

## **MOTHERS' CLUB OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL**

### **MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING – February 4, 2004**

#### **Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 3, 2004 – Scaggs Center / Vaghi Dining Room**

A meeting of the Mothers' Club was held on Wednesday, February 4, 2004 at 7 p.m. in the Vaghi dining room. In attendance were: Nancy Borger, Mary Byrd, Georgine DeBord, Maria Ellis, Kathy Garbow, Debbie Green, Lulu Hester-Alexander, Delores Johnson-Cooper, Marnie Kopera, Winona Lee, Linda Meliani, Marcia Mullings, Denise Murphy, Laura Paschal, Martha Pleshaw, Sarah Rasmussen, Roslyn Rikard, Magalie Salas, Karen Samara, Linda Saville, Elide Simpson, Robin Sorkin, Diane Stewart, JoAnn Stokes, Michele Sullivan, Pat Sweeney, Nancy Thibodeau, Yvonne Tuttle, Eugenia Ufholz, Manola Villar, Margaret Waclawik, Sheryl Washington and Debbie Whyte.

Since Mr. Mancabelli could not attend the meeting, Nancy Thibodeau opened the meeting with a prayer.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA** – Debbie Green moved to approve the agenda, Nancy Thibodeau seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT** – St. John's Business Partners are sponsoring a golf tournament in May and have asked the Mothers' Club to help out on the day. Since they have offered to increase their donation to the Post-Prom Event from \$1,000 to \$2,000 in exchange for our help, JoAnn has agreed but would like someone to co-chair this event with her. This is an all-day event and will probably involve helping with sign-in and general hospitality. Anyone interested in participating in this event should contact JoAnn at: [jo\\_jo\\_120199@hotmail.com](mailto:jo_jo_120199@hotmail.com)

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** – Michele Sullivan moved to accept the minutes, Sheryl Washington seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Treasurer Elide Simpson presented the Treasurer's Report for December. The present balance in the checking account is \$ 12,903.16 with no outstanding checks.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**MARDI GRAS** – will be held on **Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**. Co-chair Manola Villar said they had received many volunteers to both serve and bake desserts. She reminded members that home-baked desserts are by far the most popular. Desserts may be sent in with your student on Tuesday morning. They may also have some small prizes. Volunteers need to arrive by 8:30 a.m. Anyone still interested in volunteering to bake or help out on the day should contact Terry Melo at [meloterry@hotmail.com](mailto:meloterry@hotmail.com).

**PREP FOR SUCCESS** – Seminars will be held on March 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. This event is coordinated by Demetria Yeldell.

**MAGAZINE DRIVE** – Co-chair Mary Byrd described this fund-raiser. Last year we made \$11,200 in gross sales, with total profits of \$4,500 to the school. This year's effort will be different in that all packets will be mailed directly to the homes of all 1100 families. After this year, the magazine drive may be re-examined to see if it is worth continuing. The letter accompanying the packets will emphasize the value of this program. The school keeps 40% of all sales; the prices are 60 to 85% off the rack price, and all profits from this fund-raiser go directly to the very successful St. John's Retreat program. Families with at least \$100 in orders will receive a travel coupon for a free 3-days/2-nights stay at either Ramada Inn or Holiday Inn. Kick-off is the same day as the Teacher Appreciation Breakfast (March 16<sup>th</sup>) and Reader's Digest Coordinator Pat McKenna will talk to students at lunchtime, but there will be no school-wide assembly and none of the extensive lunchtime events that were held last year. Orders can be mailed to the Mothers' Club, or students can drop off orders at the school office or bring them in on the last Friday at lunchtime, when Linda Saville will be in the cafeteria. Committee members will meet at 5 p.m. on March 3<sup>rd</sup> (before the next Mothers' Club meeting) to stuff envelopes. If you would like to help, please contact Linda Saville at: [ellivasp@aol.com](mailto:ellivasp@aol.com).

