

**Lowell Alumni Association
Minutes of the Thursday, September 29, 2016
Board of Directors Meeting
Meyer Library**

Call to Order

President, **John Trasviña** called the Lowell Alumni Association (LAA) Board meeting to order at 6:11 p.m. There were a few guests in attendance. There were introductions of all individuals who were in attendance.

Approval of minutes

A motion was made by **Joe Ehrman** to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2016 Board of Directors meeting. **Vera Poon and Bob Lee** seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection by voice vote. Secretary, **Anita Payton** thanked **John Trasviña** and **Terry Abad** for their contributions to the minutes. **Bob Lee** presented a commendation for **Anita Payton** in recognition of her work as Secretary.

Executive Director's Report

Terry Abad reported that there have been a lot of special events. Lowell Alumni participated in the graduation. **Mark Budak** added that there were about twenty people in attendance. **Terry** stated that the most senior participant was from the Class of 1941.

Terry announced that this has been an active reunion season. There was a great small reunion celebration for the Class of Spring 1941 on June 11 at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. This is the same date exactly 75 years after they graduated from the Opera House. There were six class members plus six spouses and friends who raised their glasses at 2:00 p.m. in a toast.

The Class of 1996 celebrated their 20 year reunion in August at the Minna Street Gallery. The Class of '56 had a nice 60th year reunion at the Spinnaker Restaurant. The 30 year reunion for the Class of '86 was this past Saturday at Harding Park; it was a fun event. The 40 year reunion for the Class of 1976 is coming up on October 22nd at Delancey Street.

Terry announced that the 2015-16 Fund Campaign has wrapped up. There were some nice donations in May and June. Currently working on developing materials for the next campaign. The target date for the next campaign is late October.

Terry said that **Georgette Petropoulos** stated that the target deadline for the Alumni Newsletter to be completed is in November. The deadline for submitting materials is October 15.

The LAA will be filing the tax return for the first full year under the new fiscal year format of July 1st to June 30th. The next return will reflect the time period of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. **Terry** added that the Class of 1996 has set a goal for a fund of \$25,000 to support student programs. Class of 1966 has a gift program to fund Lowell Track & Field.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, **Leon Blum** reported that as of last week the status of the funds is about the same. The accounts are up by \$7,000. The Stock Market is somewhat shaky and the Fed will probably start rising interest rates. **John Trasviña** asked **Leon** for his suggestion regarding the stock market (in relation to investments). **Leon** stated that it is difficult to guess the stock market and he would advise against making any changes right now.

President's Report

John Trasviña began his report by announcing the board members who have stepped down from their seats:

King Lip

Bruce Spiegelman

Paul Tam

Rita Yee

John commented on the value of having good structure on the Board. **John** issued a thank you to the departing members for their service. He made a statement about moving forward to the new outreach activities.

Matt Haney, President of the Board of Education, announced his support to rename George Washington High School because President Washington had owned slaves and to establish a process to rename other San Francisco public schools. **John** informed the presidents of the Washington High and Balboa High alumni associations about the idea. The associations are monitoring developments on the idea.

John mentioned that the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) did a documentary about diversity in elite public schools. He added that there is lots of interest in this issue.

John stated that he will invite Lowell principal, **Andrew Ishibashi** to come and talk at the next Board meeting in November.

John stated that the By-Laws Working Group is continuing work to restructure the by-laws. **Vice-President, Mike Ugawa** has done great work in leading the group process in this endeavor. **John** thanked **Mike** for leading this process. The goal is to get the materials of the new proposed by-laws out to members before the November Board meeting. **Mike Ugawa** reported members should receive a copy of the proposed new by-laws about two weeks prior to the November Board meeting. The copy will be 39 pages and **Mike** is asking that members please review them prior to the meeting. Would like to get through the review process at the November meeting as efficiently as possible.

