

GARDENA HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

Date: August 19, 2024 / Time: 4:04 PM PST

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

ATTENDEES: Rekesha Dennis - Rosie Gaspar - Salli Hale - Crystal Hawkins - Anthony Jackson
Philip Johnson - Tamara Kemp - Elmer Membreno - Karen Millom - Shirley Warren
Zerrona Williams

1. **Call to Order** - Shirley Warren called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.
2. **Approval of the Agenda** – Three additional items were added to the agenda: Senator Steve Bradford fundraiser, Gardena High School Alumni pins, and Gardena High School Yearbook fundraiser. A motion was by Daisey Cardenas to accept and update the new agenda items. The motion was seconded by Salli Hale. The motion was carried by. The ayes have it and it was so ordered.
3. **Approval of Minutes from meeting** – a motion was made by Philip Johnson and seconded by Anthony Jackson that the minutes from the June 24, 2024, meeting be approved. Shirley carried the motion, the ayes have it and it was so ordered.

4. Old Business

- **Fundraising**

- Crystal Hawkins (Mr. Fries) – no update)
- Philip Johnson (Fishbone) – update; Phil informed the board that the Hawthorne location of Fishbone is still in business and the owner, Derrick Turner is ready to work with the Alumni Association. He will confirm a date with Mr. Turner and bring it to our next meeting.
- Philip Johnson (Coop and Fire Nashville Hot Chicken) – Phil informed the board that they have gone out of business.

- **Merchandising** – due to a business conflict, the board agreed to allow Kathy Padilla Rhodes (Eagle Print Dynamics) to present during this part of the meeting instead of during the new business as previously planned.

Salli introduced Kathy to the board and praised and thanked her for her efficiency and support in helping the Association obtain merchandise.

Kathy shared that she is a 1971 graduate, works with the All Class Potluck Picnic group, and recently participated in her own 50th year reunion with the classes of 70 and 72. She informed the board that she provided the merchandise at the cost and did not mark up anything, therefore, we are getting the merchandise at her cost. Kathy has worked with Eagle Print

Dynamics for 35 years and she has helped with various fundraisers. Any referrals for Kathy are gladly accepted. Pictures of the merchandise was previously shared via email, but Salli shared a sample of the hat and v-neck t-shirt.

New merchandise – Salli Hale shared that we used Eagle Print Dynamics to print new merchandise to be sold at the 2024 Annual Potluck Picnic. Fifty crew neck t-shirts (sizes medium to 3XL), 50 v-neck (sizes small to 2XL), and fifty hats were ordered. She suggested that half of the proceeds be used toward funding the Scholarships to be created. The board agreed. Salli suggested that merchandise (hat, v-neck and crew neck t-shirts) be sold at the price of \$20 per item. Kathy (Eagle Print Dynamics) gave us their cost to order and print the merchandise. The cost to make the hats was \$9.50 and t-shirts, \$7.50, therefore, by selling these items at the price of \$20, we will be making a large profit.

Merchandise will initially be sold in person (i.e., the picnic and Homecoming. Online sells will happen once shipping cost and the fulfillment process is finalized. Anthony suggested that shipping costs be handed off to the purchaser. Phil made a motion was made to sell each piece of merchandise (hat, v-neck, and crew neck) be sold at the price of \$20, with half of the proceeds going to fund scholarships. The motion was seconded by Anthony. The motion was carried by Shirley, the ayes have it, and it is so ordered.

- **Double Good (new dates for fundraiser)** – per Rekesha Dennis, the Homecoming date has been changed again, to Friday, October 4th, at 7:00pm (pre-game parade begins at 5:30pm). The opponent will be Jurupa Valley High School. Because we planned and voted for the Double Good fundraiser to be aligned with Homecoming, the date of the fundraiser will need to be adjusted to begin, Thursday, October 3rd, lasting for 4 days. Anthony will adjust the website accordingly as will Daisy with Double Good. Any social media should also be updated.
- **Membership Drive/Plan (update)** – Now that we have new merchandise, the committee will need to discuss how to incorporate this into the membership drive plan. During the last meeting, the board did agree to create a one-level membership plan at the price of \$25.
- **Wishlist from Principal Davies** – we still have not received a Wishlist from Principal Davies, so this item was tabled until the next meeting.
- **Partnership with Gardena High School Student Support Program** (written protocol to approve budget/funding – this item continues to be tabled. Shirley will present this written protocol after September meeting
- **Grant Writing Services/Grant Opportunities** – due to Nancy Fertig’s absence, this was tabled.
- **Scholarship Committee** – due to Nancy Fertig’s absence, this item was tabled.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- **Treasurer Report** – Phil gave the Treasurer report:

