

ALLIANCE COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
General Meeting

The Riverside Hotel – Cambridge Springs, PA
Saturday, November 14, 2015 – 10:00 AM

President Celeste 'Mickie' Mickiewicz called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

PRESENT:

Board members present (Terms expire 2016):

President	Celeste 'Mickie' Mickiewicz
Vice President	Michael Anderson
Secretary	Sally Day
Treasurer	Craig Koryak

Absent: Assistant Treasurer: Les Rachocki

Directors present:

Basia Adams	(Term expires 2016)
James Koscielniak	(Term expires 2018)
Richard Day (late)	(Term expires 2018)

Chairs present:

Awards	Selene Szczepanek
Bylaws & SOP	Selene Szczepanek
Reunion	Michael Anderson
Scholarship	Richard Day
Publicity	Aundrea Cika Heschmeyer
Internet & Communications	Mary Carr
Nominating	Richard Day

Alumni present:

See General Meeting Sign-In Sheets (Attached)

Absent:

Audit	Joan Rutkowski
Fundraising	(on hold)
Membership	Eva Skibicki

President

Mickie

Mickie welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mary Carr took roll call and dues payment. Selene has been appointed permanent parliamentarian.

Secretary

Mickie with Sally

The minutes from October 12, 2014 meeting were distributed to the group. Mickie asked for feedback on the minutes. There were no corrections or edits. Michael Anderson moved to accept the minutes. Mary XXXXXX seconded the motion and motion unanimously passed.

The minutes from July 17, 2015 conference call were distributed to the group. Mickie asked for feedback. There were no corrections. Jim Koscielniak moved to accept the minutes. Basia Adams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer

Craig Koryak

Treasurer's report was distributed. Craig asked for questions and feedback on the reports. Compiled financial statements are current to October 31, 2015. Association has assets of \$10,824.34. The

Association has a net loss of \$2,494.86. There were no corrections. Mickie asked for outstanding invoices and current membership dues. Basia has an outstanding invoice of \$150 for the PNA. **Action Item: Mickie (or Craig) to bring membership dues up-to-date.** Richard Day moved to accept the financials. Mary Carr seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Audit

Mickie Mickiewicz

Joan Rutkowski is responsible for Audits, next audit is 2016. No report for this year

Awards

Selene Szczepanek

Selene Szczepanek will work with webmaster on the award (awards@alliancecollege.com). The group would like to set up the Distinguished Alumni Award based on a scoring system for nominations. Selene will get historical information on past recipients from the website. Selene asked how the group felt about awarding the distinguished award (Leo Ruski was the last recipient) based on what an alum does in the world and the service award for service to the alumni organizations. The group clarified that these awards do not need to be given every year. **Action Item: Selene will document the criteria for each these awards.** A suggestion was made to acknowledge all the nominees during the time the awards are presented (either in the room or in the program).

By-Laws and SOPs

Selene Szczepanek

Selene submitted no changes.

Foundation and Scholarship

Richard Day

Foundation met yesterday and selected a scholarship recipient. Ashley Rutkowski is the 2015 recipient of the scholarship. Richard recapped the goal of the Foundation is to raise a \$1 million. The Foundation will be distributing two letters; one in May which will focus on the year of graduation and the second in December to announce the scholarship recipient and solicit donations to the Foundation Endowment. Richard also announced to the group that he received a challenge grant today. An alum has come forward and offered to match dollar for dollar any donations given over the weekend. Richard mentioned that there is also the opportunity to make a donation to the Foundation in the name of Coach Ted Haluch. It was also mentioned that the Alumni Association funds the Foundation Scholarship. **Action Item: Craig will send check to Les for \$2,500 made out to Foundation.**

Fundraising

Mickie Mickiewicz

Mickie explained that most of the fundraising has been folded under the Foundation. Mickie suggested that we leave the committee on hold until further notice.

Membership

Mickie for Eva Skibicki

Eva Skibicki sent in a report. Mickie took over the alumni directory. Mary Carr has offered to help Mickie with the directory. Mickie has been going through the directory, correcting names and addresses. Also, she has been going through the yearbooks from the Museum. She explained that it is a slow process. The goal is to get the database cleaned up by the end of the year. Mickie reviewed the membership report attached in the packet. Question was put forth to inquire about criteria for membership. Mickie clarified that students of Jageilonean University (sister school of AC) are eligible to become members of the Association, as well as "Friends of AC." All are welcome as long as they have paid their dues. The database includes the first name, last name, maiden name, year of graduation, current residence city, state, status (i.e. alumni, alumni eternal, faculty, faculty eternal, friend, friend eternal, HDR eternal). Anyone who would like to contact a specific alumni needs to go to "Contact Us" on the website and the webmaster will contact the alum to get their permission before providing any personal information. There are approximately 4,800 names on the database. A typical mailing is 2,600 based on the number of good addresses (seven returned). Richard also said that the pledge forms ask for current contact information and the form provides a place to add three additional names to help locate lost alumni. A suggestion was made to sync dues to the Association fiscal year. After a discussion, a motion was made by Michael Anderson to have Association dues sync with the fiscal year calendar, October 1 to September 30. Mary

