

Minutes of the Spring Bi-Annual Meeting

UNT Parent Association

Dixie Pennington, President-Elect of the Board, called the meeting to order at 10 am. May 2, 2009, at the UNT Alumni Center. Melissa McGuire, Director of New Student and Student Success Programs and Jaime Blanton, Coordinator of Parent Programs also attended the meeting.

Welcome: Dixie called the meeting to order on behalf of Board President Karen Peoples, who was unable to attend.

Approval of Minutes: Copies of the minutes from the October 2008 meeting of Parent Association were distribute. Mark Amberson motioned that the minutes be approved, second made by Brian Richman. Minutes were approved unanimously with no changes needed.

Report of Officers: Dixie and Brian Pennington thanked attendees for their assistance in stuffing 650 Goodie Boxes, set to be delivered to dorms.

President's Report: None

President Elect's Report: Dixie spoke briefly about the continued success of the Parent Association. She also welcomed Jaime Blanton, the new Coordinator of Parent Programs. Jaime joined UNT April 20, 2009.

Vice President's Report: Lisa Hanna reminded the Board that volunteers are needed for the Parent Association table at each summer orientation session. Interested members should contact her by email to schedule a time.

Secretary's Report: none

Parliamentarian's Report: None. The Shirleys did not attend the meeting, due to serious illness.

Historian's Report: None

Treasurer's Report: Brian Richman reported that the Parent Association will be selling all merchandise at the upcoming summer orientations, as well as memberships to new parents.

University Report:

Financial Report Review: Melissa McGuire reviewed the financial report. Details of her report included: a decrease in merchandise sales; 144 pizza coupons were sold.

Legislative and University Updates: McGuire also gave an update about UNT. She said enrollment increased 3.6 percent from last year, and early projections indicate Fall 2009 enrollment will decrease. She said the number of students transferring to UNT increased by 33 percent. McGuire also discussed legislation that came out of the most recent Texas legislative session. She said legislators approved plan for a new athletic complex, law school and visual art building.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of Proposed By-laws Changes: Pat reminded the membership that a sub-committee was formed to develop recommendations regarding whether to change the bylaws to try to address the challenges posed by asking members who agree to serve in the role of Board President to make a firm three-year commitment to the Parent Association by serving one year as president-elect, one year as president and one year as past president. She said the sub-committee reviewed a number of options, weighing carefully the balance between valuing the strong commitment of dedicated members and ensuring the Board structure reflected a desire for new members to get involved and seek leadership positions if they feel so inclined.

The subcommittee's recommendation was that the role of Past President be shifted to an advisory role, rather than a full member of the Executive Board.

The matter was then turned over for discussion. Dixie Pennington said she supported the move because the Parent Association has historically struggled to find board members willing to serve on the Board, particularly long-term. Debbie Burns said that while she and her husband served on the Executive Board for several years, most people serve for one year, and then their interests shift to other activities. Jana Sloan then proposed that the changes to the bylaws be amended so that officers can only serve for 2 years in the same role. She further suggested that the terms be limited on position only, rather than overall. She proposed an amendment that language read that board members may serve only two consecutive terms in the same role. Membership voted on the amendment first; 10 yay, 11 nay. The amendment did not pass. The membership next voted on whether to accept the recommended changes, as proposed by the subcommittee. The motion to change the bylaws as recommended passes unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Parent Orientation: The Parent Association will have a table at each of the nine parent orientation sessions.

Sunday Funday: Move-in day for the Fall 2009 semester is scheduled for August 23/

Family Weekend: Events are scheduled for September 25-27, 2009. The Mean Green football team will take on Middle Tennessee that Saturday. The Parent Association hosts a volunteer reception and sells merchandise.

Tuition Draw: The Parent Association was able to give out four academic scholarships for the 2009-2010 academic year, and drew the names of 54 students who will win a "draw" scholarship. A list of recipients' names were given to Parent Programs staff.

The meeting adjourned.