- The balance forwarded is: \$3,766
- Deposits:
 - Donation (Nancy Fertig) - \$250
 - Test deposit - \$0.90
- Expenses:
 - July Monthly Fee - \$16.00
 - August Monthly Fee - \$16.00
 - Eagle Print Dynamic (t-shirts) - \$374.55
 - Eagle Print Dynamic (hats) - \$142.00
 - Vadeal Print (hat embroidery) - \$332.68
 - Zoom Annual Subscription - \$167.00

Total current balance as of 8/18/2024: \$2,968.67

The report was received by the board.

- **Technology / Website Committee Report** – Anthony shared that he would update in real time, the website to reflect the new Homecoming date. He will also update and publicize the new merchandise, the Gardena Jazz Festival, The Annual All Class Potluck Picnic, and the Double Good fundraiser. Alumni Association meeting dates through the calendar year 2024 have been added, but he will update meeting dates to include the entire school year.
- **2024 Annual All Class Picnic participation** – Salli shared that the Alumni Association would be selling merchandise at the Potluck Picnic., which will be held on Saturday, September 7th, from 11am-4pm, at the Elks Lodge on 162nd Street. The admission fee is \$20 and includes a Giuliano's sandwich. We need to make sure Alumni Association postcards will be distributed. Help from board members is appreciated. Salli also asked if we could open a Venmo account in preparation for the selling of merchandise. Shirley will work on it. Salli asked the board to approve giving a t-shirt to Kathy Padilla Rhoads for her efforts in making obtaining the merchandise possible. Shirley asked the same be done for Gentry Akens (a hat and t-shirt) for his contributions. The board agreed.
- **Gardena alumni pins** – Shirley suggested that we sell the metal alumni pins and that she had talked to Liz Montonya. The cost to purchase pins is approximately \$4.50 for two hundred pins. Shirley suggested selling the pins for \$10 each, as a fundraiser. Phil shared that he has a contact who also created lapel pins at a lower cost, approximately \$1 + and would check with them to get a sample and a quote.

- **Promoting the Alumni Association** – Rekesha suggested that a “Reel” be created so that current and recently graduated students can follow what is going on with the Alumni Association. Because many students are not aware that there is an Alumni Association, or even what being an alumni means, this is one way to promote. Other ways to promote the Association are through leadership, senior meetings, being more visible on campus and more. Rekesha will promote via social media.
- **Gardena High School Yearbook fundraiser** – Zerrona Williams shared that the Gardena High School Finance Manager has found “a bunch” of old yearbooks on stock and they will be suggesting that they be sold to alumni. ASB is getting a final tally of the inventory. Yearbooks may be sold at the price of \$40-70 each. If possible, Zerrona suggests they be sold at the picnic. It is not determined how the funds will be shared between ASB and the Alumni Association. It was agreed that it would be a positive and great opportunity for the Alumni Association to help promote the sale of yearbooks
- **Status of Zoom account** – Shirley share that the Association now has its own Zoom account and the cost, as mentioned in the Treasurer report is \$167/year. Daisy and Zerrona have been made co-hosts.
- **Gardena Jazz Festival** – Phil shared that the festival is scheduled for Sunday, August 25th. The plan is to put up our banner, as we did last year. It was suggested that we also place postcards to advertise. Phil suggested in the future we should check on what’s involved in being a sponsor of the event.
- **Obon Festival** – the Obon Festival was held the first week in August, therefore it is too late for us to be involved. Salli said that it was nice to be involved in it last year but not much of an impact was felt. We will decide whether this is something we want to do for next year.
- **Senator Steve Bradford Fundraiser** - Phil shared that Gardena High School alum Steve Bradford will be running for the office of Lt. Governor for the State of California. He suggested that some type of alumni fundraiser be held. The board discussed the protocol and “legality” of the Alumni Association getting involved since we are a non-profit organization. Questions on what a sponsorship would look like was also discussed. Posting on social media is one way to help get the word out, especially because Senator Bradford is an alum. Phil will do some research and get back to the board for the next meeting. There was a consensus to help if it was legal for us to do so.
- **Public Comments** – no guests were present therefore no public comments were made.

6. **Adjournment** – A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Zerrona and seconded by Elmer Membreno. Shirley carried the motion, the ayes have it, and it was so ordered. The meeting was adjourned at 5:29pm.

Minutes submitted by Shirley Warren