

Chattanooga Central High School

Alumni Association

Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2020

The January meeting of the Chattanooga Central High Alumni Association was held on January 9, 2020, in the school library. President, Lucy Bottorff called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. She stated that she had purchased a voice recorder to help the secretary. She recognized a new attendee, Tray Martin Class of 2013. She announced that this was the meeting where new officers would be elected and opened the floor for Barney Ottinger to name the nominees.

New Officers

Barney Ottinger stated the nominees for the upcoming 2020 year: President, Buffy Hoge; Vice President, James Walker; Treasurer, Tara Waldrop and Secretary, Heather Randolph. Lucy stated that Heather will take the position only if a recorder is purchased because she doesn't want to write. The floor was then opened for any new nominees. No new nominees were named and Barney moved to place the above-mentioned nominees into their positions by acclamation. Motion passed.

Lucy turned the meeting over to newly elected President Buffy Hoge. Barney then made the gesture that we first show our appreciation to outgoing President Lucy Bottorff for her service and dedication especially coming from Nashville each month and for so many events. The attendees gave her a round of applause.

Words of Wisdom

Buffy began her first order of business by asking Lucy for her closing remarks. She turned in a book from 2013-2019 of all the minutes, agendas and treasurer's reports (from the time Tara started as treasurer). She then read a letter from Judy Phillips from the October 2012 kick off meeting at Countryside Restaurant to start the alumni association revitalization project. She stated that this was the start but before that James Walker and Susan Kendall had worked very hard on the Centennial and from that somehow were funded with \$10,000. A commitment was made that the association would try to never go below that \$10,000. When the association started there were already 10 scholarships being funded. There are now 15 scholarships being funded. There was also a discussion that the Connie Hay Spirit of Central scholarship has been added. Lucy went on to talk about the many teams/teachers/students/projects that the association has helped fund. She charged the group with getting more involved and expressed her gratitude for all the work that those already involved have done. She expressed that there is great potential for our group! Barney then expressed his gratitude to the group and also the challenges we as a group still face to take the alumni association where it should and could be. He asked what else the organization could do (other than the golf tournament) to continue to raise money. He stated that more people had to get involved! Buffy gave a quick response and asked for everyone's patience, prayers, and support.

Acceptance of Minutes

Buffy asked everyone to review the December minutes. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Tara Waldrop. Lucy Bottorff seconded. Motion passed. Buffy and Tara reminded everyone to state their name before speaking for the recording and to keep background noise to a minimum. Mr. I stated the gaming club was hoping to be back at the meeting next month.

Treasurer's Report

Tara Waldrop stated the fund balance was \$17,678.17. The \$1,576.10 is the balance of the Frizzell scholarship. The Fry scholarship for 2019 has been distributed.

Barney stated that Admiral Fry had given \$2000 for the Fry scholarships. Tara has not received a check for that. Mr. I said the school had not received a check as far as he knew. Barney suggested checking with the bookkeeper to see if it had come in. The check was made out to the Central Alumni Association. Barney said he would follow up the following day.

Buffy asked for any comments on the report. Lucy asked if the Frizzell scholarship was designated. Tara said it is designated and that it was separated on the report. She stated that when contacted by Ms. Alexander about disbursement of the 2 Fry scholarships, she also asked about the Frizzell scholarship recipient. Ms. Alexander was going to follow up. James Walker stated the recipient of the scholarship had not entered school yet and needed some help to do so. Ms. Alexander has agreed to help the student. Tara said the money would be held and given if the recipient enters school in Summer or Fall. If the recipient isn't in school by then the scholarship will be forfeited. Buffy asked for further comments or questions. Lucy made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Heather seconded. The motion passed.

New Attendees

Buffy stated that there were more new attendees at the meeting. Judy Phillips suggested that we all introduce ourselves. We went around the table and everyone introduced themselves and gave their affiliation with Central.

Principal's Report

Mr. I stated that he had good news to report. There was an increase across the board in Benchmark testing. Exceptional growth in Algebra 1 (8.9%); met or exceeded state goal (AMO). Buffy asked for important upcoming dates. Mr. I gave the following: May 7th Class Night which will hopefully be held at Bayside Baptist Church; May 8 Senior Day 9:00 a.m.; May 12 Graduation at McKenzie Arena. James Walker made the distinction that Class Night is when scholarships are given. Buffy stated that the Distinguished reception would be effected and she is checking some different options. It is pending.

