



Meeting Minutes January 9, 2012

Members Attending: Mike Kearney, Rick DiStefano, Steve Johnson, Tom Rice, Chris Gagliardi, Jim Costello, Greg Brutschea, Bob Grajewski, Rusty Patel.

Members unable to attend: Gregory Tamaccio, Rich Gargano, John McLaughlin, Todd Monahan, Chris Perry, Matt Suber, Jim Falcone, Paul Monaco.

Representing the school: Sister Matthew

1. **Opening Prayer:** Sister Matthew.
2. **School Report** – Recent alums were on campus on Friday visiting with seniors. The 2nd semester starts on January 17th. Upcoming events include the ProLife March in Washington, the February 4th open house. The Mothers' Association is still selling Win My Heart Raffle tickets to support iPad purchases for the teachers.
3. **Cleaning out the mansion basement:** Sister Matthew offered the dates February 11, 25, or March 31. We are leaning towards the later date to give the staff enough time to identify items to be thrown out as well as minimizing the chance of snow. Mike Kearney will check the calendar for conflicts and check with Bill Santora to see if any date is better for him in supplying the dumpster.
4. **Fathers' Day at School:** We did not discuss at this meeting, however we had previously discussed the possibility of having all grades attend this event next year. We were working under the assumption that the only impediment is parking. Tom Rice has done a great job in solving the parking problem, however in briefing the staff, Sister Matthew was reminded that the other problem was over crowding in the school buildings. The event requires further discussion.
5. **Powder Puff (Pinewood) Derby, January 29.** Greg Brutschea is the chair. The track has been reserved and verified, Advertisements are posted around the school. Greg is working on the trophies now. A suggestion was made to put up table tents in the dining room. Mike Kearney will check with the Mothers' Association about borrowing the plastic holders they use for the auction. The car clinic is scheduled for Wednesday, January 18th and Bob Grajewski is ready with the power tools.
6. **Service Project, March 4:** Plans have been made to repeat last year's day of service. The goal is to spend quality time with the elderly residents of the Holy Family Home in West

Philadelphia. We will attend Mass, serve lunch to the residents, entertain them with music, and after lunch conduct a bingo game. The Fathers' Association has also been discussing the possibility of going to the home on another occasion to perform maintenance. Mike Kearney contacted HFH Maintenance Director Don Carter and he said that he would make himself available on any Saturday we choose and would give us projects to do. Sister Matthew said that the girls enjoy working for Habitat for Humanity and are capable and enthusiastic of performing maintenance work. While Mike Kearney is chairing the Sunday, March 4 activity, we need someone to chair the Saturday event and to select the date.

7. **Father/Daughter Dance 7-12, April 13, preK-6, April 14.** Tom Rice is chairing the Friday dance with John McLaughlin and Chris Gagliardi heading the Saturday dance. We discussed whether 6 grade should be moved to the Friday dance and with Sister Matthew's guidance decided against it. We acknowledged that traditionally the older girls and their fathers go out to dinner before the dance. We discussed having a buffet dinner at the dance to get attendees there on time. We decided against that and instead will move the starting time of the Friday dance back.

We discussed the falling attendance at the Friday event and decided to use Survey Monkey to capture the opinions and ideas of our students and their fathers. Tom Rice volunteered to put the survey together.

Bob Grajewski suggested that we meet with student leaders to discuss the dance. He and Tom will do that.

We discussed the program for both dances. We discussed the "dance instructor" that we have used in the past and decided that that is not exactly what we need. We concluded that for the Friday dance, the DJ must also be a Master of Ceremonies such as at a wedding reception. Similarly, we concluded that the Saturday DJ should be someone who is experienced in running childrens' parties rather than a "dance instructor." Some DJ/MC names were thrown into the mix and Tom Rice and Chris Gagliardi will follow up for their respective dances.

8. **PennDoT Driver Safety Simulator April 23:** Chairman Rusty Patel reported that the date has been reserved and that we expect the contract to arrive shortly. Rusty has also reserved the hotel for the driver. Rick DiStefano mentioned that the simulator arrives on Sunday evening and that this is a good time for fathers to check out the equipment. Rusty mentioned that last year the simulator arrived on Monday morning. Mike Kearney brought up the idea of adding a telephone texting dimension to the simulator this year. Rusty will contact PADUI to find out exactly when the simulator will arrive at the parking lot and also to ask if adding the texting dimension is possible.
9. **Annual Steve Dugan Golf Outing, May 8:** Bob Grajewski spoke for the committee and briefed us on the results of the December 12th golf committee meeting. It was well attended and progress was made. Most importantly, we had to move the date this year to Tuesday, May 8th. We are now looking for sponsors and anyone with ideas should contact the golf

committee. We also discussed the committee's desire to "brand" the Steve Dugan Memorial Golf Classic with its own logo. Ideas under consideration is somehow using the international Sacred Heart logo with a caricature of Steve Dugan and some symbol of golf. We appeal to anyone who has expertise in creating logos to contact the golf committee.

10. **New Ideas and Suggestions:** Some new ideas were presented at this meeting. Bob Grajewski suggested that we should consider a service project for Cradels to Crayons. We did not have too much information about this charity and decided to get more information. The charity's website is <http://cradlestocrayons.org/>. We can discuss further at a future meeting, but we should also check with the CDSSH staff who coordinate service projects to make sure we don't encroach, interfere, or dilute their service project efforts.

A second idea discussed was the need for an electronic sign in the school driveway for passing important messages. All thought that such a sign could help make all school events more successful, including Sister Matthew. We ask that anyone with information, expertise, or connections to electronic signs and their sales to contact the Fathers' Association.

Related to the above advertising idea, after the meeting, Mike Kearney was contacted by Mothers' Association President Janinie Zozaya. The MA will be using events.org to host the auction. Janinie has asked that the FA share the cost with the MA. The cost is \$600 for one event or \$1,200 for the year hosting all CDSSH events, including the golf outing, One Vision campaign, father/daughter dance, powder puff derby, mother/daughter luncheon, etc. The FA is being asked to contribute \$400 for the annual cost. Events.org will host a site for people to register and pay on-line instead of using paper invitations,. We save time spent and money by eliminating mailings and make it very much easier for the recipient to respond. Event updates can be emailed to everyone registered for an event. Organizations, such as Paoli Hospital and Villa Maria Academy have switched over to events.org and have been happy with the outcome and success of their event. Please send any comments on this to Mike Kearney. He will check with Sister Elaine to get our account balance, and unless any objections are brought forward from our membership in the next few days, we will plan on contributing.

Finally, at the last meeting, Greg Brutchea suggested that we plan an event in the spring at the Union soccer game in Chester, PA or the Blue Rocks baseball game in Wilmington, DE. Greg is looking into this and will get back to us with details. Currently he is busy chairing the Powderpuff Derby.

11. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM. Per the school calendar on the website, our next meeting is Monday, **February 13th** at 7:00 PM