John reported there was a meeting regarding the **Low** family fund. The meeting was attended by Committee members **John Trasviña, Mike Ugawa and Wendy Shinbori** also in attendance was **Low** family representative **Arnold Low**. The focus of the meeting was to look at ways to utilize the gifts received from the **Dr. Serene Low** and **Dr. Ronald Low** Trust. Currently using some of the monies from the **Low** gift for scholarships.

The Legal Committee, composed of **Mark Steiner, Mark Budak, Lisa Clay** and **Gerri Rosen-Park**, is working on resolving the status for the current Executive Director as an employee versus independent contractor. It is moving in the direction of the status as an employee. This could also be an opportunity to look at the structure and components of the position itself. **John** said if anyone has ideas regarding what they want the position to look like please notify himself or the Legal Committee.

Reports of Standing and Strategic Planning Committees

Nominating Committee:

Scott Lee, Chair of the Nominating Committee, on behalf of the nominating committee (**Joseph Ehrman, Anita Payton, Vera Poon, and Mark Steiner**), presented a recommended slate of candidates for membership for a time period of 14 months to fill open seats on the board which will expire in 2018:

Scott Lee and **Vera Poon** moved and seconded a motion that we approve the following persons for membership:
Orpheus Crutchfield '85

Emily Hagerman '01

Kate Lazarus '01

Tony Lee '69

Wendy Shinbori '68

The motion passed without objection by voice vote.

Finance Committee:

Chairperson **Bill Black** announced that the Finance Committee (**Terry Abad, Leon Blum, Bob Lee, Scott Lee, Vera Poon, Paul Tam and John Trasviña**) held two meetings over the summer.

Long term goal over a two year time period is to develop an accounting policies and procedures manual as recommended by the audit report.

Bill presented the 2016-2017 Proposed General Fund Budget. There was a discussion about the proposed use of \$55,000 of the PAUL Fund money to balance the 2016-17 General Fund budget. (The PAUL Fund totals over \$565,000.) **Wendy Shinbori** and **Joe Ehrman** shared the history and information about the creation of the PAUL Fund (created by **Paul Lucey** and **Joe Ehrman**). There was a general discussion regarding income, operating costs and concern about the use of the PAUL Fund.

Mike Ugawa made a motion to approve (the) proposed budget as presented with the understanding that line item for income transferred from PAUL Fund will not, in fact, be used without further approval by the board.

The motion was seconded by **Vera Poon** and passed without objection by voice vote.

Development Committee:

Mark Budak reported that the Development Committee met and discussed the theme of the 2016-17 Annual Fund Campaign. The discussion focused on student support. **Mark** discussed a proposal for putting together an Access and Opportunity Fund. Currently the students cover the costs for participating in different activities (nicknamed "Pay to play") e.g. football or cheerleading. Looking at the idea that students attending a public school should receive their education without covering these costs.

There has been a fact finding mission to find where the need is. There is a concern regarding college counselling and a need to develop a college counseling team. Although Lowell has eight counselors, none are dedicated full-time to college advising. One idea discussed is a need to develop and train VICCI Center Volunteers. **Mark** also mentioned the Wellness Program. The Wellness Program works with mental health, stress issues, coping strategies and a variety of additional issues. "Bring wellness into the classroom."

Terry Abad said that the number of donations has been consistent this Campaign year 2015-16 as last year 2014-15. The final number of donations for this Campaign year was 1,816.

Mark Budak asked the Wellness Program to produce a short two minute informational video.

The new World Languages Building will be dedicated on Friday, November 18, 2016. Hoping that the LAA will participate. **Terry Abad** mentioned that invitations will be sent to alumni. Starting time for the event is 4:00 p.m.

Diversity Committee:

Chairperson, **Bob Lee** reported that the Diversity Committee met twice during the summer and have third meeting scheduled for October. The group focus is on methods to support Lowell's efforts to attract, admit and matriculate qualified students from all backgrounds to Lowell, especially students from underrepresented communities, and to promote a positive educational experience for them while they attend.