Student Officer's Report

Jack Graham, President 2020 Class of Sophomores stated that this week they were just getting back into school as the best they can. Sydney Stone stated there was a general lack of motivation.

Zoey Greene, 2021 Class of Juniors stated they are planning prom (April 25th). Debate team starts next week and she is going to a leadership conference with Greyson Catlett in Nashville. One male and one female student was chosen. She expressed the stress and hardship of moving on without Ms. Sanford, the teacher that passed away earlier in the year and the stress of being in the Junior year. Buffy asked if the new teacher that was hired to replace Ms. Sanford is certified. Mr. I stated that he is certified.

Jessyca Foster, said her class was also going through the motions. She stated that ROTC's Military Ball was coming up on Jan 28 at Bessie Smith Hall. They are also participating in Teens for Jeans. She initiated this event and explained that Teens for Jeans helps homeless teenagers. They collect the jeans and coordinate with the local Aeropostale in the mall to get them to the shelters. Jeans can be dropped off at the Armory. Tara gave kudos to Jessyca for seeking the initiative to lead and help others.

Old Business

Barney stated the deadline for nominations for the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame is Feb. 28. There are 8 total nominations. There are 2 nominations from Hwy. 58 and the other 6 nominations are from the Dodds Ave. location. Barney stated that it was interesting to him that one nominee is 100 and one is 96 and the Hwy 58 nominees are in their 70s. Lucy asked the name of one of the nominees and it was confirmed. Tara asked if Pam McNutt Fleenor had been inducted and it was confirmed that she was in the DAHOF.

Coach Crawford discussed the LEGENDS (prior to 1945) and stated that we were ready to recognize them starting this year. We will recognize LEGENDS the same night of the SHOF. Media outlets will be contacted. A perpetual name board/plaque will be purchased and names added each year. Charlie Sedman (unofficial historian of CHS) has been working with the committee in order to put together a list of names. The SHOF committee met and has 3 LEGENDS they feel good about. They are still working on SHOF inductees. A date will be set when the football schedule is available. Heather added that the LEGENDS will be contacted if possible and will have the same opportunity to come and be a part of the ceremony at the SHOF Banquet.

Lucy asked that the association allow her and Laurie to continue to be in charge of the communications and she wants information on the LEGENDS that will be inducted when available. Tara asked for clarification if the LEGENDS will be nominated. They will not be nominated but be hand selected based on the research that Charlie Sedman and the committee does on athletes from 1907-1944. Lucy and Tara started a discussion about when it would be released so as not to give the public too much time to send in nominations for the LEGENDS. Coach Crawford stated we needed more nominations for the SHOF. James asked if there was a certain number that would be selected for the LEGENDS, perhaps a smaller number than usually inducted into the SHOF. Coach Crawford expressed the committee is trying to hold the number down due to a lack of nominations.

Heather said we had names of people but they did not meet the requirements for SHOF, usually because they did not excel in their sport after high school. Also because there normally are not many new nominations. She stated that as a committee they want to limit the LEGENDS to 3 inductees. Lucy said we had the Central H.S. Alumni Directory last published in 2014.

Buffy asked the dates of the golf tournaments and James stated that there wasn't a date set for the Connie Hay tournament. The Alumni golf tournament is October 10th. Barney wants to tie the football schedule, the SHOF induction, and the golf tournament to the same weekend if possible. Coach Crawford asked the alumni association to start thinking about the cost of the plaques for the LEGENDS/SHOF induction. He will begin looking around. Tara said it wasn't done last year for the Jason Frizell scholarship but wanted Coach to also price another perpetual plaque with his picture and then each year add the recipient of the scholarship. This plaque will hang where his tree is planted. Several places were given as possible places to have the plaques made.

Lucy discussed the December 28th Senior luncheon. There were 6 young men who attended. Everyone who attended received a full ride to college. Many RSVP'd but did not show up. They had the opportunity to ask questions of Mr. I and the members of the alumni who attended. They talked about the possibility of having a mentor program for Freshmen. Lucy stated it was a disappointing turnout with lots of leftover food. We need to rethink whether we want to do this again and if so how we can increase attendance. There was some confusion among alumni about who was to bring things. It was suggested that clearer communication for next year was needed.

Buffy discussed the mugs. 10 more were sold at the Central Connection luncheon. There are less than 100 left. Class of '61 wants to purchase 200 mugs. Ms. Carson with the Central Digest will put an ad out. They are \$7.50. Buffy has mailed some out and will work out postage with them. David Sharpe purchased a mug so the total for the day was 11 mugs sold. Several expressed that she should be selling the mugs for \$10 each.

