

# Serra High School Foundation General Meeting

Wednesday October 5, 2005

Approved and corrected Nov. 2, 2005

## Serra Foundation Mission Statement

Improve the future quality of life in our community through enhancing academic and athletic programs at Serra High School

**Serra Foundation Website: [www.serrafoundation.org](http://www.serrafoundation.org)**

### Call to order:

Meeting was called to order by Bob Walters at 6:35 p.m. Introductions of all in attendance was made. Signed-in attendees totaled 29.

**President's Report:** Bob presented a new concept for future meetings. The concept would include integrating Foundation and PTSA meetings into one thereby allowing each group to retain its own structure but create efficiencies in the meetings. It was proposed that committee reports be submitted ahead of the meeting thereby giving people time to read them and comment on any areas of concern or question. Scott Jacobs, President of Serra PTSA was introduced and he expressed his hope that by combining the meetings there would be increased attendance of the meetings and a more collaborative relationship between Foundation and PTSA. The gathering was reminder that Foundation's purpose is to raise money for academics and athletics and PTSA is an advocacy group for education.

Bob remaindered the gathering that we still have openings for Assistant Secretary, Buick Open Chair, and Corp. Fundraising. Jeff Thomas will fill the role of Grant Advisor. The Century Club that is involved in the Buick Open presented us with a SOS Award. Foundation received thank yous from the three 2004-2005 scholarship recipients. Also a thank you from Nancy Farnsworth for a Fall grant to Special Education.

**Secretary's Report:** The June 2, 2004 minutes were approved by a motion from Kris Brown and seconded by Kim Gotfredson. Motion was approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Kathy Lejarraga presented Treasurer's Report stating that Snack Bar was off to a great start. Motion for approval was made by Denise Stevens and seconded by Lori Olsen. Motion was approved unanimously.

**Principals Report:** Donna Somerville, Principal welcomed everyone to a new school year and thanked both Foundation and PTSA for all their support. School opened with 2,127 students. Donna asked the group for their support and flexibility for new meeting format. Leslie McDonald, Dean of Student Services, talked about how the school is focusing on students' expectations, students being on-time to classes and being properly dressed. She also shared that the Senior-Freshmen Connection was going well. Leslie reminder parents that all bulletins are read over the loud speakers and posted promptly on the Serra website at [www.serra.sandi.net](http://www.serra.sandi.net). Joe Schmidt, ASB Advisor shared details of upcoming Homecoming events. ASB will be selling class shirts.

**School Operations Report:** Jeff Thomas reported that on Wed. Oct 12<sup>th</sup> all 10<sup>th</sup> graders will take the PSAT paid for by the district. In addition, 225 students in the 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades will pay to take the test. It will be given during the school day and proctors are needed. The school marquee project now has the funds allocated and the winning bid was by Budget Signs. Next it will go to the School Board for approval. With luck the marquee will be operating in January 2006. The new Parent Connection is in operation. It is a way

for parents to review attendance, assignments for all teachers etc. If you have students at different schools you can log in once and see all the information. The system will be officially unveiled to teachers on Oct 27<sup>th</sup>. Parents can go to the Serra website to start the process of getting a password. A parent will need a picture id to pick up your password.

**Auction Report:** Lori Olsen reported that we have a tentative date at the Town & Country for the auction. Save the date of March 18<sup>th</sup>. The theme is Serra Safari. We need a person/persons to coordinate the entire check-out process. Susan Whitacre encouraged all clubs to participate by donating a basket. Last year this was a new idea and went well.

**Grants Report:** Steve Donner, Chair reports that the group decided that we would keep to our 3 grant periods. Last week of January 2006 and then April 2006 are the next deadlines. Steve asked the group for direction on guideline amounts for each grant period. In the past it has been around \$ 10-15,000 per period. However, with a growing amount in our undesignated funds and no clear future projects defined, he wanted to know if we should enlarge the total grants per period if there were more requests. No further discussion of this matter was held at this time. The list of grants was presented with 6 grants for academics and 7 grants for athletics. A motion by Sheri Duncan and seconded by Kris Brown was made to approve all the grants at the committee's recommended amounts with the exception of the buses for ladies water polo. The motion carried unanimously. Ladies water polo will be invited to attend the November meeting to explain the need and costs.

