



SHHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION • P.O. BOX 152742 • ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76015  
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## **March General Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 6:30pm**

**Location:** Zoom

**Board Members in Attendance:** Laura Heymann, Darla Peznell, Erica Garcia, Jayme Thomas

**Board Members Not in Attendance:** Jo Anna Cardoza

**Additional Attendees:** See Sign-In Sheet

*\*The President and Secretary were present at the meeting.*

- Welcome and Call to Order was at 6:32pm, followed by Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence.
- Laura Heymann announced that February Minutes were posted online. There were no corrections offered, and therefore the Minutes were approved as posted.
- Speakers
  - Juan Villarreal (Principal)
    - Tex-Annes traveled to the ATE Texas State Championship and brought 10 trophies home! They did a phenomenal job! Last week, Orchestra group scored 1s across the board at their UIL competition. Great job Orchestra!
    - For academics, students are showing improved scores in comparison to last year's benchmark.
    - The campus has had closed lunch since November in order to keep students and faculty/staff safe. Positive feedback has come from parents for this change. According to district, SHHS is declining with discipline referrals, as opposed to other schools staying steady or rising with their numbers. Grades and attendance are improving with these changes.
- Admin Updates
  - Scholarship Committee
    - Had call for volunteers during February General Meeting as well as sent out invites to past committee members. Committee is ready to go, but we're still accepting additional volunteers.
      - Anyone else interested in joining the committee should send an email to [info@shhstexans.org](mailto:info@shhstexans.org). The more, the merrier!
    - Received due date for recipient list, as well as tentative Senior Awards Night at SHHS. Committee members should receive email with timeline very soon!
  - Review of Bylaws
    - Bylaws currently state that a minimum of six (6) meetings are required per year. Based on the recent strategic planning and brainstorming sessions, the Board planned for ten (10) meeting this year, with a virtual and in-person combination to begin. However, the Board is requesting feedback on the best way forward, specifically with number of meetings to be held.
    - Bylaws also state that board terms moving forward would be for two (2) years. This is another update was that made at the beginning of the 2019-20 term, prior

to the pandemic. With many still feeling the impacts from the pandemic, the Board would like input for the ideal the length of a board term (i.e. going back to one year vs keeping it at two years per the recent bylaw update).

- Received input from those in attendance, including the following...
  - Change back to one (1) year board terms, with the option for board member to stay on for second term if running unopposed and/or having stated their intent to stay within the same position.
  - Initial move to two (2) year board terms was because of the learning curve associated with member's first year and how smoother the second year is for most.
  - From a board perspective, it would be more enticing to commit to six (6) meetings versus monthly (12) meetings.
  - Quarterly meetings may be beneficial, with two (2) in-person meetings during busy seasons. Committee meetings could be held as-needed.
  - Zoom meetings are more convenient for those who would like to avoid driving times, scheduling conflicts, etc.
  - Create member survey to gather additional feedback.
- Proposed bylaw changes will be presented at April General Meeting.
- Elections
  - Suspension of Rules
    - Board has suggested to suspend participation/attendance rule (five [5] events) for upcoming board elections in order to encourage more members to run. This rule might also need to change permanently as meeting opportunities may dwindle in the next year.
    - Robert's Rules of Order allow for temporary suspension of rule, for a temporary purpose.
  - Letters of Intent
    - Letters of Intent due TONIGHT, Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>! Any person interested in joining the board should submit their letter to [info@shhstexans.org](mailto:info@shhstexans.org) by 11:59pm. All letters will be turned over to the Elections Committee for next steps.
    - Anyone looking to run for elections is encouraged to read the current Bylaws, specifically Article VI (Positions and Responsibilities) and Article V (Election Protocol).
  - Volunteers for Committee
    - Laura Heymann, Erica Garcia, and Mike Mullen have volunteered for the committee. Responsibilities include gathering/reviewing the Letters of Intent, contacting alumni who may not have submitted a letter but could be a great addition to the board, putting together the formal nomination slate, sharing the slate with the Board Secretary to present at the April General Meeting, and tallying the votes at the election at the May General Meeting.
- Long Haul Texan Award
  - The Long-Haul Texan Awards were created in 2019 to honor long-time volunteers. The first awards were given to founding board members from the 90s who stayed active and supported the new association after it become a 501(c)(3) registered non-profit. This award allows the association to thank Texans more often than just the annual Long Tall Texan Award given by SHHS at graduation.