Some of the items under consideration are:

1. Supporting plans by school administration for recruiting, outreach and support to students of color by providing resources and/or funding.
2. LAA doing recruiting and outreach projects to attract qualified students of color.
3. Providing alumni mentors, speakers and funding to support students already at Lowell.
4. Providing funding and speakers for workshops discussing college admission, interviewing skills, career planning etc.
5. Working jointly with "stakeholders" (e.g. Wellness Program and multicultural clubs) to provide outreach and support to new and current students
6. Assisting Lowell in its efforts to provide a positive environment for all students.

Committee members have attended a welcoming event for newly admitted Latino and African American students. **Bob** attended the initial training class for faculty and staff which is a part of a four to five year cultural sensitivity plan that Lowell and SFUSD are implementing. The Diversity Committee has a budget of \$3,000 for the 2016-17 year.

Old Business

There was no Old Business

New Business

Joe Ehrman reported that Executive Director Emeritus, **Paul Lucey** is moving into a retirement living residence. **Paul** sent the book *An American Journey* by **Jerry Coleman** as a present to the Lowell library. **Gerald "Jerry" Coleman**, Lowell Class of Spring '42 was a Major League Baseball second baseman for the New York Yankees for eight years. He became a broadcaster and in 1972 became the lead radio announcer for the San Diego Padres, a position which he held for every year until 2012, except for 1980 in which he was the manager for the Padres.

Mark Budak discussed his encounter when meeting with the student Peer Resource Leader. Interest in the board was expressed in response to his question. "How can Lowell help you?"

Terry Abad announced that the dedication of the World Languages Building will take place on Friday, November 18 2016. **Tony Lee** spoke with Vice-Principal **Holly Giles** regarding this event. **Terry Abad** said that alumni will be invited. Starting time for the event is 4:00 p.m.

Terry Abad reviewed the 2016-17 School Site Budget. **Terry** stated that 95% of the budget goes to personnel. Due to higher enrollment for 2016-17 than had been anticipated, the site budget is more than \$300,000 larger than expected. There was a discussion about the school budget, curriculum and attendance. **Landon Dickey** added that SFUSD is conducting a search for a new superintendent.

Mike Ugawa recommended the resurrection of the Holiday Meeting. **Mike** added that the Holiday Meeting is a social gathering occurring during the month of December. The Holiday Meeting has also been an opportunity to show appreciation to some supporters within the Lowell community. **Mike** stated that he will work with Hospitality Chairperson, **Claudia Eshoo** on plans for an event for this December.

Joe Ehrman announced that **Betty Lipschultz Guy** Class of 1938 passed away in July (2016) at the age of 95. **Betty Guy** was an artist who was known worldwide for her watercolors, cityscape paintings and photography.

Terry Abad announced that **Barton Knowles** Class of 1935 and former Lowell principal passed away during the summer.

Bill Black announced that **Bradford Duffy** Class of 1972 has passed away. **Bill** added that there was a story written about **Bradford** by Chronicle columnist, Lowell classmate and friend **Nick Hoppe '72**. **Bradford Duffy's** name was not mentioned in the article about him however, his identity has been confirmed.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by **Joe Ehrman** at 8:48 p.m. The motion was seconded by **Leon Blum** and **Bob Lee**.

Attendance

Board and Executive Director present unless otherwise indicated (T=Attended via Teleconferencing; E= Excused; A=Absent)

Abad	Ehrman	Payton
Anderson	Eshoo	Petropoulos (E)
Black	Hagerman (T)	Poon
Blum	Ishibashi (A)	Rosen-Park
Brash (E)	Kromydas (A)	Shinbori
Budak	Kwong (A)	Steiner (E)
Clay, A (A)	Lazarus	Trasviña
Clay, L (E)	Lee, B	Ugawa
Crutchfield (E)	Lee, S	Wax (A)
DeAndreis (A)	Lee, T	Ye, J
Dickey	Lucey (A)	

Respectfully submitted
Anita K. Payton
Secretary, Lowell Alumni Association