

Brandywine High School Alumni Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2008

In Attendance:

Leslie Collins
Sarah Hearn
Frank Laganosky
Kevin Lyons
Laird Robbins
Pamm Ferris Tweed

Donna Corda Gordon
Donna Savage Hoffecker
Cyndi Mitchell Lehm
Bob Ralston
Michael Salemi

Alice Haslam
Bonny Bagnatori Krause
Michael Louis
Nancy Harshman Ralston
Paul Thompson

Bonny Krause called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. She welcomed everyone and began by introducing herself, which continued around the room. She read the following mission statement of the Brandywine Alumni Association (BHSAA) from the brochure: "The purpose of the Brandywine High School Alumni Association (BHSAA) is to encourage a beneficial relationship between BHS and its alumni, provide services for alumni, and foster financial and other support for BHS and its students."

Secretary's Report: (Cyndi Lehm)

Cyndi reported that the last Board meeting minutes from February 28, were approved by the Board, and are posted on the BHSAA website. The minutes from tonight's meeting, after approval by the Board, will be posted on the website. Anyone who would like to read the draft of the minutes for approval before posting on the website, was asked to tell Cyndi after the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: (Kevin Lyons)

Kevin reported that there is \$3,504.96 in the BHSAA account. Of that amount, \$1,976.00 has been set aside for the brick paving project. The remaining \$1,528.96 is available for ongoing activities.

Committee Reports:

Brick-scape: (Leslie Collins)

Leslie reported that Phase I of the brick paving project is completed. During the construction of the project, it was discovered that there is a spring under the existing flagpole. The brick walkway, with blank bricks, replaces the slate that was there, from the curb to the flag pole. To date, we have orders for 45 bricks. They have been ordered, and should arrive in 4-5 weeks. The cost to buy a brick is \$100, and the order form is on the BHSAA website. There was some discussion about the cost of the bricks, but it was decided to keep the cost as is.

Fundraiser: (Kevin Lyons)

Kevin has scheduled a cocktail fundraiser on Tuesday, September 23, at Conley-Ward's Steakhouse on the Waterfront in Wilmington. He has had experience with this type of fundraiser, and said that it works quite well. The restaurant serves a large assortment of free hors d'oeuvres for Happy Hour and music on the outside deck. The only cost will be for beverages. His goal is to get sponsors for the bar bill, and gift donations for a Chinese auction. The cost for tickets has not been decided. We will need volunteers for this event.

Unfinished Business:

Bonny commented that we now have a draft of the by-laws for BHSAA. We will gladly e-mail a copy to anyone wishing to read them. The Board will adopt the by-laws at the next Board meeting. Once they are approved, they will be posted on the website.

New Business:

Bonny stated that Cyndi Lehm's and Kevin Lyons' Board seats have expired. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to re-elect both of them to the Board for another 3 year term. The draft by-laws state that there should be an uneven number of Board members, so BHSAA needs another member. Donna Hoffecker volunteered. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to elect Donna to the BHSAA Board for a three year term.

Bonny relayed an idea from Kevin Donohue, a BHS alumni. He suggested purchasing a bench for the outside of BHS, and selling engraved plates to attach to the bench. The group decided to just continue with the sale of bricks for now, and re-visit the idea at a later date.

Bonny said that October 25, 2008 marks the 50th year of Brandywine High School. BHS's Student Council, along with staff, are planning a big celebration. Bonny shared some ideas that she received from Ken Rivera, Student Council teacher advisor and the BHS Student Council:

Separate tents designated for alumni who graduated in the 60's, 70's, 80's, 90's, and 20's or having the school gymnasium open for alumni to gather Inclusion of alumni in the Homecoming parade; former Homecoming Kings and Queens could be transported in convertibles Alumni to construct a float to be included in the parade The day should be more of a family oriented event, with games, and involve the entire community Sports competitions between alumni and current students If an alumni dance is planned, it should be separate from the student Homecoming dance.

Bonny shared information that she received from Jodi Linton, 1998 graduate, about a fundraiser that she is participating in. She is hiking in the Rocky Mountains this coming summer for the Hike for Discovery to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Donations should be received by May 1, 2008, and are 100% tax deductible. For more information go to Jodi's homepage at www.active.com/donate/hfdepa/hfdjLinton1. The Board decided that the BHSAA would not make a donation as a group, but Bonny encouraged individuals to donate.

Frank Lagonosky, 1973 graduate, talked about a Brandywine HS Football Booster Tournament and Cookout on Wednesday, June 11. Rain date, June 12. It will be held at Rock Manor Golf Course. The cost is \$100 per player, which includes the green fee and cart, balls, and cookout. Anyone is welcome to come for the cookout for the cost of \$20. For more information, call Bob LeCompte at (302)-530-4305 by June 1, 2008. A flier has been added to the BHSAA web page.

Donna Hoffecker stated that the website, www.oldwilmington.net, is a good site to visit, and we should ask them to put a link to BHSAA on their website. She will find out how to do that.

Bonny mentioned that BHSAA has made a \$250 cash award to the male and female winners of the Brandywine Award in 2006 and 2007. The ultimate goal of the BHSAA is to have our own Alumni scholarship to be awarded each year.

There was further discussion about ways to increase alumni participation. We will update information on the website and continue to inform alumni by e-mail to gain support.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cyndi Lehm, BHSAA Secretary