

Chattanooga Central High School

Alumni Association

Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2020

The May meeting of the Chattanooga Central High Alumni Association was held on May 14, 2020 online using Zoom. Buffy Hoge called the meeting to order. There were no new attendees.

Acceptance of Minutes

Buffy asked everyone to review the April minutes. A motion was made to accept the approved minutes. The motion was seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Tara gave the treasurer's report. The beginning balance was \$18,251.67. A check was made to reimburse Preston Fore in the amount of \$188.78 for the new website fees he paid out of pocket. \$3,576.10 is designated for the Fry & Frizzell scholarships. Total available balance is \$14,486.79. A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report. Motion was seconded. Motion passed.

Principal's Report

Covid-19 closes schools: Friday, March 13th was the last physical day of classes physically in building to date. The students were given initial work packets and directions for on-line assignments.

Spring Break was April 3-12.

Virtual return from Spring Break was on Monday, April 13 but was impacted by the Easter Tornado.

Minor impact was noted for a couple of Central students but widespread power and internet outages caused the district to delay the full virtual return until Wednesday, April 15. Principal Iannarone was moderately impacted by tornado damage and Assistant Principal Cochran and Guidance Counselor Atkins had major impact.

Virtual learning/assignments continued through May 1 for Seniors and May 15 for underclassmen, however, there was a noticeable decline following the conditions encountered upon return.

The current week they have been hosting drive-thru item return and item pickup for students to facilitate the end of the school year. Tomorrow the seniors come by and they are hoping to surprise them with some fanfare.

The district developed a plan for school to follow in order to calculate grades for the term and the state adjusted graduation requirements for the class of 2020. There are only approximately 3 students who will not graduate...the graduation rate is the highest it has been in a while.

Events continue to be canceled or postponed due to Covid-19.

With the re-open process beginning to take place across TN, plans are now being considered for the reopening of school scheduled for August.

Graduation is now scheduled for June 28 at 2:30 at the Convention Center downtown. There will be more details to follow.

A virtual Senior Day is being planned to recognize Mr. and Miss Central, the senior class and this year's dedicatory Ms. LeAnn Shurette. This will be Thursday night at 7:00.

Alumni and members of the staff are working on Class Night June 11.

James Walker expressed that he had heard from members of the community about how well the drive-thru to pick up and return items went.

Lucy asked for someone to take pictures tomorrow of the Seniors coming by.

Coach Crawford asked for notification to be sent out for Senior Night and Class Night so everyone could participate.

Tara asked if the June 11 event was school sponsored and Mr. I stated that it was. It will be held at Bayside Baptist at 6:00. Tara asked Buffy if this meant we were not going to do what we had previously discussed to do for the scholarship winners. Buffy said that Class Night would be held as it was originally supposed to be and what was discussed as an alternative was not going to take place. The scholarships will be given at Class Night.

There was much discussion about the number that would be attending and whether or not the school board had approved this event. Mr. I said that guidelines would have to be followed. Mr. I said that they were trying to maintain a limited invite of 75 and limited guests.

Katherine Latham said the limit is 350 because that is half capacity for the church. She has stated that they are not expecting that many. Every other row is already roped off and families have to sit 3 seats apart. One door is to be used to enter and temperatures will be taken.

Lucy asked that we move to Class Day on the agenda because she said this wasn't a part of Mr. I's report.

Buffy said Class Night will be June 11 at Bayside at 6:00. There will be social distancing. Presenters will sit in the choir area a distance apart. DAHOF will not be recognized at this time nor will there be a reception. She expressed the importance of recognizing the Alumni scholarship winners and all the award winners. She said that Mrs. Latham had been a great help with organizing things between her and Bayside.

Lucy asked Mr. I if all scholarships were going to be given and he expressed that he thought it was just the alumni. Buffy stated that Ms. Alexander was going to try to give out as many scholarships as she could. Katherine stated she was told to give her music awards this night and she believes it does include all awards.

Tara stated that we are hearing two different things. Mr. I stating only alumni and Buffy saying all scholarships. She asked if we know how many awards/scholarships are being given. No one could give an exact number but the number of people attending has to be kept under 350.

James expressed his belief that it will be under 350 and Buffy expressed she felt comfortable that it would be under 350. Tara said she wasn't comfortable with this but that it was her personal opinion. Lucy said she feels that there won't be that many in attendance because it is being limited to the parents and the student.

Coach Crawford asked for a list of award/scholarship winners (program) to be sent to everyone. Lucy said she is currently working on it.

There continued to be a lot of discussion on this topic. Judy said she will be surprised if there are 350 people there and it would come down to a personal choice. Barney asked if the church was approved to have a service of this size and Katherine stated yes and that Bayside was starting services again on May 31. They are following the recommendations of the Governor. She said it will also be live streamed.

Barney asked Mr. I if the school board would be okay with this. Mr. I said that as long as they followed the guidelines they would be fine. Mr. I believes that the number attending will be closer to 100. Buffy stated that board member Stever Highlander knew about Class Night and thought it was a wonderful idea.

Lucy asked about masks and Katherine stated that the church isn't requiring masks. There will be hand sanitizer stations. Mr. I said as a school they are requesting that families wear masks for everyone's safety. They cannot mandate it but it is being suggested. Buffy said she would look into purchasing masks if everyone was comfortable with her doing that.

Tara asked if the school board had already approved this and Mr. I stated that they had not. James said the school board could not say no to the event.

Barney made a motion to approve the Class Night event. Lucy seconded the motion. All voted in favor except Tara who voted no and Heather who declined to vote. The motion passed.

