

**Manhattan Beach Education Foundation  
Minutes**

Board of Directors – Regular Meeting

April 4, 2006 at 7:30 p.m.

MBUSD Office, 325 S. Peck Avenue, Manhattan Beach

**Present:**

**Directors: (23/30)** Edie Babbe, Vanessa Benya, Geoff Bremer, Webster Burns, Wendy Carson, Claire Clurman, Brian Currey, Mike Dunitz, Michelle Erickson, Linda McLoughlin Figel, Craig Kline, Diane Levitt, Anne McLaughlin, Cindy McMahan, Ellen Rosenberg, Lan Shirazi, Jeff Thaler, Jean VanZanten, Susan Warshaw, Rich Weiss, Tati Wennekamp, Erika White, and Laurel Wright.

**MBUSD Rep:** Dr. Gwen Gross

**Board of Trustees:** Amy Howorth

**MBEF staff:** Debra Bowen

**Presiding:** Webster Burns, President

**Recording:** Brian Currey, Secretary

**Guests:** Theresa Tower, Diane Saunders, Jennifer Williams, Marla Zaslansky

**Handouts:** Agenda, minutes, financial reports, slate of officers for the 2006/2007 fiscal year, Vanguard statement as of 4/4/06

**Recognition and Check Presentation:**

Ellen Rosenberg introduced Paul and Suzanne Kobel, and Paul's clients, Shannon and Carlos Reynaldo. Paul is with Shorewood Realtors, and is donating \$10,000 for each of two real estate transactions (for a total of \$20,000 to MBEF) in recognition of the role of our schools in making our community so special.

**Welcome of Guests:**

Webster Burns welcomed our guests to the meeting. One of our guests, Theresa Tower, is an elementary P.E. teacher, who expressed her thanks to the Foundation for making it possible to reinstate full-time P.E. at the elementary schools.

**Introduction of Executive Director:**

Anne McLaughlin introduced our new executive director, Claire Clurman. Ms. McLaughlin noted that the eight person search committee had reviewed almost thirty resumes, and that Ms. Clurman was the clear first choice. Ms. Clurman expressed her enthusiasm for her new position.

**Annual Appeal Report:**

Ms. Rosenberg reported on the annual appeal. The campaign is wrapping up, and Ms. Rosenberg solicited suggestions for next year's campaign.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Geoff Bremer presented the written financial reports. Mr. Bremer noted that we will be consolidating the Smith Barney account into the Foundation's Wells Fargo account. Wells Fargo has just donated \$10,000 to MBEF, which raises the effective rate on our account with that institution. The Endowment is approaching \$2 million and should pass that milestone after the wine auction. In addition, at the end of this year, Continental Development should present a grant of \$250,000 to the Endowment.

**Investment Officer's Report:**

Richard Weiss presented a written statement from our Vanguard account (as of 4/4/06), where the Endowment funds are invested.

**Wine Auction Report:**

Jeff Thaler reported on the upcoming wine auction. Save the date cards went out the previous weekend. Mr. Thaler thanked all those who helped. Work on various tasks, including silent auction, restaurants, and wineries, is well along. Corporate table sales also are off to a very good start. The Committee has collected about \$70,000 of donated wine so far. Mr. Thaler invited directors to help prepare the invitations for mailing on April 29, 2006.

**Grant Proposal and Ratification:**

Ms. McLaughlin presented two grant proposals. On motion duly made and seconded, MBEF will donate \$2000 to the MBMS scholar quiz. Also on motion duly made and seconded, MBEF will donate \$1,600 for t-shirts for entering kindergarteners.

**Nominating Committee Report:**

Brian Currey presented the Nominating Committee's slate of officers for the 2006/2007 fiscal year:

President	Anne McLaughlin
Vice President - Operations	TBD
Vice President - Fundraising	Ellen Rosenberg
Vice President - Communications/Marketing	Susan Warshaw
Secretary	Brian Currey
Treasurer	Geoff Bremer
Endowment Chair	Sheri Lietzow

Elections will be held at the May meeting.

**Technology Committee Report:**

Diane Levitt reported on the substantial progress of the Technology Committee over spring break. A new switch was installed at the MBMS. The switch was obtained at cost

from CISCO, and paid for by Belkin Components, Inc. (thanks to Chet and Jan Pipkin). Mira Costa was connected to the district network for the first time, again thanks to funding from Belkin. A pilot installation of PC's at six sites, in order to develop an installation script, also took place. Funds for additional PC purchases will come primarily from the PTA's. Ms. Levitt has played a coordinating role on behalf of MBEF.

**Superintendent's Report:**

Dr. Gross reported on recent and upcoming events at the District. Among other things, she applauded the Carnegie Hall Send-Off Concert and the efforts of all of those who made that possible, including Mike Pitts; she reported on the South Bay Classic Golf Tournament, which raises funds for anti-drug programs; she noted that the Board of Trustees will approve members on the 7-11 committee, which will examine how best to use district assets; she said that over 100 Mira Costa students have volunteered to mentor special education students through Friendship Circle, a community project; and reported on other events.

**MBUSD's Board of Trustees Report:**

Amy Howorth reported on the Capitol Convoy and noted the upcoming District/City *ad hoc* committee meeting.

**Ratification of Minutes:**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of March 14, 2006 were approved as presented.

**New Business/Old Business:**

Cindy McMahon stated that the Meadows PTA's Camp Expo had moved to MBMS this year, and made about \$6000 more than last year. Proceeds will be donated to MBEF. John Oshiro pointed to the recognition of MBEF in the Carnegie Hall Send-Off Concert Program. Also, Tati Wennekamp reported on the upcoming Mira Costa Book Fair at Barnes & Noble.

**Meeting Adjourned:**

Approximately 8:32 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

Tuesday, May 9, 2006, at 7:30 p.m. at the District Office