

GARDENA HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

Date: March 18, 2024 / Time: 4:00 PM PST

Location: Via Zoom <https://lausd.zoom.us/j/89437101799> Meeting ID: 894 3710 1799

**ATTENDEES:** - Daisy Cardenas - Nancy Fertig - Rosie Gaspar - Crystal Hawkins  
Elmer Membreno - Karen Millom - Shirley Warren - Zerrona Williams

1. **Call to Order** - Shirley Warren called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.
2. **Approval of the Agenda** – A motion was made by Daisy Cardenas to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Elmer Membreno. The motion was carried by Shirley Warren. The ayes have it and it was so ordered.
3. **Approval of Minutes from the February 26, 2024, meeting** – a motion was made by Daisy and seconded by Zerrona Williams that the minutes from the February 26, 2024, meeting be approved. Shirley carried the motion, the ayes have it and it was so ordered.
4. **Old Business**

- **Fundraising**

**Double Good popcorn** – Daisy shared the result of the fundraiser. The Alumni Association raised \$2,243, which doubled our goal. We will received 50% of this amount which totals \$1,121.50. In addition, a donation of \$25 outside of the fundraiser but for the same purpose, bringing the totaled raised to \$1,146.50.

There was a discussion regarding when we should be another Double Good fundraiser. Some dates were thrown out, such as prior to graduation, or during the holiday season, or homecoming. It was agreed that we would revisit date possibilities at our next meeting.

**Mr. Fries** – Crystal Hawkins gave an update on her meeting with 2003 alum, and CEO/Owner of Mr. Fries, Craig Batiste. Craig has agreed to give a 10% discount and to create a partnership with The Alumni Association, as he currently has in place with educators and first responders. Craig also has agreed to reach out to other Gardena High alumni who have businesses to also consider partnerships. Crystal will continue to work with Craig to finalize a partnership.

**Fish Bone/Coop and Fire Nashville Hot Chicken** – Philip Johnson was not in attendance therefore this agenda item was table until the next meeting.

- **Documentary “100 Years From Mississippi** – Shirley gave an update on the April 13<sup>th</sup> event which will be a fundraiser as all the proceeds will go to the Alumni Association.
  - Tickets will sale for \$33 (this includes a ticket cost of \$30 plus a service charge fee of \$3)
  - Flyers for the event will be available shortly and will be posted on El Camino College’s website and on the Alumni Association social media pages.

- All board members are expected to attend and or assist in promoting and selling tickets
- Alums, JoAnn Gardner (class of 1973) and Kevin O’Neal (class of 1979) will be performing poetry and jazz, prior to the screening and Q&A of the documentary, “100 Years From Mississippi”
- **Merchandising/VarsityMade** – Phil was not in attendance so this agenda item was tabled until the next meeting.
- **Pins for graduates/alumni (update)** – The Membership Drive Plan will incorporate alumni pins. Daisy gave an update on possible options for gift pins for upcoming graduates. She researched two companies, 4 Imprints, and Baudville, shared potential costs involved.
  - 4 Imprints: 300 pins at \$1.60 per pin for a total of \$480 (this is the tentative price for a final product.
  - Baudville: 300 pins at \$7.25 per pin;

Shirley shared that the Alumni “G” pins sell for approximately \$5 per pin. The contact person never got back to her with a quote so she will follow up.

Daisy advised that a sample with our logo can be used. Board members shared their input on what type of pins they would like to give to the 2024 grads. It was agreed that further discussion is needed. Daisy will request samples and send information via email to board members as soon as possible.

- **Membership Drive/Plan (update)** – Zerrona shared the screen showing the 4 proposed types of membership “tier” levels: New, Bronze, Gold, and Platinum. The potential plan was discussed and suggestions made by board members. It was agreed that this agenda item would be table until the next meeting so that more research and thought could be put into the plan. Daisy will upload the tentative plan to the google drive. Members should refer to the google drive to view the plan.
- **Wishlist from Principal Davis** – table until the next meeting
- **Partnership with Gardena High School Student Support Program** (written protocol to approve budget/funding – Salli Hale was not attendance so this agenda item will be table. Shirley advised that the “Fund Request Form” has been uploaded to the google drive and GroupMe. All forms must be signed off by the principal.
- **Grant Writing Services/Grant Opportunities** – Nancy has grant writing experience and offered to do applications and complete form. She is experienced and articulate in this area. Board Members should forward potential grant leads to Nancy. She will commit to grant research and emphasized that the more grants we have, the less fundraising we will need to do.
- **Logo Copyright** – Shirley shared that the creator of the Alumni Association logo, Gentry Akens (class of 1972). Gentry’s response was that he is okay with the association copyrighting it because this is his “gift” to the alumni. It is near and dear to his heart. He would welcome some kind of “credit line” or acknowledgement, ownership of the IP. He does not want financial remuneration at all, just “credit”

Zerrona suggested that his name be added to the logo. Shirley advised that when the copyright is actually filed, there is a way to acknowledge him. Nancy suggested offering a “lifetime

membership.” Rosie suggested acknowledging him (and others like him) on our website. It was agreed that we can continue to discuss at our next meeting.

- **Calendar of Events** – the Calendar of Events has been uploaded to google drive and GroupMe. As requested in February’s meeting, the fundraiser events have been color-coded.

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

- **Scholarship** - Nancy suggested that the Alumni Association offer some type of scholarship to graduating seniors. This way, our name is listed in the graduation program and parent and other will be more aware of the Alumni Association. A potential scholarship offered by the association will be discussed at the next meeting.
- **Treasurer Report** – in Phil’s absence, Shirley shared the Treasure report:
  - The balance forwarded is: \$3,050.50
  - Deposits: \$25 donation for popcorn fundraiser
  - Expenses: \$16 monthly bank fee
  - Total current balance: \$3,059.50
- **Technology / Website Committee Report** – Anthony Jackson was not in attendance so this agenda item was tabled.
- Election of Officers for the year 2024 – Shirley reminded the board the officers should be elected every year and this had not been done for the year 2024. She asked if there were any volunteers to serve the positions of President, Secretary, or Treasurer. Shirley Warren is the current President, Daisy Cardenas, Secretary, and Philip Johnson, Treasurer. There were no considerations for any officer position.

Nancy moved that current officers serve for another year, 2024. Elmer seconded the motion. The motion was carried and the ayes have it. It is so ordered that the officers for the year 2024 are:

Shirley Warren – President  
Daisy Cardenas – Secretary  
Philip Johnson – Treasurer

- **Board Member openings** – There are possibly two board member openings. Raymond Endow has resigned due to a heavy workload, and Russ Robinson, former Treasurer, is not serving due to health issues. This leaves us with 14, possibly 13 board members.
- **Board Meetings (bylaws require open to public)** – the Association bylaws have been uploaded to the google drive. Anthony will also upload them to our website. The “Brown Act” requires that meeting be open to the public.
- **Gardena High School artifacts storage** – Shirley shared that GHS artifacts (newspaper clippings, former class assignments, old yearbooks, etc. are being stored in a file cabinet in the library and needs to be stored more carefully. She suggested the association consider donating funds to purchase a storage unit to help store/maintain these items.

The artifacts are not part of the Gardena High School Art Collection as this is a separate organization and is its own 501(c3).

6. **Adjournment** – A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Nancy and seconded by Zerrona. Shirley carried the motion, the ayes have it, and it was so ordered. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20pm.

Minutes submitted by Daisy Cardenas