Carr seconded the motion. A point of clarification was made that any reunion registration materials should specifically state due payment. One objection was noted Tom Jarzeb. However, motion passed.

Nominating

Richard Day

No nominations this year. No report.

Publicity

Aundrea Cika Heschmeyer

Aundrea Cika Heschmeyer reported that she has been working with the Foundation development group. A press release was created for Polish publications advertising the Foundation and the Scholarship. Aundrea suggested that a generic press release be created so alumni could utilize it in their local geography. A suggestion was made to utilize the scholarship award recipient in a follow-up press release.

Richard explained that he and Aundrea are working on Foundation bequests. They are working to honor those alumni who wish to leave a gift in their will or donors of \$10,000, possible ideas are the "1912 Society." More to come.

Internet and Communications

Mary Carr

Mary Carr presented her report, attached in packet. She reviewed the accomplishments for the year which included a meeting between a small group of alumni and a website developer. The alumni were trained on the website and the site was updated at that time. The most important accomplishment was the completion of the online scholarship process. There were links created behind the website to forward specific inquiries directly to the Association (Mickie) or Scholarships (Richard). Les is also working on website photos. Mary noted that future work includes history of the college and the alumni directory.

Discussion items was put forth that there are several inactive users (users that are granted access as a forum user). The question was presented if we wanted to limit form access to alumni. The decision of the group was to not limit access. A suggestion was made to add an explanation of why you'd want to create a user name account. Doug made note that there is a CD of photos from past reunions. **Action Item: Elaine will review the CD with Mary.** To post something on the website, it should be sent it to the website administrator. Scholarship recipients made comments that there were errors on website. Mickie suggested they email webmaster. **Action Item: Alumni were encouraged to go to the website directories by the end of the calendar.**

Reunion

Michael Anderson

Michael put forth three topics for discussion: feedback from previous reunions, options for 2016 and discussion and decision for 2016. Hershey attendance was down 10% from previous but attracted people who had never come to a reunion in Cambridge Springs.

Location discussion and decision occurs during the meeting. Mickie clarified that alumni make the decision (she informally clarified that everyone in the room was a member in good standing). Jerry Jieleski made an emotional plea to keep the reunion in Cambridge Springs.

Mike Anderson presented the Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel as a possible location. The hotel has many amenities that The Riverside Inn does not (including: Wifi, elevators, indoor pool, appropriate number of sleeping rooms and an appropriate sized ballroom). The cost of the Sheraton was also discussed, the sleeping rooms would be a bit more than The Riverside Inn.

Bernadette and Jeremy from the Riverside Inn made a presentation of their facility. Current management and staff are very dedicated to an excellent experience (including: extra towels, Polish beer, bell-hop next year). It was also put forth that we could coordinate activities with the sesquicentennial celebration of Cambridge Springs in 2016.

The call for the question of the location of the Reunion Event was requested, the vote tally was:

Riverside Inn 11
Sheraton 8
Abstentions 3

The location of the 2016 Reunion Event will be The Riverside Inn in Cambridge Springs, PA.

Old Business

Video VHS conversion to DVD – Action Item: Regina Jaworski will be responsible for converting VHS tapes to DVD. She will also compile an inventory. If anyone has any VHS tapes, please provide a copy to Regina.

Tontine – Les Rechocki still has the bottle.

Coach Haluch's Birthday Celebration – If you did not get a ticket for the dinner to celebrate Coach Haluch's birthday, alumni can come into the ballroom, there will be chairs set up to participate in the program.

Next Meeting - A suggestion was made to move the meeting from Sunday morning of the reunion weekend to Saturday morning of the weekend. Mickie called for a vote. Majority voted for the decision to schedule next meeting for Saturday, October 15, 2016 at 10 am (providing The Riverside has the dates available).

Review of Old Action Items:

July 18, 2015 Action Items still open:

- Mickie to look for list
- Basia to contact Dave Mateczyk
- Officers to create activity on forum

New Business

No new business.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally A. Domzalski Day
Secretary ACAA