**TEACHER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST** – will be held on **March 16<sup>th</sup>**. Chairperson Sheryl Washington described this event, which is designed to thank the teachers and staff for all their efforts during the school year. JoAnn asked whoever has the chairperson's folder from last year to please return it to either JoAnn or Sheryl. The breakfast will run from around 7:00 a.m. until around lunchtime. In addition, a gift basket of snacks is prepared for the faculty that usually lasts for a couple of weeks beyond the event. Volunteers are needed to bake and buy breakfast items as well as help out on the day. Any type of breakfast food can be donated, including quiche, breakfast casseroles and meats, juices, baked goods such as muffins, etc. Set-up will take place the day before. Anyone interested in helping out with this event by donating food items or working on the day should contact Sheryl at [Swwashington@ups.com](mailto:Swwashington@ups.com).

**POST-PROM EVENT** – Co-chair Winona Lee reported that they have had their kick-off meeting. They have expanded some sub-committees, such as the prize committee, in an effort to get lots of prizes for the students. Last year's event had about 271 guests and although this year's Prom is for Seniors only, they anticipate having a similar number. They will have casino tables as they did last year, manned by teachers. Lots of chaperones are needed for this event, to be held on May 28<sup>th</sup> (or actually, the early hours of May 29<sup>th</sup>). Debbie Green's husband Bob has once again agreed to provide free pictures for students attending. The committee will be sending out donation letters soon, with a response date of March 4, 2004. Members are also asked to consider using business connections to solicit donations. Michele will bring sample solicitation letters to the next meeting. After receiving a donation, please send a thank-you note on behalf of the committee, or pass on the information to Michele or Winona, who will be glad to send a thank-you note.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT** – Mr. Mancabelli was unfortunately out sick, so Debbie Whyte passed on his remarks. If we have another snow day, the Spring Break will be shortened and

students will have to attend school on Holy Thursday. There will be “Snowed In” Dance this coming Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, as a culmination of Spirit Week and a “Homecoming” for the winter sports season. Robin Sorkin presented her proposal for a “Holiday Bazaar” to Brother Tom and it has been approved, provided an appropriate date can be found. Once the football calendars are finalized, Brother Tom believes we can find a free weekend in November. College Night will be held tomorrow night, February 5<sup>th</sup>.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**HOLIDAY BAZAAR** – Robin Sorkin was not aware before the meeting that the proposal had been approved and was very pleased to hear that result. Debbie praised the proposal as very comprehensive and well-presented. Robin reiterated our preference for the Gallagher Gymnasium as a venue and is compiling a list of potential vendors.

**SCARVES** – Lulu Hester-Alexander presented the silk scarf that most members preferred from the last meeting. It is a large square which would have the St. John’s crest in the center on a red background, with a border and a smaller crest or emblem on each corner. They could be used as a type of “uniform” for events sponsored by the Mothers’ Club. Robin suggested approaching the Men of St. John’s with the idea of buying the scarves as Mother’s Day gifts for their spouses. JoAnn explained that the Men’s club members each receive a shirt and hat when they sign up for membership, but their dues are \$60. For Mothers’ Club members, this would be a one-time purchase and would help to identify us as a group. There was some discussion as to whether the scarf should be for members only, but as Nancy pointed out, many of the helpers at Open House and other events are alumni moms and other relatives, or mothers who are not members of the Mothers’ Club. It was agreed that the Mothers’ Club will cover the cost of the set-up fee for the order. The minimum order is for 100 scarves at \$35 apiece; if we receive at least 200 orders, the price drops to \$30 and if we order 500, the price is \$24. There was some discussion on whether to order 500 and try to sell them. However, it was decided that would be too much money to put out at once (\$12,000). If anyone is interested in purchasing a scarf, please contact Lulu Hester-Alexander at: [drdentart@aol.com](mailto:drdentart@aol.com).

**ADJOURNMENT** – Winona Lee moved to adjourn the meeting. Nancy Thibodeau seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Paschal

[As noted in last month’s minutes, this report will remind members of the Mothers’ Club ‘phone mail box (ext. 8076) which will be used as our main means of communication in the case of a meeting cancellation or other urgent messages. The school main telephone number is: **202-363-2316**. Other important information is also available on the school website: <http://www.stjohns-chs.org>.]

