

Eastern High School Alumni Association Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 26, 2016, 4:00 PM
Meeting Report

Attending were Lou Hekhuis, Jack Davis, David Cushion, Gary Wegenke, Joan Nelson, Guil Northrup, Judy Williams, Cheryl Cushion, Letha Collins, Donna Pohl and Lynne Martinez.

Lou called the meeting to order.

Jack Davis provided an update on the Bond Proposal Campaign. Co-Chairs of the Bond Committee are Joan Bauer, Keith Williams and Jack. Amy Baumer, of Chrisman Corporation is Leading the effort, which is well funded. Ervin / Magic Johnson is supporting the millage and made a commercial. Three mailers about the Lansing Pathway Promise and Bond Proposal have been mailed. The Lansing State Journal and Lansing City Pulse have both endorsed the Bond. An ad in the LSJ on Sunday, May 1 will list 70 Community leaders who are endorsing the Bond Proposal. Jack stated that most of what has been appearing in social media is positive and there doesn't appear to be any organized opposition.

Lou opened a discussion on the Alumni Bylaws. He had found documents in his files that appear to be part of a set of bylaws, but not the complete document. Jack shared a template that the Board could use in drafting a new set of bylaws and offered to help with the process. After some discussion, the Board agreed that an ad hoc committee consisting of Lou, Jack and Dave would meet to develop a draft set of bylaws for discussion at the next (June) meeting of the Board.

Lou reported that Lynne sent an email to all of the listed Board Members who have been absent from meetings of the Board for some long time. Lou followed up with phone calls to all of the uncertain members. Some responded and some did not. He suggested that the bylaws will almost certainly include suggestions on Board Membership. He recommended that the question of Board Membership should be discussed again after the Board adopts new bylaws. There was consensus to place the question on a future agenda.

Donna Pohl joined the meeting. She reported that the Staff and Students at LEHS are happy and proud about the substantial improvements in standardized test scores and graduation rates and the public attention their efforts have received. Everyone is hopeful about passing the Bond Proposal on May 5th. Staff and parents are working to turn out positive voters. She thanked the Alumni Board for all of their support and work on the Pathway Promise.

Donna also reported on plans for the 2016-2017 school year. Wednesday Morning Planning Sessions and late starts will continue. There will be some changes in block teaching for struggling students.

There was discussion of whether the Alumni Association should hold a 2016 LEHS Alumni Picnic. Lou and others noted that attendance at the picnic has been falling and was very low in 2015. After some discussion, there was consensus that the question of an Alumni Picnic in 2016 will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Lou reported that the Grants Committee will meet on May 11th to consider grant awards. On May 25th, grants will be awarded. The Senior Awards program is scheduled to May 26th at 8:00 AM.

The Next Meeting of the Alumni Association Board will be held on June 7, 2016 at the Lansing Eastern High School Social Room.