



SHHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION • P.O. BOX 152742 • ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76015 • WWW.SHHSTEXANS.ORG

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Location: Candlelite Inn Restaurant – Arlington, Texas

Attendees: See Sign-In Sheet

- Welcome and Call to Order was at 7:00pm, followed by Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance.
- Erica Garcia read April Minutes. Laura Heymann moved to accept the minutes as read; Bob Callas second; motion approved.
- Nicia Harrison read April Treasurer's Report. Jay Thomas moved to accept the report as read; Bob Callas second; motion approved.
- Darla Peznell
 - Spoken on behalf of Mr. Benavides for the Big Sam Update:
 - SHHS had great week of testing with a record high of 95% attendance.
 - Senior Awards Night would be held on May 24th.
- Carol Oldham
 - Provided information on the Arlington Athletic Hall of Fame.
 - The organization holds two annual events: the Coach Eddy Peach Gold Tournament, as well as the Tom Vandergriff Night of Champions.
 - The Hall of Fame honors AISD athletes by the decade for their athletic record. This year, the honorees from Sam Houston are Jose Ortiz for Male Athlete of the Year, and Cody Adams from the Arlington Police Department for Volunteer of the Year.
 - This year, the event would be held on May 31st.
 - More information can be found at www.arlingtonhallofhonor.com.
- Darla Peznell
 - Teacher Appreciation Week is typically the week of May 7th through May 11th. However, events would be moved to the next week.
 - On Monday, May 14th, the event would be Cookies and Lemonade. Volunteers would report to the Principal's Conference Room at front of building.
 - The alumni would be sponsoring this event by purchasing the cookies and drinks.
 - On Wednesday, May 16th, the event would be the Annual Baked Potato Luncheon.
 - The alumni would only be providing volunteers for this event.
 - If interested in volunteering, attendees should contact Darla. More volunteers would be needed on Wednesday.
- Bob Callas
 - The Bell is now being housed at Bob's dad's house.
 - The Class of 1968 had rented the Bell for their reunion on May 19th.
 - There is a Wall of Fame being created and going up at SHHS. Four alumni are

being recognized this year.

- Lisa Love – Class of 1974, part of the Bell Guards. Went on to college and became teacher then coach at USC. Went to Arizona State University as first female athletic director in US.
- Tashunda Brown Duckett – Chief Operating Officer at Chase Bank.
- Penny Wilrich – Attended law school and now works pro bono on cases. Was part of the AZ State Supreme Court. Now Dean of a law school in Phoenix.
- Steve Martindale – Began working part time at Six Flags. Now Chief Operating Officer of Six Flags nationwide.
- Long Tall Texan Committee met twice to review all nominations. They have selected Melynda Brooks Merrifield for the 2018 Long Tall Texan Award.
- Erica Garcia
 - Reminder to pay membership, which is part of the requirements to vote in the June elections.
- Judy Thomas
 - Passed around sign-up sheets for Budget Committee (Summer) and Tellers Committee.
- Mike Ledford
 - Presented slate for 2018-19 board:
 - President – Sheila Young
 - Vice President – Al Critz
 - Secretary – Erica Garcia
 - Treasurer – Jayme Thomas
 - Public Relations Chair – Darla Peznell
 - Parliamentarian – Melynda Merrifield
 - Social Chair – Al Critz
 - Thanked everyone who served on the committee.
- Darla Peznell
 - Provided the Scholarship Committee update and decision. Over \$10,000 in scholarship funds are being awarded. The committee decided they would give away majority of the funds this year.
 - 7 recipients selected in the following amounts:
 - \$2,500
 - \$2,000
 - \$1,500
 - \$1,000 (4 applicants)
 - Amounts selected based on applications.
 - In past year, there was an alumni who funded a scholarship award through the alumni association. This year, per rubric, one student didn't rank but touched two committee members' hearts. Two alumni are funneling money through association to include this student as a scholarship recipient.
 - Thanked everyone who served, including Jayme Thomas who worked through academic section of the rubric for all applicants. This allowed the rest of the committee to focus on essays and profiles.
 - Updated questions really helped committee to understand the student's stories

and how they feel about being a Texan.

- Many scholarship committee members had great things to say about the committee and shared their stories/feelings about the applications and entire process.
- Fourth of July Parade
 - There is a plan ready, and Michelle Thomas-Wherley has started working on examples. Jayme Thomas explained design planned for float.
 - Kimon Wherley is working on building collapsible benches to support band members.
 - Plan for craft dates in June. (Events will be posted on Facebook.)
- General Comments
 - Justin Chapa (Class of 2001) will continue to serve on AISD Board. He will run next May again. Heidi Allison (Class of 1999) of Sugar Bee Sweets Bakery won Small Business of the Year Award from the Arlington Chamber of Commerce. (Laura Heymann)
 - The Non-Profit of the Year Award went to River Legacy. (Darla Peznell)
 - Advanced Academics teachers are planning end of year celebration for students testing in May. This event included any student in IB, AP, and dual credit class. Possibly around 200 students. They hoped to have pep rally, but it was canceled because of Decision Day event. The teachers have changed the celebration to another day. However, they found out there was no more money in budget for an event of this kind. They were trying to find ideas to get food, prizes, etc. (Jayme Thomas)
 - Darla Peznell suggested Student Achievement budget line item of \$300 to be provided to this event.
 - Reminder that we had not used the \$50 Texan Day budget line item.
 - Mike Mullen made motion to move the Student Achievement budget line item of \$300 to the Advanced Academics celebration; Melynda Merrifield second; none opposed; motion approved. (Check would be issued to Poppy Moore.)
 - There are 733 students in the Senior Class, and over half of students have some kind of scholarship money. Estimated \$4.2 million dollars this year. (Melynda Merrifield)
- Meeting adjourned at 8:08pm.