- If you know any Texans who have been long-time volunteers and been instrumental in moving the organization forward, please send their info and why you think they should be honored to [info@shstexans.org](mailto:info@shstexans.org). (There is no formal application - we are excited to read all your emails!)
  - Questions regarding the Long Tall Texan Award and Track/Cross-Country Meets came up. Laura Heymann will reach out to SHHS administration to ask what the Long Tall Texan Award process will look like this year, along with a potential nomination. Laura will also contact Coach Hill to ask for upcoming track meet information and how the alumni can show up to support in honor of Mike Ledford.
- Program Updates
  - Texans Helping Texans Program
    - Currently at about \$2,400 in donations so far this school year, by working directly with Cindy Newton at SHHS.
      - Fulfilled request via Amazon Wish List, valued at \$1,000. Itemized list is below...
        - Luvs diapers (size 6) qty 1
        - Huggies diapers (size 4), qty 3
        - Huggies diapers (size 5), qty 3
        - U by Kotex Feminine Pads, qty 5
        - Munchkin Trainer Cups, qty 3
        - Munchkin Sponge Bottle Brushes, qty 8
        - Munchkin Snack Catcher, qty 4
        - Munchkin Suction Bowls, qty 2
        - TOMY Toddler Bowls, qty 2
        - Similac Baby Formula, qty 2
        - 40-count bottled water, qty 3
        - S sweatpants in "charcoal" color, qty 10
        - S sweatpants in "jet black" color, qty 10
        - M sweatpants in "jet black" color, qty 10
      - Fulfilled request for snacks, valued at \$300.
      - Fulfilled surprise order via Amazon Wish List, valued at \$325. Itemized list is below...
        - U by Kotex Feminine Pads, qty 5
        - Caption the Baby Card Game, qty 1
        - Motivational Stress Balls (5 pk), qty 2
        - Munchkin Fork and Spoon Set (6 pcs), qty 2
        - Tangkula 72" Storage Shelves, qty 1
      - Fulfilled request for 100 pairs of sweatpants in various sizes, valued at \$850.
    - Alumni Support Applications (ASAs)
      - Currently at about \$2,500 in fulfilled requests, for a total of six (6) donations.
        - Most amount donated was to TexAnnes, who received a \$800 check to help fund participation in the 2021 Dallas Holiday Parade.
        - Most recent donation was for the Black History Month Committee, who received a \$350 check to help cover meal costs for staff/faculty luncheon.
    - Staff Appreciation
      - Received request for teacher/staff snacks during testing season, which began in December. Testing coordinator received a batch of snacks in November (valued at \$140) for fall testing, and will receive additional snacks later in a couple weeks (end of March) for spring testing (budgeted at \$250).

- Will start prepping for Teacher Appreciation Week soon.
  - School Spirit
    - The water tower makeover has been on a list of potential spirit gifts. However, the tower may now be part of the bond package that will cover renovations of Wilemon Field. Laura Heymann will reach out to SHHS administration to find out if it will be taken care of, and if the alumni can have some feedback on design and/or a ribbon cutting ceremony.
    - The association has continued to maintain and store the Sam Bell at the rented storage unit, and David Inman received 2 reimbursement checks to cover the cost of travel and gas during the recent football season.
  - Scholarships
    - The 2022 process has begun. See details above!
    - For the 2021 recipients, another scholarship (\$1,000) has cleared. This was for a student who requested to hold the funds for her Spring semester due to a financial aid conflict.
      - Remaining funds include the Haile-Mariam Scholarship (\$1,000) recipient, who received approval from the family to hold funds until her sophomore year for study abroad, and an SHHS Alumni Association Scholarship recipient who has not reached back out despite multiple attempts to be contacted. This final amount (\$500) will likely go back into the general fund.
- Jayme Thomas shared February-March Treasurer's Report. All questions were answered by the Treasurer, and the Treasurer's Report was filed.
- No questions or comments.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.
- Minutes submitted by Secretary, Erica Garcia.