

Ephrata Alumni Association Annual Meeting Agenda

March 10, 2025 Ephrata High School Library 7:00 pm

Board of Directors: President Michael Lehmann ('57) - present, Vice-President John Kriete ('64)- absent, Secretary Sheila Billingsley Massey ('89) - present, Treasurer Gail Mason Smith-Scellick ('70) - present,
Board Members: Lisa Mayer Sears (') present, Michelle Dietrich Brown ('88) - present, Terri Pitts Moncrief - absent, Katie Allstot Johnson ('99) - present, Katie Johnson-Greene ('99) - absent

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 by President Lehmann.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

President report:

Website Status Recap of Expenses - the fee for the website has been paid for 3 years, but with a cost of \$400 for the website hosting, President Lehmann recommends that we look into other options. Lisa is willing to work on reformatting the website into something more up to date. She has some people in mind to contact about how they might be able to assist her.

In addition to the website hosting fee mentioned above, the domain renewal is \$21.99 annually.

Showcase Status (by Sheila Massey) - the current "decades" display has been in the showcase for over a year, so Sheila is looking for ideas. Since the FFA recently formed an alumni group and had a slideshow at their reunion, she is going to reach out to the advisors to see if they would be willing to share some of their work for the display. Other ideas include more about scholarship winners, alumni staff members of the schools, or other notable alumni.

PayPal Status - PayPal is working well for most people who try to use it. Other options remain for those who have trouble or prefer other payment methods.

Facebook Status - the board discussed ways to get more traffic on Facebook as well as more interest in the alumni association in general. Some ideas included more interactive posts or polls, posts about generations of EHS alumni, a "hall of presidents" (ASB), reaching out to Sarah Morford, the district PR person or to Superintendent Ken Murray to write something about the alumni connection or a "Dear Alumni" letter, and more biographies of various alumni.

Plan for replacements - President Lehmann would like us to be forward-thinking about who might be able to come on board as a new President, Webmaster, and Treasurer within the next couple of years.

Noted Alumni - Terrence King was highlighted this past year for his achievements as a pilot and flight instructor. We will continue to look for people with interesting careers, perhaps "Tigers abroad," or coordinate with Michelle Dietrich and Dan Bolyard about some of the people on the Historic Ephrata Facebook page. We could include "where are they now?" information as we find it as well. The district "branding" process and the history of the "Archer Tiger" created by Gary Archer was suggested as a topic that could be highlighted as well.

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Veterans List (Katie Johnson-Greene & Mike Lehmann) - The list of Veterans that was compiled by former secretary Bev Mayer is now in an excel spreadsheet to allow for easy addition of more names, thanks to Katie Johnson-Greene working with Mike to get the document re-typed.

Scholarships - The board voted to award 3 scholarships at the 2024 Annual Meeting.

Treasurer report:

2024 start and end balance are on an attached document (not posted publicly, but available to members) as well as the 2025 start and year to date balance.

Action item: Sheila Massey moved and Katie Johnson seconded that a reimbursement to President Lehman be made for his payments for the website hosting and domain renewal fees. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary report:

Membership: The association has 254 lifetime members (including several now deceased), 17 memorial lifetime members, and 7 annual members whose dues are paid for a **current total of 278 members**.

Email update - An email went out in February to all the members whose contact information was in our database. Twenty of the ones sent were returned, so Sheila will be trying to get updated information for those. The email included information about who we are, what we do, and how members can get involved.

Postal mailing - Since the email was just over a month prior to this meeting, Sheila decided to wait for the current minutes to be included in the mailing as well. It was mentioned that we have some members who look forward to the mailings and read them thoroughly, so we want to be sure we are continuing to make contact with those who do not use email.

EHS Graduates - We continue to keep a running total of graduates from Ephrata High School. According to the OSPI website, 202 students graduated in 2024, bringing 1914 -2024 total to 10,685.

Scholarship Committee: (Gail Smith Scellick)

2024 - The 2024 scholarship committee members were Linda Pierson, Katie Allsott Johnson, and Gail Smith. There were 14 applications and each committee member's application choices were assigned points, with the top three point applicants being awarded \$1000.00 scholarships. The winners were Hayden Roberts (Beverly Mayer Memorial Scholarship), Fabiola Vargas Sanchez, and Kadie McMullen. ASB President Hayden Roberts was also awarded a Life Membership to the Association.

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2025 - We will be awarding three \$1000.00 scholarships to the Class of 2025. The Beverly Mayer Memorial Scholarship was voted to remain an annual \$1000.00 scholarship and will be included as one of the scholarships that we will award. Applications are due to the Ephrata High School counselors around April 12, 2025. The President will choose a committee to evaluate and choose the winners once the applications are picked up. We will look at finances again for the 2026 scholarship year.

New business:

Number of Scholarships for 2026 - Sheila moved and Michelle seconded that we offer a total of three scholarships (the Memorial Scholarship plus two additional) each valued at \$1000.00 for the class of 2026.

Membership Applications - Applications for membership continue to be posted and available on the website (ephratatigersalumni.com) or from the President, Treasurer, or Secretary upon request.

Scholarship Donations - from the Gillette family and others continue to be an important part of funding our scholarships. Memberships help greatly, but since it takes 10 lifetime memberships to fund a single \$1000.00 scholarship we are not growing at a rate to sustain the scholarship giving.

Future of Website - We are happy to have Lisa Mayer Sears joining the board to be able to help recruit people who have a vision for how to update the website for 2025 and beyond.

Old business: (None that wasn't already included in the reports and discussion above.)

Election of Officers - took place in a separate meeting following the annual meeting.

Katie Allstot Johnson moved that the following individual hold office until our March 2026 meeting:

President - Michael (Mike) Lehmann

Vice President - Lisa Mayer Sears

Treasurer - Gail Smith Scellick

Secretary - Sheila Billingsley Massey

Gail Smith Scellick seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:10PM