

# Ephrata Alumni Association Annual Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2026 Ephrata High School Library 7:00 pm

**Board of Directors:** President Michael Lehmann ('57) - present, Vice-President Lisa Mayer Sears ('81) - absent, Secretary Sheila Billingsley Massey ('89) - present, Treasurer Gail Mason Smith-Scellick ('70) - present,

**Board Members:** Terri Pitts Moncrief ('76) - present, Michelle Dietrich Brown ('88) - absent, Katie Allstot Johnson ('99) - absent, Katie Johnson-Greene ('99) - absent, John Kriete ('64)- absent

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by President Lehmann.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Since only four board members were present, President Lehmann consulted the bylaws for a clause about a quorum. Finding none, we continued with the meeting and the transaction of business.

## **President report:**

*Website Status* - there are no changes. From time to time, we need to review whether or not the cost to continue to pay the amount (details below) is worthwhile. It houses a lot of information, particularly for a few of the classes, but is in an old format and the quote for the cost of updating was exorbitant (over \$2000).

Mike reminded us that classes having reunions can send their information to be posted on the website under the Tiger Tales section, or they can share it on the Facebook Alumni Association page.

*Recap of Expenses* - the annual cost for renewal of the domain name is \$24.03. The nonprofit registration fee for Washington State is \$20.00

*Website Hosting* - while not payable this year, the website hosting comes at cost of over \$300 for a three year renewal. A priority for future years will be to look into options that are more frugal as well as options for converting to an easier format for a webmaster to update and edit.

*Showcase Status* (by Sheila Massey) -Lisa Sears brought in some memorabilia (letterman's jacket and information related to Orange E) to update the showcase this past fall. The screen is still running a slideshow that is about 6 minutes long featuring highlights from each decade of EHS.

*PayPal Status* - PayPal is working well for most people who try to use it as an option on the website for making a donation or paying for membership dues.

*Facebook Status* - there is some traffic on the Facebook webpage. More is desired and encouraged.

*Plan for replacements* - President Lehmann confirmed with Vice President Lisa Sears that she is willing to accept the position of President. He is willing to continue (for now) with the web. Gail is also hoping to transition out of the role of Treasurer within the next few years.

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*Noted Alumni* - Katie Johnson-Green is working on a write-up about Mike Muchlinski who had gained notoriety as an MLB umpire, and Mike Lehmann is going to highlight Ed Schempp, who has designed knives for Spyderco. We will continue to look for notable achievements among Ephrata Alumni, and members can reach out to officers with suggestions.

*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. Fewer names are being added (so hopefully we have the majority of them), but it can be viewed on the website if anyone knows additional alumni that should be added.

*Scholarships* - The board voted to award 3 scholarships for 2026 graduates at the 2025 Annual Meeting. They will be presented at the awards assembly prior to graduation.

## **Treasurer report:**

2025 start and end balance are on an attached document (not posted publicly, but available to members) as well as the 2026 start and year to date balance.

*Action item:* Gail Smith Scellick moved and Sheila Massey seconded that a reimbursement to President Lehman be made for his payments for the domain renewal and non-profit registration fees. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Secretary report:**

*Membership:* The association has 262 lifetime members (including several now deceased), 15 memorial lifetime members, and annual members whose dues are paid for a **current total of 286 members**.

*Email update* - An email went out in February 2025 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. Another email as well as a postal mailing to those unavailable by email will be sent this spring.

*Postal mailing* - Sheila asked whether we would want to consider sending Alumni Association window clings to the newest members as a welcome gift (and make additional ones available to buy). The board is open to the idea if the cost is reasonable. I-49 Designs in Ephrata was suggested as a possible business to ask about it.

*EHS Graduates* - We continue to keep a running total of graduates from Ephrata High School. 204 students graduated in 2025, bringing 1914 -2025 total to 10,889.

**Scholarship Committee:** (Gail Smith Scellick)

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The 2025 scholarship committee members were Katie Allsott Johnson, Lisa Sears, and Gail Smith. There were 16 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 Erika Morford (Beverly Mayer Memorial Scholarship), Emma Padilla, and Baylie Broesch. ASB President Charles Flynn was also awarded a Life Membership to the Association.

For the Class of 2026, applications are due to the Ephrata High School counselors around April 12, 2026. The President will choose a committee to evaluate and choose the winners once the applications are picked up.

## **New Business:**

*Number of Scholarships for 2027* - Sheila moved and Terri seconded that we offer a total of three scholarships (the Memorial Scholarship plus two additional) each valued at \$1000.00 for the class of 2027.

*Membership Applications* - Applications for membership continue to be posted and available on the website (ephrataticersalumni.com) or from the President, Treasurer, or Secretary upon request. We had seven new members in 2025.

*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 continue to plan to recruit people who have a vision for how to update the website for 2026 and beyond.

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

Meeting adjourned @ 7:53 PM

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

The following slate of officers were nominated and approved unanimously by those in attendance:

President - Lisa Mayer Sears

Vice President - *currently vacant*

Treasurer - Gail Smith Scellick

Secretary - Sheila Billingsley Massey

\*\*\*WE APPRECIATE THE MANY YEARS THAT MICHAEL LEHMANN HAS SERVED AS PRESIDENT.\*\*\*