

## Meeting of Executive Council November 13, 2007

Attendance: D. Bruskewicz, J.Black, B. DiMartino, M.Delamonico, L. Bastone, M. Hubertus, A. Ancona, M. Roberts, P. Cerreta, M. Chunev, B. Larue, C. Lewick, S. Davies, A. Lovelace, J. Toscano, K. Russell, R. Singh  
Excused: C. Beck, S. Tyrrell, J. Rowell

The agenda of November 13 was accepted.

The minutes of October 9 were accepted as read. President David Bruskewicz will examine one sentence more closely for accuracy before minutes are published.

Treasurer Michele Delamonico presented the financial report. She commented that the fund balance of approximately \$50,000 is appropriately high in anticipation of the expenses of a negotiation year in 2008. The expense marked "donation to Cancer" is for the T-shirt given to our BHTA team of walkers. The monthly cell phone bill was \$111.75, which is in keeping with Board guidelines for this expense.

President David Bruskewicz presented his report:

Byram Hills Schools has announced that Dr. Jackie Taylor will become the Superintendent of Schools as of July 1. The District continues to look for a Coman Hill principal, a Science Chair and a Guidance Chair. There will be a replacement for Dr. Taylor's position as Deputy Superintendent. There may be an announcement concerning this position very soon.

Kate Robbins has returned as Director of Personnel part time. Welcome back, Kate. David also told the administration that he was stepping down.

Harry Wilson will conduct his second training session today after the regular Board meeting.

Dec 17<sup>th</sup> SWSCHP Executive Director Herb Friedman and a teacher representative will be here to speak about the change in our health plan administrator from Empire to POMCO. Although the plan administrator is changing, SWSCHP is still determining the level of our benefits. The change was brought about by inefficiency and errors on the part of Empire, which resulted in a cost of \$3 million. The presentation will be from 3:30 to 4:30: Bob DiMartino will disseminate information by email. Pamphlets were sent home and given out in school and all faculty need to become familiar with any changes attendant to the new plan administration.

The recent update in policy concerning Child Abuse Reporting makes it clearer that we all have primary responsibility that does not transfer to the school administration. The name of the reporter remains confidential until there is a criminal investigation.

Volunteers to represent BHTA at the following meetings are sought: The Committee of 100 in Albany on March 17-18, the NYSUT Representative Assembly in New York City on April 10-12, and the Committee of 100 on May 12-13.

Our contract with Aramark Food Services is about to expire and other options are being considered. Fran Robie, Jess Wolf and Levi Littman are teacher representatives to the committee that is looking into the choices.

The PTSA has contacted David to ask what that body could do for the faculty. David would like input from us so he can develop talking points.

Extra-curricular activities will be the focus of the next study to make sure that any monies are handled in accordance with guidelines set by the auditors. There may be a handbook issued, which would be run past the BHTA. The December faculty meeting may be used to address the guidelines. The auditors assumed that each building had a Treasurer for activities, and BHTA will advocate appointing a Treasurer appointed for Coman Hill and Wampus. This decision can be made outside the contract and the appropriate stipend can be funded.

Vote-Cope report was disseminated by Jane Black. 200 faculty members have contributed to over \$6600 to this drive, which will end on December 21<sup>st</sup>.

Bob DiMartino asked for updates for the newsletter. He said the BHTA website will need to be overhauled, and Al Lovelace and Joanna Nash will likely need an Association Day to accomplish it.  
Bob reported on a successful Cancer Walk and announced the Food Drive for January.

Board conducted its Executive Session.

Ancona moved and Delamonico seconded that meeting be adjourned at 5:12.