



SHHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION • P.O. BOX 152742 • ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76015
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May General Meeting

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 6:30pm

Location: East Library and Recreation Center – Arlington, Texas

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

Board Members Not in Attendance: Darla Peznell

Additional Attendees: See Sign-In Sheet

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

- Welcome and Call to Order was at 6:34pm, followed by Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence.
- Laura Heymann announced that April Minutes were posted online. There were no corrections offered, and therefore the Minutes were approved as posted.
- Jayme Thomas shared April-May Treasurer's Report. All questions were answered by the Treasurer, and the Treasurer's Report was filed.
- Elections
 - Laura Heymann thanked committee members (Nicia Dibben, Fernando Benavides and Michael Mullen) for their time and effort.
 - Nicia Dibben, Elections Committee Member, reviewed the slate:
 - President – Laura Heymann
 - Vice President – Darla Peznell
 - Secretary – Erica Garcia
 - Treasurer – Jayme Thomas
 - Assistant Secretary – Jo Anna Cardoza
 - In following Robert's Rules of Order, Laura asked for any nominations from the floor for each position. No individuals ran from the floor.
 - Nicia Dibben motioned to accept the slate as proposed, considering that no individuals ran from the floor; motion as seconded by Michael Mullen; motion approved.
 - The 2021-2022 board term, which begins on May 31st, is as:
 - President – Laura Heymann
 - Vice President – Darla Peznell
 - Secretary – Erica Garcia
 - Treasurer – Jayme Thomas
 - Assistant Secretary – Jo Anna Cardoza
- Announcements
 - Strategic Plan Updates
 - Nearly all Q1 goals have been completed already, with increasing memberships and creating a leadership pipeline becoming the next big project. This project is being finalized and will go live in the summer. Association will reach out to past members and supporters to encourage them to join as a member for 2021-22.
 - The full strategic plan and all quarterly goals can be found on our website at www.shhstexans.org/strategic-plan.
 - No meeting in July to continue working along with the school year. No major updates but need to work on them during summer.
 - Alumni Legacy Video Project

- The project is still ongoing! In case you haven't heard... we are creating a legacy video of SHHS alumni from all through the decades, telling stories about their time at SHHS in their own words. Think of it as something of a video time capsule. Only WE, as alumni, can tell the story of SHHS through the years, so we want to preserve it!
- Alumni are asked to choose 1-2 questions (found below) and tell a couple short stories on camera.
- Questions/Topics:
 - Tell us about an SHHS teacher, coach, or faculty member who had a positive impact on your life.
 - Tell us about your favorite SHHS traditions.
 - Do you have any special SHHS memories or stories to share (dances, pep rallies, homecoming, notable athletics events, competitions, awards, etc.)?
 - Do you know of any past newsworthy stories about SHHS or SHHS Alumni that should be documented?
 - Tell us what it means to you to be a Sam Houston Texan.
 - What are some of your best style, music, or pop culture memories from your years at SHHS?
 - How did you come to be involved with the Alumni Association? Tell us about the roles you've held as a volunteer and what it means to you to give back to SHHS.
 - What is your favorite part of being involved with the SHHS Alumni Association?
- If you were unable to come to the meeting, don't worry - this will be a progressive project and we'll keep collecting these memories at various events moving forward. Another option is to schedule a time to chat with you over Zoom, and we'll record your answers that way.
- SHHS Updates
 - Our overall projects were discussed for prospective member educations
 - SHHS Funding Updates
 - We expect next year to have a large influx of funding requests if students are back in-person learning and the COVID-19 pandemic eases up.
 - The funding requests that have been completed since our last update include...
 - Family Engagement Team – Provided (4) \$50 gift cards to Walmart. The gift cards were to encourage attendance for the drive-thru event held on March 31st. Students and their families were asked to come by the school to receive useful information regarding the Spring semester.
 - Family Engagement Team – Issued \$1,000 check to help fund activities and items for the Senior Parade.
 - PEP – Provided \$100 Target gift card, \$200 Walmart gift card, and private donations of clothes/diapers for younger children in family. Cindy Newton, the PEP coordinator, contacted the association for any help that could be given to a family in need that reached out to her. The family has 1 student who is an SHHS senior, as well as 3 younger children.
 - Senior Parade Volunteer Request
 - SHHS will need volunteers on Tuesday, May 25th to assist during the Senior Parade. Any volunteers should be at the East Parking Lot at noon.
 - 2021 Scholarships

- The association is currently awarding the following...
 - SHHS Alumni Association Scholarship
 - Judy Thomas Memorial Scholarship (est. 2019)
 - Laurie Cree Flynn Memorial Scholarship (est. 2019)
 - Benavides-Semones Scholarship (est. 2020)
 - Jo Ann Goolsby Memorial Scholarship (acquired 2021)
 - Haile Mariam Scholarship (acquired 2021)
- More details on each scholarship can be found on our website at www.shstexans.org/scholarships.
- The total amount to be given out this year is \$11,000 – this is the largest amount ever awarded in one year! Twelve students will receive a scholarship.
- Open Discussion
 - Alum Chris James (Class of '93) started teaching and coaching at SHHS this year. He has created Facebook group for past athletes/cheerleaders. Within 4 days of creating the group, he had already connected 186 members. Chris is thinking of ways to harness those alumni in a special way (i.e. mentoring, speakers, etc). He will be working on collecting contact information and will connect with the association to create a database of potential mentors/speakers for SHHS.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.
- Minutes submitted by Secretary, Erica Garcia.