

Will Rogers High School Community Foundation

Board Meeting

September 25, 2014

Those in attendance: Carol Cumiskey Axley Lynette Bennett Beth Dennis Nicolette (Nikki) Dennis – Principal WRCHS Johnnie Egbert Jo Anne Lewis – Board President Frank Marcum Sam Roop Karen Simonson Iris Studenny Betty Trinka Jan Weinheimer Ron Woods Steve Wright

The meeting took place at Will Rogers Collage High School.

Jo Anne Lewis called the meeting to order at 4:35pm and determined that we had a quorum.

Jo Anne gave the “Moment of Reflection.”

Jo Anne reported that she had met with TPS Superintendent, Dr. Keith Ballard, about the organ and invited him to the street dedication to take place on 10 OCT 14. She also invited Blake Ewing to attend the ceremony.

The minutes to the last meeting were amended by Iris Studenny as to the discussion pertaining to the organ project, to read:

All issues dealing with the organ must be clarified with TPS, to include the organs care, maintenance, use and storage, as well as matters concerning legal, finance and insurance.

The minutes were accepted.

Treasurer’s Report: Larry Beaubien was not present to give the report.

Jo Anne made a motion to nominate/elect Karen Simonson to be a director and assistant treasurer for the foundation. Carol Axley seconded the motion and motion carried.

Nikki Dennis gave the Principal’s Report. She told us about her background. She has an open door policy and is very glad to be the principal of WRCHS. She also reported that the refurbished seats are being installed in the auditorium.

Iris Studenny reported on the Home Coming event of 10-11 OCT 14. There has not been the response that she had expected. Very few tickets have been purchased. The 1 OCT deadline for buying tickets has been extended.

Nikki Dennis suggested that we open the bus rides to the game to the students. Iris continued by stating that most everything is set for the event and that several local companies have made donations. When Iris finished her report, Jan Weinheimer took a minute to thank Iris for being

at this meeting and continuing to run the event, especially in the light of the recent passing of her husband, Richard.

Frank Marcum talked about the need for accountability of the students if we do allow them to ride the buses to and from the game, so that no child would be left behind or just deciding to ride with someone else.

Johnnie Egbert reported that the golf event will still be held, even though no entries were received. The organizers still plan to play.

The old gym will be open to the foundation all day 10 OCT 14. There was also the possibility that the BBQ dinner could be moved to the cafeteria. The question arose as to where would the students stay after school if they were allowed to ride the buses at 6:00pm.

The time for the dedication of the street has not been set as yet. Nikki commented that we will need police to help with the dedication.

Ron Woods reported on Development/Fundraising in place of Sherryl McGuire. He passed out the draft of the Fundraising Plan.

Johnnie Egbert asked if the grant request sheets have been distributed to the teachers. Also, would it be possible for the board to be available to help the teachers write grants to the foundation.

Nikki presented two grant applications: \$300 for the band and \$1,500 for the Chess Club. Lynette Bennett moved that we approve the \$300 for the band. Jan Weinheimer seconded the motion passed.

Nikki also commented that the girls soccer team needs uniforms.

Johnnie Egbert related that Mr. Ryan is going to be made an honorary member of the Class of 1975.

The Scholarship Report was given by Carol Axley. She stated that the Will Rogers Alumni Assoc. has given money for scholarships and that for now, the WRHACF doesn't need to give money.

Jo Anne gave the report on the Hall of Fame which has been changed to 27 MAR 2015 which falls on a Friday. Should we have the Hall of Fame dinner on Saturday night? What time and at what location should the event held? The deadline for the nominations for the Hall of Fame is NOV 14.

Beth Dennis commented that she has sent notices to local TV and radio stations concerning the Home Coming events and that none of them have responded.

Nikki asked if the foundation has connected with the Growing Together group/organization. Jo Anne stated that the board would look into this matter.

Jan Weinheimer gave the Social Media and Web Site Report. The "Ride on to Excellence" brochure handout has been completed. She commented on how easy the new web site was to navigate and that it was user friendly.

Steve Wright gave the tour report. Tour will be given on the second Monday of the month. He commented that the attendance has been small compared with the large groups in the past. Steve went on to talk about the organ project. He met with Dr. Ballard at which time he gave him the Vision Statement for the project and a quick eight minute overview. They discussed the draft MOA and the cost of the pipe chambers. Steve related stories about other schools that have successful pipe organ programs. Dr. Ballard stated that we needed to move aggressively on this project. We need to get his approval and license agreement. Steve said that he followed up with thank you cards to the TPS personnel that were present at the meeting. He said that the next step is to meet with Nikki Dennis to bring her up to speed on the organ project. The Organ Committee is as follows:

Steve Wright

Paula Woods

Sam Roop

Sherryl McGuire

Phillip Judkins

Dean Martin

Ann Thomlins

Karen Miller

Nikki Dennis

Jo Anne reminded the board that after all is set up for the Organ Project, it needs to go to the School Board for final approval.

Sam Roop commented that Dr. Ballard accepted the fact that TPS needs to be responsible for insuring the organ.

The foundation will need to move the organs out of the school until we can get money for the project. We can now move forward with fundraising for the organ project.

Iris feels that the WRHSCF should not give its support to this program until we get to see the program agreement, after which, we can then make a motion to vote on the project.

Johnnie Egbert mentioned that the Will Rogers Alumni Assoc. might be invited to participate on this project for they have lots of money.

Nikki stated that we need to have an agreement with TPS, that if the organ is used as a fundraiser for the school, then the WRHSCF would not be charged for the facility. She also commented that we need to make sure that we have a quality teacher to drive the organ events when the organ project is complete.

Jo Anne set the next board meeting for 20 NOV 14, at 4:30pm here at WRCHS. She adjourned the meeting at 6:33pm.

Frank Marcum