

University High School Alumni Association

Meeting Minutes: July 26, 2022

Present:

Dr. Anthony Jones, David Martin, Dixie Lewis, Debi Grossman, Kathy Murdoch, Marc Leonard, Meghan Pantaleone, Peter Pontius, Ryan Scritchlow, Sara Punke, Tara Nafziger

Absent:

Andrea Markert, Cory Roop, Eric Schlipf, Rob Raycraft, Stacey Meyer, Wilma Bates

Call to Order:

- Minutes of the February 8, 2022 meeting were emailed and approved.

Administration Report:

- Dr. Anthony Jones introduced himself; he has past teaching and administration experience. He has 4 kids, oldest is 27 and youngest is 15 and will be a sophomore at UHS this coming year.
- Dr. Jones asked if we have ever thought of recording our experiences at UHS. Just a thought or idea for the future.
- Dr. Jones also asked about the history of the colors “green” & “gold” and the significance of the “Pioneer”. This will be explained in a future meeting or in a 1x1 meeting.
- What drew him here was the opportunity to work with pre-k through high school and then the university. He also appreciated the ability to bring university students into the classroom. Opportunity to be in two worlds at the same time and bridge those two worlds.
- His passion is around equity and inclusion. He wants to be in a place to work with teachers to help them help whoever is in their room. He see much work that needs to be done with our administrators to support teachers and students.
- Dr Joes would like to meet with us individually to see how he can best support us. He also asked that we open the lines of communication to discuss any conflicts that might arise.

Foundation Report:

- Current balance is \$11,467.

Awards Committee:

- Discussed what awards are provided – Distinguished Award, Hall of Fame Award, Alumni Service Award, and Friends of U-High Award. No monetary gifts

are provided. Lunch is provided to the award recipients and their guests. In more recent years, we have been able to get the award recipients to offer presentations to students during an assembly. There are usually two speakers at the assembly.

- There is a display case with alumni award recipient information in the school.

Newsletter:

- Always published two newsletters per year.
- Last summer we were told that newsletter money was no longer available and that we had to pay for the newsletter out of our own funds.
- Can we send a paper copy to those who want it, and an electronic copy to those that want that?
- The digital cost is about \$40 for a set-up fee per newsletter.

Alumni Relations:

- Reunion being planned:
 - Class of 2012
 - Class of 1992
 - Class of 1972
 - Class of 1962
- Both class of '62 & '72 want to honor their Homecoming Courts. Technically, it's time for the Class of 1972 to honor their courts. Kathy will tell the Class of 1962 that we will not be honoring their court this year.

Homecoming:

- Homecoming date is 9/16; the meal portion of the evening being from 4:30-7:00 pm.
- Food is in motion w/Avanti's – for at least 600.
- Football tickets are free for alumni and families – this is confirmed.
- Orchestras will not be performing during half time as that class is not available this year.
- Will there be a charge for golf carts? This still needs to be determined.
- We agreed to send out the Homecoming announcement post cards; can we add the QR code to the card? This was confirmed and we will add the QR code. 120-mile radius for the cards. Stacey will be assisting with this.
- Corey is hoping to attend the Booster meeting on 9/6; Boosters want to participate; they will have to pre-sale their meals and we need to stand firm on the number of meals they sell; they need to give us a check before the event. Should we ask them to split the building cost with us? Board majority was yes and we need to touch base with the Boosters.
- Horton Field House – we are being told we need to pay \$160 per hour to host our event.
- Need to ask Bob Fitzgerald if he is willing to have his classes help do set up.
- Create a sign-up genius to generate volunteers?

- Donation box will go out; another idea – what if we put envelopes on the table for people to use to put their donations in?
- QR code will be available; perhaps a sign that says something like – “don’t have cash-donate using the QR” code.
- Illinois Soldiers and Sailors Children’s Society (ISSCS) is also having a reunion that weekend as well
- Kathy will take care of contacts for the golf carts and contacting Bob’s classes for set-up of the facility.
- Welcome table discussion:
 - Put QR code on the mailed postcard so alumni can pre-register. Once they do so, send them an email that they show for a food ticket.
 - If they have not pre-registered, send them to Tara (welcome table) to obtain their information.
 - Tara will send excel document w/alumni information to Ryan.
- Magnets - for set up and produce 100 magnets – we need to pay upfront, approximately \$200, at least. If we can get the magnets before Homecoming, we can sell at the event. Further discuss at next meeting.
- One poster for Homecoming – QR code – one to register.
- Perhaps put cards out at the tables with a donation QR code.
- For Dr. Jones - ISU has taken the data base of our alumni and we no longer have access to this information. We need to get access to that database so we can generate volunteers, solicit board involvement, and help those that are organizing reunions.

New Business/Upcoming Meeting Topics:

- Board restructure/development – Kathy needs to be replaced, along with a President-Elect, Treasurer, Data Base Coordinator, and Awards Chair.
- Review our constitution.
- Reconsider some board positions.
- Re-consider attending the senior brunch to advertise the UHS Board.

Old Business:

- We are going to be moving forward with the Spirit Wear Store. We will have a couple of items that alumni will be able to pay for online. They will be able to pick up their items at Homecoming, or they can have the items shipped. T-shirts, sweatshirts, windbreakers, ball caps, beanies, etc.
- Would it be possible to sell era-specific spirit wear? Further discuss at next meeting.
- Can we collect the data from those that buy – so we can continue to enhance our database?

Miscellaneous:

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday, August 30, 2022 at 7:00 PM via Zoom.