

Minutes
Stuyvesant High School Parents' Association
General Meeting
Tuesday, June 17, 2003

Co-President Judy Moore called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Co-Presidents' Report. Judy thanked the chairs of committees and people who had helped with PA activities as follows:

- Carey Meltzer and Angela Fremont-Appel, Program Committee chairs, for arranging wonderful programs and guest speakers.
- Karen Mooney, College Committee chair, for College Night and other informative programs.
- Jane Ritter, Communications chair, for producing on-time and under-budget monthly bulletins.
- Chick Foxgrover, our webmaster, for keeping the website up to date.
- Denis Meadows, Corresponding Secretary, who launched and managed the PA's ListServ.
- Joy Lall, Amy Suh and Stephen Zhang, co-chairs of the Outreach Committee, for arranging outreach meetings that offered information to parents in their native Korean or Chinese. This committee also put together the Directory and, with the help of Linda Lam and Bonnie Song, oversaw the translation of the Parents Handbook into Chinese and Korean.
- Ellie Freudenheim, Open House chair, for organizing the Open House and Orientation, and Hannah Li for organizing volunteers for those events.
- Felice Perlman and Dorothy Schuster, chairs of the faculty reception and Open School Week, for managing their successful events.
- Ellen Rosenblatt and Pearl Schonfeld, co-chairs of the Hospitality Committee, for providing refreshments before each monthly meeting of the Executive Board and General Membership.
- Donovan Moore and Julie Romano, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, for their leadership of the Appropriations Committee.
- Harvey Blumm and Jennifer Chiang, co-chairs of the Phonathon, for their successful efforts to raise money for the PA.
- Bonnie Song and Roger Kim, co-chairs of the Independent Research Committee, who worked to develop additional mentoring relationships and arranged the award ceremony to recognize advisors and mentors.
- Anne Kostick, chair of the Scholarship Committee, for her creativity in the redesign of the scholarship contest.

- David Ross, chair of the Health and Safety Committee, for his leadership as the cleanup related to the Sept. 11, 2001, World Trade Center attack was completed.
- Melanie Arwin, chair of the Bylaws Committee, for her time and effort to review and revise the bylaws.
- All parents who had served on committees and volunteered in other ways throughout the year.

Judy also thanked Stuyvesant staff members Kerneth Levigion and Peggy Harvey for their support of the PA.

Judy also announced that:

- Seniors should pick up their diplomas between 9 and 10 a.m. on June 26 or 27. The Stuyvesant website (www.stuy.edu) has further information regarding diploma pickup.
- NYC public schools have received their budgets for the 2003-2004 school year. Principal Stanley Teitel is studying Stuyvesant's budget.

Minutes. May 20 PA general meeting minutes were accepted as written.

Program: Social Studies Programs, by Assistant Principal Jennifer Suri

Ms. Suri thanked the PA for its support of the school and her department, noting specifically the PA's purchase of subscriptions to the *Economist* and the *Wall Street Journal* for two Social Studies classes.

Ms. Suri reviewed the social studies pages on the Stuy.edu website, which can be found by going to www.stuy.edu, then "Academics" and then "Social Studies." Individual pages on summer programs, internships, courses, etc. can be reached from the main Social Studies page. While reviewing the Courses page, Ms. Suri said students who are waitlisted for advanced placement courses should check back with her to see if seats have opened up because openings can occur as late as the first week of classes. She also described the recently introduced American Studies course (open to juniors) which combines American history and literature with a broad survey of American culture. Course enrollment is still open.

Ms. Suri then introduced Vladimir Kaplinskiy who presented research he had done as part of the Social Science research course, which is taught by Ellen Schweitzer. Vladimir's research

focused on collaboration between nurses and physicians at Mt. Sinai Medical Center. Ms. Suri said that a benefit of research classes is the small class size and the chance to work individually with a teacher. She also said some students learn statistics more easily in the hands-on environment of a research course than they would in a traditional math class.

Treasurer's Report. Donovan Moore reported that (1) the PA will carry over about \$40,000 to next year, as had been approved; (2) that Phonathon receipts are expected to fall below last year's, and (3) that the Appropriations Committee recommends the membership approve a request from history teacher Matt Polazzo for \$1,500 to support students going to the "We the People" competition run by the Justice Resource Center. A motion to approve the expenditure was seconded and passed.

Reports and New Business

Bylaws. Co-President Dale Bernstein presented a revised set of bylaws that had been approved by the Executive Board on May 6 and presented to the PA on May 20. She noted that the Executive Board had approved each provision of the revised bylaws by at least a two-thirds vote. She said the bylaws have been posted on the PA website for several months and, with the exception of comments discussed by the Executive Board, no comments have been received from the general membership. Dale noted that several key people as well as the Executive Committee as a whole spent significant amounts of time on the revision and recommended the bylaws be approved. She also noted that the incoming presidents of the PA have recommended that the revised bylaws be rejected. A motion to approve the revised bylaws was made and seconded. Passage requires a vote of two-thirds in favor.

Lori Pandolfo, incoming co-president of the PA, read a statement signed by herself and incoming Co-President Linda Lam asking parents to vote no. She said parents need more opportunity to understand the proposed amendments and that "...we pledge to revisit the Amendments to the By-Laws in the fall and insure pertinent proposed changes are presented in a format that is understood by all members of the Parent Association."

Melanie Arwin, Chair of the Bylaws Committee, said that the bylaws currently in use by the PA do not comply with the NYC Schools Chancellor's regulations. She noted that failure to pass the revised bylaws means that the PA will not add a standing committee on health and safety.

The question was called and the vote on the revised bylaws was 27 in favor and 24 opposed, therefore failing for lack of a two-thirds majority.

Recognition of Senior Parents

Dale recognized the following senior parents for their work on behalf of the PA: Angela Fremont-Appel, Joy Lall, Roger Kim, Donovan Moore, Judy Moore, Russell Pinsley, Dorothy Schuster and Sheldon Stachel.

David Ross, 2nd Vice President of the PA, thanked Dale and Judy for their tireless work as co-presidents. Each was presented with flowers and a gift from members of the Executive Board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Ritter, Recording Secretary