Katherine Latham said we needed to specifically say how many can attend (possibly give out tickets) so that we can make sure we don't go over the number. Mr. I said this was a great idea and Buffy, Mr. I and Ms. Alexander will work on this. James suggested that there be a standby list and Buffy said that is one of the reasons that there would be a livestream. Lucy suggested that they work on it and let the alumni know the situation and an email could be sent out.

Heather asked if there was a committee for Class Night and if not that for the future we probably needed to consider having one. Buffy said that under normal circumstances there would have been a committee. James suggested in two weeks we have a plan. Mr. I said a committee would be a great idea and more than appropriate. Mr. I said with some more work and details he felt everyone would feel more comfortable with it.

Student Officer's Report

Sara Katherine reported for the freshmen. She said they participated in the drive-thru but other than that there wasn't a lot going on. Sara Katherine & Riley Martin (JR) are both Carson Scholars.

There were no sophomore or junior representatives.

DayOnna reported for the seniors and said they are looking forward to Senior Day. She said they were concerned about how they were going to start college in the fall due to Covid-19. Cassandra stated that they would have had graduation the 12th and now they were waiting until maybe June.

Coach Crawford asked Mr. I if he had any information on H.S. athletics at this time. Mr. I said everything was still on hold. TSSAA was looking at the possibility of starting some things back in the fall and the district is putting together a task force to discuss how and when school will start back. Coach Crawford said they need to consider athletics when they put the task force together.

Katherine Latham said Colonel Brooks (former CHS teacher) is a co-chair of the task force.

Old Business

Lucy asked everyone to stay on the agenda. She reported that the scholarship committee has worked hard and all are all in place and ready to turn in to Mrs. Alexander. The Mackey's are

giving 3 scholarships this year and Buffy and her family are giving 2 scholarships. Right now there are 22 scholarships being given from the alumni association.

Barney asked if the Mackey's had designated the recipients and Buffy stated yes. Lucy will be contacting the presenters in the next week. Finley King will be a presenter this year. Tara said she will let them know who is going to replace her to present the Frizell scholarship.

Coach Crawford reported that the SHOF committee had met over Zoom and that there is a class selected and he hoped to share names in June or possibly July. There are 4 names with a possibility of 6 people to be inducted. Heather reported that she was still waiting on some information from James Beach on one of the nominees. Coach Crawford said we would put the Legends off for another year due to the circumstances and not knowing if and how we will be able to have a ceremony.

The DAHOF is pending due to the circumstances and there will probably be a combined induction of the SHOF and DAHOF. There will be a committee formed to discuss and plan.

Katherine Latham said Mr. I had already found a room for the piano lab. This week they received \$1,500 from a Performing Arts League Grant and \$500 from Walmart. They will be able to purchase the teacher piano, the initial lab system and 8 pianos. If more money comes in, and she has heard news there will be, then they will be able to purchase 4 more pianos. Mr. I said they have secured more teaching time for Mrs. Latham at the high school and were able to add 2 more sections for her to teach.

Buffy asked James and Barney if we could have the pullovers for the 2 senior wrestlers to present on Class Night. Kristie Neely is working on this and James said he could have these for them by then. Jack Neely and Donovan Walker are the two seniors. Buffy is going to work with James on getting this done.

Preston said the majority of the website is done and completed. He worked with Butch Poole and got the domain transferred. Go to ChattanoogaCentralAlumni.com He said you can go to the site and the password is purplepounders. He wants to meet with Lucy, Tara and Buffy to show them how it works and to get PayPal linked. Lucy asked to meet on a Wednesday and will contact everyone to set up a time.

New Business

The golf tournament is scheduled for October 10. The committee needs to begin the process of planning. James said he had been nominated to be the golf tournament chair and said he would get a committee together before the next meeting June 4. He will also have a follow up on the Connie Hay Classic which was scheduled for June 6.

James reported that the D-9 committee complimented our Central students and the scholarship committee.

Miscellaneous

Lucy is concerned about the involvement with the Zoom meeting. 41 people were invited and 15 attended tonight's meeting. She asked if any of us used the resources that were posted (agenda, treasurer's report, principal's report). She asked if we were getting the communication or if anyone had any issues with it. All expressed that she was doing a great job and thought it was fine.

Tara stated there were actually a total of 17 attendees at the beginning of the meeting and in the middle of a pandemic she was impressed with the attendance. Everyone seemed to be in agreement.

DayOnna said she got everything and that some students were taking tests online and they were at different times and this could be one of the reasons the students weren't attending.

Heather said what they send out is user friendly and that we are living in a weird time and some are comfortable with technology and some are not. She encouraged her to keep doing what she is doing.

Mrs. Fry stated that there were many people (100s) without power tonight which could have contributed to the attendance and expressed that is why they were late to the meeting. She also gave kudos to Katherine for teaching them how to Zoom.

Buffy gave condolences to Tara for the loss of her father-in-law.

Lucy thanked Mr. I for all he had done for the students during these unprecedented times.

Heather made a motion to adjourn. James seconded. Motion passed.

Next alumni meeting on June 4th at 6:00 p.m.

Heather C. Randolph

Secretary

List of Attendees

Barney Ottinger

Judy Phillips

Preston Fore

DayOnna Carson

Cassandra Castillo
Phil Iannarone
Buffy Hoge
Katherine Latham
Sara Katherine Latham
Mr. Fry
Mrs. Fry
Heather Randolph
Lucy Bottorff
John Crawford
Finley King
James Walker
Tara Waldrop