cabinet in the main hallway to house memorabilia from graduates of MHS. If

anyone has items that they would like to loan for display, please contact Caroline Kenlon (crk7@optonline.net) or Jeanine Toes (jpto@optonline.net).

- There was a MS/HS Parent Council meeting Friday, April 16th at 9:30 AM.
- 8th Grade NYS ELA Testing is April 26th – April 28th.
- The MS Cinco De Mayo Dance is Friday, May 7th from 7:30 - 9:30 PM.
- The Staff Appreciation Luncheon is Thursday, May 13th. Details will be in the mail shortly.

3. Mary Jane Reilly – Shelter Rock Elementary School

- The bookfair took place. The theme was Take a Trip Around the World and the chairs were Nancy Schlaefer and Elaine Lotruglio. It was a tremendous success, both monetarily and in the enthusiasm by the children.
- There was a parent council meeting on March 11th. Mr. Geczik gave a presentation on class placement and the process by which children and teachers are matched.
- Diversity Day took place. It was run by Mr. Geczik with the help of the SCA. Students arrived in the building to Diversity Music (Ebony and Ivory, We Are The World, etc.). Each child wore a t-shirt representing the color of their birth month to show how different we are in many ways. There was a Chinese Shadow Theater (sponsored by the Chinese American Association of North Hempstead). Each grade had presentations focused on different examples of diversity.
- Shelter Rock was given a gift from the Retired Teachers Association - a set of classic books has arrived and will be on display and available for checkout the first week of May, which is Children's Literature Week.

4. Christy Wepler – Munsey Park

- For Diversity Day, each grade had a speaker/program dealing with acceptance of differences and special needs. Presenters discussed hearing impairment, cerebral palsy, skin conditions, autism, and being caring and accepting.
- There was a joint MP/SR joint SCA parent council meeting focused on "Curriculum Meeting: Part II: Math and Differentiated Instruction". This joint SCA meeting presented the district's math curriculum from K-12. Presenters included the district's math coordinator, Ray Scacalossi, MP's and SR's math specialists and MP and SR 6th grade teachers.
- The entire school had time to jump "continuously" to raise money for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation for the Jump to Cure Diabetes program. The SCA and the gym teachers worked together to plan this day.
- On International Day, the SCA sponsored "Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?" All 960+ students were able to visit "countries" in stations and learn about each one through a scavenger hunt type game involving Dr. Kendall as Carmen Sandiego. The students left with souvenirs from the various countries and some knowledge of the nations represented.
- Kathy Olwy, librarian, and Debbie Cernuto, computer specialist, presented at the MP SCA meeting on Cyberbullying and Internet Safety. It focused on a program designed by Netsmartz to introduce parents and children to methods for keeping the internet safe and talked about how to tackle cyberbullying. The students will be receiving this instruction in their library classes this spring.

- Extended Extras has one more class at MP and then it will be complete. We will not do another session this spring due to all of the testing being done by the world languages teachers. However, we are excited to start the next school year with this program in place. It was a huge success.
- This year's Book Fair theme was a Reading Diner: All You Can Read. The art work created by the MP parents truly set the scene like you were in a diner. The parents were amazing and the children had a great time and bought a lot of books. The SCA makes 25% of the profits from a Scholastic Book Fair.
- Some of the upcoming events at Munsey Park include, National Library Week and MP's final birthday celebration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Kosciusko
SCA Executive Board Secretary