

**Manhattan Beach Education Foundation
Minutes**

Board of Directors – Regular Meeting
September 18, 2006 at 7:30 p.m.
MBUSD Office, 325 S. Peck Avenue, Manhattan Beach

Present:

Directors: (29/33) Edie Babbe, Stewart Bogen, Penny Bordokas, Tami Brothers, Geoff Bremer, Webster Burns, Beth Church, Randy Dotemoto, Mike Dunitz, Cindy Ellenberg, Denise Ellis, Michelle Erickson, Linda Figel, Craig Kline, Diane Levitt, Sheri Lietzow, Anne McLaughlin, Cindy McMahon, John Oshiro, LeeAnne Richter, Ellen Rosenberg, Lan Shrazi, Kristi Shaw, Jean VanZanten, Susan Warshaw, Rich Weiss, Tati Wennekamp, Erika White, Laurel Wright

MBUSD Rep: Dr. Beverly Rohrer, Steve McMahon

Board of Trustees: Amy Howorth

MBEF staff: Claire Clurman, Carolyn Leserman

Presiding: Anne McLaughlin, President

Recording: Claire Clurman, Executive Director

Guests: Diane Saunders, Kim Robinson, Greg Rosen, Jen Williams, Tammy Choy, Gary Hunt, Karen Hunt, Mike Gleason, Jeff Thaler, Sheryl Thaler

Handouts: Agenda, Minutes, Financial Reports, Investment Report, Arts Education Grant Request, MBUSD General Fund Budget Summary

Welcome of Guests:

Anne McLaughlin welcomed our guests to the meeting.

Recognition of Jeff Thaler:

Claire Clurman and various directors thanked former director, Jeff Thaler, and his wife, Sheryl, for their significant contributions to the Foundation and in particular to the Wine Auction, which Mr. Thaler chaired for four years.

Grand View Gator Run Donation:

Ms. Edie Babbe announced that the Grand View PTA had donated the \$30,000 proceeds of its Gator Run to the MBEF Annual Appeal. Anne McLaughlin thanked Ms. Babbe and the Grand View PTA for their generosity.

Approval of Minutes of July 11, 2006 Meeting:

On motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the July 11, 2006 meeting were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report:

Geoff Bremer presented the written financial report for the two months ended August 31, 2006.

Investment Committee Report:

Rich Weiss presented the investment report that showed results of the Endowment portfolio through September 18, 2006.

Grants Committee Report and Requests:

Webb Burns presented a \$4,600 grant request from the College and Career Center. The grant will cover the printing costs of the College and Career Center Handbook. Mr. Burns noted that the back cover of the handbook would reflect MBEF's funding of two counselors and of the document. On motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the \$4,600 grant for the printing of the College and Career Center Handbook.

Webb Burns presented a request for a \$10,000 planning grant to study and redesign an arts curriculum grades PEP through 12. A discussion ensued regarding the grant and whether the amount of the grant was sufficient to cover the costs of teacher release time to attend meetings and the costs of a consultant. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the original motion was amended to allow the Executive Board authority to increase the grant by \$2,000 if necessary. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted to approve a \$10,000 planning grant for MBUSD to study and redesign an arts curriculum grade PEP through 12, with authority for the Executive Board to increase the grant by \$2,000 if necessary.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Beverly Rohrer announced that a tentative agreement has been reached with the teachers union. She stated that the superintendent search is underway with the development of a RFQ that will be sent to qualified search firms and individuals. Dr. Rohrer thanked the PTAs and the Foundation for the district-wide technology initiative. She discussed the district's three other initiatives: arts education, science, and PE/wellness. She noted that the science initiative would coincide with a K-8 textbook adoption.

Steve McMahon stated that the District ended the 2005-2006 school year with a surplus. Mr. McMahon said that special education costs were under-budget for the first time in many years, indicating a slower rate of growth than originally expected.

Annual Appeal Committee Report:

Ellen Rosenberg reported on the Annual Appeal. She stated that letters had been mailed and that the campaign goal is to raise \$2.5 million and expand participation. She reported on the successful turnout at the Peer-to-Peer event and confirmed that all site reps have been given the information they need to solicit donations at their individual sites. The idea to produce and send holiday cards to donors and non-donors was raised and discussed. Ellen asked the board to lead by example and turn in their donation forms. Anne McLaughlin thanked Ellen and Mike Rosenberg for hosting and underwriting the Peer-to-Peer event.

Communications and Marketing Report:

Susan Warshaw discussed the recent MBEF press release, *The Beach Reporter* article, and the ads that are running to support the Annual Appeal. She noted that Cindy McMahon is preparing School Notes and that work on the Annual Report will soon begin. In addition, the website is currently being updated.

MBUSD Board of Trustees' Report:

Amy Howorth provided the Board of Trustees' update. She reported that the Board of Trustees is confident that the MBUSD will attract highly qualified candidates. She stated that a roundtable discussion would take place on September 24 with El Segundo, Torrance, Redondo Beach and Hermosa Beach school districts and State Superintendent Jack O'Connell and Representative Ted Lieu. Unfunded mandates and curriculum initiatives will be discussed. Ms. Howorth reminded the MBEF of the September 27 City Council meeting to solicit input on future initiatives, and she encouraged attendance so that student and family needs would be well represented.

Technology Report:

Ms. Levitt reported on the technology implementation. She stated that the HP printers had a design flaw but were currently being re-worked. Cabling and connecting issues are being identified and scheduled for resolution. MCHS is now connected to the rest of the district.

Golf Tournament Report:

Randy Dotemoto reported on the recent Golf Tournament and thanked Claire Clurman, Carolyn Leserman, Pam Yarbrough, and Marija Kosanovich for their efforts. Mr. Dotemoto noted that the number of sponsors had decreased this year and that work would begin almost immediately to secure sponsors for next year's tournament.

Executive Director's Report:

Claire Clurman reported on the meeting that she attended with Susan Schnieders from the Career and College Center at Mira Costa and shared what she had learned of the scope and depth of the program at the CCC. She reported on the Old Hometown Fair Wine Garden and asked everyone on the board to volunteer for a shift. In addition, she reminded the board of the upcoming Mayor's Golf event Oct. 9th at the Candlewood Country Club in Whittier. She further reported on the status of the Dr Michael Bradley speaking engagement, search for a new database program, and plans for the upcoming Business Advisory Council meeting in October.

Resignation and Election of Officer and Committee Chair:

Ms. McLaughlin announced that Geoff Bremer had submitted his resignation as Treasurer of MBEF, but intends to continue as a director. Ms. McLaughlin stated that Randy Dotemoto had agreed to serve as Treasurer. Upon motion duly made and seconded, Randy Dotemoto was unanimously elected Treasurer of MBEF with a term to expire on June 30, 2007.



FINAL: AS APPROVED 10/10/06

Upon his election as Treasurer, Mr. Dotemoto submitted his resignation as Chair of MBEF's Audit Committee. Ms. McLaughlin stated that LeeAnne Richter had agreed to serve in that capacity. Upon motion duly made and seconded, Ms. LeeAnne Richter was unanimously elected Chair of MBEF's Audit Committee.

New Business:

Ms. McLaughlin announced the formation of an ad hoc committee to review the Foundation's insurance coverage. The committee is comprised of Craig Kline, Randy Dotemoto, and Webster Burns, and Mr. Kline will serve as Chair.

Meeting Adjourned to Closed Session:

Approximately 9:19 p.m.