

## Washington High School PPA

### Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2012

President Kathy Litow called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Little Theatre at Washington High School and welcomed everyone. Ten members/guests were in attendance.

#### *Program*

Orchestra Director Natalie Brown presented the Harp Ensemble, which consists of six harpists (five of which were in attendance tonight). The harpists played several selections, including *Dust in the Wind*. The harp program was started at McKinley Middle School, and all but one middle school participates. Ms. Brown informed us that the State Large Group Contest will be held at Washington High School on Saturday May 5, 2012. The last orchestra event will be the End of Year Concert and Banquet to be held on May 21, 2012.

#### *Executive Committee Reports*

**Secretary's Report**-The March 1, 2012 minutes were reviewed and approved.

**Treasurer's Report**-Phil Lenzen stated that MoShow net \$24,000.00, with a cost of \$42,000.00. The judges' fees were paid out of our account, and all other bills have been paid with regard to MoShow.

There is currently \$69,800.00 in the bank account.

Phil stated that the State Speech Contest judges were paid out of the school account, which has subsequently been reimbursed. He also said that there may be at least \$5000.00 coming in from the Frankfurter Festival. The final balance in our account should be around \$80,000.00.

We also have approximately \$6200.00 in the endowment account. Last year funds were used from this account to purchase risers. Karen Matthews suggested that we dissolve this account, as there is always a debate about what to do with the funds. A discussion ensued but no definitive decision was made.

Phil stated that he will continue in the Treasurer's position next year.

#### *Announcements/Committee Reports*

Ann Salamon has been acting as the librarian/historian for the group. She explained that a "scrapbook" has been kept that contains programs, etc., from past events. She wondered if we should continue this effort and find a new historian. It was decided that we should discontinue this practice.

#### **Old Business**

Kathy stated that we are still waiting for answers from some individuals regarding committee placements, chairs, etc. She mentioned that the Large Speech Contest won't be held at Washington again until 2015, so we are fine there, however we still need two representatives for Fab Five.

Melissa Carlson stated that we made less than \$500.00 for "The List" this year, and that it appears that phone books are virtually obsolete. It is a lot of work for little profit; perhaps we

should promote it by selling it to freshman parents at the freshman sign-up, attempting to get it done early in September, and possibly selling some at Open House.

Kathy stated that we did not have to discuss “Your Name in Lights” as per the agenda, because Bill Lammers was not in attendance. She suggested that we may use endowment funds for the lights.

### **New Business**

Kathy stated that there is a need for better communication with our general membership. Dr. Plagman suggested that we may have to discuss the future with veteran PPA members, noting that attendance at our meetings is really low. He agreed that we have a need to share information better to attain a significant influx of new members; membership was up only slightly this year by about \$1000.00. He stated that up until 2002 our budget was in the \$50,000.00 range, in 2005 \$60,000.00, 2005-2006 \$80,000.00, 2009-2010 also in the \$80,000.00s, and 2011 in the \$81,000.00 range. It will be hard to predict \$80,000.00 for next year without the speech competition here at Washington. He stated that perhaps a new project is necessary, as we need to ensure that we have at least \$80,000.00. We may try to draw in freshman parents by emphasizing that PPA pays the fees for those eligible for free and reduced lunch, or possibly include parents of alumni in our mailings.

Kathy brought up for discussion the question of why Cocoa and Carols is not a PPA event. The funds raised go solely to vocal music. Likewise, the Fab Five and Five Seasons Classic proceeds also go to vocal music; vocal reps and band reps organize those events. Dr. Plagman stated that he will support making Cocoa and Carols a PPA event. A motion to make Cocoa and Carols a PPA event was voted on and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Pam King, Secretary