

ALLIANCE COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (ACAA)

Board of Officers Meeting October 10, 2023

Officers in Attendance:

Michael Anderson (1978), ACAA President; James Koscielniak (1981), ACAA Vice President; Susia (Burgess) Styborski (1983), ACAA Secretary; Marcia Pilkievicz (1975), ACAA Director and Membership Chair; Randy Polovick (1981), ACAA Director; Les Rachocki (1967), Foundation Treasurer; Sally (Domzalski) Day (1985), ACAA Assistant Treasurer and Foundation Secretary; Aundrea Cika-Heschmeyer (1985), ACAA Director; Ed Mohylowski (1976), ACAA Treasurer; Lori Neese Kolin (1987), ACAA Director; Celeste "Mickie" Mickiewicz (1967), ACAA Officer Ex-Officio; Louis Sitnik, (1986), ACAA Director.

Alumni in attendance: Roberta Polovick

Absent: Richard Day (1985), Chair of Alliance College Alumni Association Foundation;

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 pm by Michael Anderson, President. President Anderson welcomed all in attendance. He reported he has recently purchased a zoom account specifically for ACAA and will share the link soon.

2024 ACAA Reunion

Vice President James Koscielniak reported that he reached back to the Sheraton at Bayfront. The Sheraton does not have availability for the first 2 weekends in October 2024 and the third weekend would require a minimum of \$20,000 food and beverage package guarantee. The package for August 23-25, 2024 remains locked for ACAA with 10 Rooms are reserved for Thursday August 22, 2024 at a rate of \$189 with tax \$213.57; 50 rooms are reserved for Friday August 23, 2024 at a rate of \$189 with tax \$213.57; and 50 Rooms are reserved for Saturday August 24, 2024 at a rate of \$189 with tax \$213.57. The reservation cut off date for the hotel is August 9, 2024. The food and beverage minimum for these dates is \$6900. A motion was made by Louis Sitnik to schedule the reunion at the Sheraton Bayfront, located at 55 W Bay Drive, Erie, for the weekend of August 23-25, 2024. Motion was seconded by Ed Mohylowski. Motion was unanimously approved. Jim will begin to put ideas together for the reunion and will pull others in by the beginning of the year. Aundrea Cika-Heschmeyer will begin posting "save the date" notices about the reunion on the ACAA facebook page. Randy Polovick will also publicize the event on the website. James will begin to pull cost figures together to have in time for discussion at the upcoming annual ACAA membership meeting.

ACAA Website

Randy Polovick provided an update on the new website development. Samuel Andrew continues to work on re-building the Alliance College website. Our new website is: alliancecollege.biz and is up and running. Additional work is needed on it but alumni can access it.

Unfortunately the re-purchase of the domain alliancecollege.com on October 1 could not happen as it is not available until October 2024. If it is purchased at that time we run the risk of losing it permanently. Questions were asked and discussed about ways to resolve the inaccessibility to our alliancecollege.com website; or changing to another website such as alliancecollegealumni.com; or accessing resolution from a larger oversight corporation. Randy agreed to continue conversations with Sam Andrew about this but consensus was that we have alliancecollege.biz now up and running and as we and our alumni get more familiar with it the less we will want to open up yet another website name. If we can resume access to alliancecollege.com we will have both running but for now alliancecollege.biz is our current website and we should become familiar with it and promote it to our alumni. Randy assured all that both websites, alliancecollege.com and alliancecollege.biz have same URLs. Training for Board members is being developed and will be presented in the future.

Annual ACAA Membership Meeting

Mike Anderson reported concerns with low outreach to the alumni for the upcoming meeting scheduled for Saturday October 21, 2023. Discussion for and against changing the date was held. Noteworthy it was reported by Sally Day that the Foundation wants to present a scholarship this year, or early 2024 and the Foundation is hoping to do a launch of the scholarship at the annual meeting. Input was given by several members and Sally and Les Rachocki agreed that further discussion on the Foundation Scholarship should be brought back to the foundation for further discussion.

It was decided to move the meeting to Saturday November 18, 2023 at 1 pm. Outreach via social media and website will begin immediately and re-occur in the coming days up to the meeting. Mike will share Zoom link for the meeting.

In preparation for the annual meeting a tentative agenda was set: Foundation Report, including report on Trip to Poland; Foundation Scholarship launch; Website (with possible demonstration provided by Sam Andrew – Randy will reach out to Sam); August 2024 reunion (James will obtain and provide reunion costs); Membership and importance of dues; Financial Report. Due to the zoom format it was agreed the meeting will be more presentation based without need for voting and elections.

Discussion on membership and dues came about as part of the upcoming meeting discussion and Sally Day reminded of our past decision (July 2023) to utilize the website as our official database for membership. While Marcia has access to make changes on behalf of the organization, each member is responsible for updating their own contact information. Members cannot make changes to information other than their own information. Anyone with changes for another person would need to utilize Marcia to verify and make changes. Randy reported that a feature of the new website will be for an automatic reminder to be sent to members when their dues are upcoming and a link to pay directly through the website. Lifetime members will be exempt from the reminders through a pre-set feature of their information. It was agreed that Marcia and Ed need to work together to develop an accurate list of members that are current on their dues.

Status of Quickbooks (Ed Mohylowski)

Ed reported our Quickbooks account has been successfully modified to make him the primary contact and that our subscription for Quickbook is paid through August 2024. He reported that he opened new checking and savings accounts at Chase and that Sally Day also has access to these accounts. We closed out the previous account at Huntington Bancshares and used the balance of \$13,511.83 to open the Chase accounts with \$12,000 going into the checking account and the balance of 1,511.83 going into savings. As of the end of September we had \$11,072.35 on deposit with \$9,560.44 in the checking account and \$1,511.91 in savings. Total income to date for 2023 amounted to \$20.08 with \$20.00 for some Alliance College stickers/labels and .08 in interest for our savings account. Total expenses to day amounted to \$2,459.56 with \$1,057 for insurance, \$740 for website maintenance and design, \$563.43 for our Quickbooks subscription, \$72.38 for the alliancecollege.biz domain, and \$26.75 for checks for our checking account.

Zgoda

The current issue of Zgoda has a 1 page article about the trip to Poland and kudos to Basia Adams for assisting with such a wonderful trip.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Next meeting

Next meeting is Saturday November 18, 2023 at 1:00 pm via Zoom.