New Business

Buffy gave handouts for community opportunities to give an idea of what each alumni event entails. She expressed that each event/committee needs help because in the past, there hasn't been enough help. She asked everyone to look over the list and see where one might help. Lucy volunteered to continue sending letters for honoree notifications. Tara will continue to help with media notification. Lucy will continue to be on the scholarship selection committee as will Barney. Tara said she will either do DHOF or scholarship but not both wherever there is a need. James will help with the scholarship committee. Lucy will head up the committee for scholarships. Tara stated the media needed to be notified when the scholarship recipients are named. Several media options were mentioned to use as well. James Howard's wife, the host of This & That, is a graduate of CHS. The other events were discussed (SHOF, Golf Tournament, Bricks, Mugs, etc.). Buffy asked for new fundraising ideas. A cookbook was discussed in the past as a way to raise funds and get alumni involved. Lucy asked for a mom in the school that liked to cook and would help. Sydney Stone said her mother would help. Tara said it could be done online. Sydney was going to talk with her mom about helping with this. Tara let everyone know that the bricks that had come in were there to view if anyone wanted to look at them.

Coach Crawford said word needed to be gotten out about the brick sale and also put in Digest. Tara said it needed to be on the website and she is willing to go to a Connection meeting. Tara said someone needed to get in touch with the Hubbuch's and let them know their brick had arrived. Tara reminded everyone of the cost of bricks and gave out more forms.

Miscellaneous

Barney spoke for the basketball coach, Antonio Davis. They have been raising funds and have raised \$6000. Banners are \$300 and he gave out forms if anyone knows of someone who would like to purchase a banner. Barney made a motion that the alumni association purchase a banner and David Sharpe seconded. The motion passed.

Lucy said we did not take a vote on the softball banner and made a motion to purchase a sign for \$150 for a softball banner and Heather seconded. The motion passed.

David Sharpe asked about the wrestling mat and Barney said they still owed \$2000. The alumni association previously gave \$500.

Barney stated he was working on the washing machine and dryer that had previously been discussed. He thinks he has a donor.

Scholarship application deadlines were discussed. Tara made a motion for applications to be due on March 31, 2020, and Judy seconded. Tara amended her motion to March 16, 2020, and Judy seconded. The motion passed. Lucy stated someone needed to speak with Ms. Alexander and Buffy said she will contact her.

Barney suggested that Coach Crawford and James Walker get together and come up with a date and time to have a ribbon-cutting and dedicate the track. Tara said she would like to see Jared Eddy and Deandre Anderson (did mattress sale) be a part of the dedication because as students they did so much to help get the track. Lucy asked who it should be named after and it was suggested it be named after someone at Central. There were a lot of discussions and Coach Crawford and James will get the ball rolling and make sure the alumni association is involved.

Sydney Stone stated that currently the arts program, especially the band room, is lacking. There isn't enough insulation. New facilities are needed. There was a discussion of this. Lucy asked what could be done and without construction unfortunately there isn't anything to be done.

Tara reminded everyone that Harrison Elementary was closing and is calling the principal in hopes that there will be a walk-thru or something that is done for the community before the closing.

Zoe said there is a program this summer that she is checking on. She gets to have a week in college that will help her get hands-on experience in forensic psychology. She will let us know what she decides. It is \$3000 and if she decides to go she will need financial help.

James stated that Coach Carter almost has all the seats in the stadium and sends his appreciation to the alumni association.

Heather stated she might have a couple of conflicts and would need help if she has to miss any meetings. Lucy said there is something else that can be purchased to put it directly into word and Lucy will purchase it if we decide we want it. Barney said we need to thank Kelly for her work and time as secretary. He made a motion of appreciation and Coach Crawford seconded. Lucy suggested sending notes. The motion passed. Zoe said she will help if Heather can't attend a meeting.

Tara made a motion to adjourn and James seconded. Motion passed.

Next Alumni meeting on February 13th. at 6:00.

Heather C. Randolph,

Acting Secretary

List of attendees:

Lucy Bottorff

Judy Phillips

Buffy Hoge

Tray Martin

Phil Iannarone

Jack Graham

Tara Waldrop

James Walker

Naomi Hay

Barney Ottinger

John Crawford

Zoey Green

David Sharpe

Sydney Stone

Jessyca Foster