**Teacher's Report:** Keri Pisapia reported no news at this time but very happy to be Teacher Rep.

**Athletic Director:** Jonn Pisapia reported that Ladies Tennis is currently in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in league and that Men's Water Polo is also in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in their league. Volleyball has a new coach. Football is having good attendance. On Oct 11<sup>th</sup>, a student *Kaitlin* Duncan will be on ITV on the Athletes and Scholars program. Softball has new backstops. Stadium grass is good and the new stripper that Foundation helped purchase has been a great help. Coach Steve Clark needs help with Men's Soccer for the upcoming season. Many thanks for all the athletic grants filled. Ryan Whitacre, a student will take the lead on producing Foundation Sports Recognition video. Four Serra teams already want Buick tickets. Homecoming football game will be against Pt. Loma. Many thanks to the Snack Bar team. At the current time basketball is only scheduled for 2 night games for which we might need a snack bar.

**Membership Report:** Denise Stevens reported we have collected \$16,360 in dues of which \$1,850 are designated to specific groups. Of the \$1,850, football has designated \$1,000. Overall the number of memberships is good with alumni and teachers a little lower than in the past. If you are working with students, you need to fill out a volunteer form and get a TB test. See the nurse any day except Thursday. Kim Gotfredson reminded every one that Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> is the Membership Party at Kris & Scott Brown's house.

**Parent Volunteer Liaison:** Donna Guevara introduced herself as the newly created Parent Volunteer Liaison. She will be working with Stacy Brennan, to help make sure we connect to all parents who have indicated that they want to help the school in some way.

**Sports Recognition:** Carole LaBuda reported that in November she would have a date for the Fall Sports Recognition night.

**Web Master Report:** Web Master was absent and no report.

**Publicity Report:** Billye Sue was absent and no report.

**Snack Bar Report:** Don Nacrelli was thanked by all for taking on this role. Don thanked his great team. He will need extra help for Homecoming game. Microwaves are burning out and he will look into possible action, i.e. if it's an electrical problem or old microwaves. Instead of getting more used microwaves, he will report next meeting about buying new machines. He and his team are also reviewing the pricing in the snack bar as some have commented that we are too good of a deal.

**Misc. and Recreation Council:** Linda Juhasz reported that Treebeard's owner Craig DesLaurier has agreed starting Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> to reduce the maintence for the corner to \$75/mo thereby saving the Foundation \$900/yr. In return we will acknowledge Treebeard Landscape as a Corporate Sponsor in all our publicity. Linda also shared all the details of the work performed. AYSO 152 is starting to think about investing some money into the Serra upper field as its condition after 25 years of minimal repairs is in need of major repairs. The unevenness of the field is a real safety concern for soccer. This is just in a beginning talking staged and all affected parties will be consulted before any action is taken. She asked the group to start thinking about what commitment and priority they would place on a project of this nature.

**New Business:** Frank DeBaca discussed our past support for Principal Somerville need of extra funds for staff development. A motion was made by Frank DeBaca, seconded by Scott Jacobs, to provide \$ 5,000 to Principal Somerville to use for staff development programs. The motion carried unanimously. Donna was told about a program that the VFW has to recognize teachers. Donna will look into this. Bob Walters shared that a Lorenda Owens has an idea for a possible fundraiser involving bumper stickers. She will be added to Nov agenda to explain.

**Old Business:** Jonn Pisapia informed group that the stadium scoreboard is still a major problem. This item will be added to Nov. agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Juhasz, Secretary.

**Next meeting, Wednesday November 2, 2005 –Joint Foundation/PTSA Executive Meeting at 5:30 p.m. and General /Parent Meeting at 6:30 p.m.**