

**OAKLAND MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE  
MEETING MINUTES  
11/2/09  
Final Copy**

This meeting is being held in accordance with the NJ Open Public Meetings Act, duly noted and posted in the Municipal Building. Members of the public are invited to attend all sessions but may not necessarily be afforded the opportunity to speak. Executive sessions will be closed to public attendance and will be in accordance with the Act.

**Members in Attendance**

J. Tauber, Chair <u>  X  </u>	C. Visconti, Council <u>      </u>	G. Clark, TOPS <u>      </u>
P Gannon, Heights PTO <u>  X  </u>	T. Kersting, IHHS <u>  X  </u>	J. Collins, IHHS <u>  X  </u>
N. Busker, Ponds <u>  X  </u>	P. Schad, public <u>      </u>	J. Smith, Manito PTO <u>  X  </u>
E. Kasper, OPD <u>      </u>	J. Nies, Rec Sec <u>  X  </u>	Dogwood PTO <u>      </u>
M. Piercy, OPD <u>  X  </u>	J. Megin, VMS <u>  X  </u>	S. Wagoner, Rec <u>      </u>
VMS Guid/Coun <u>      </u>	L. Knox, IHHS PTO <u>      </u>	A. Sorce, Com Pstr, Ponds <u>  X  </u>

Also in attendance were: Kris Gonzalez, Manito PTO, Kathy Scarpelli, Wyckoff MA,

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jack Tauber at 12:10 PM. with a quorum of members in attendance.

**Introduction of New Members**

Jack Tauber welcomed new members in attendance Trish Gannon representing Heights PTO, Jennifer Smith and Kris Gonzalez from Manito PTO.

**Approval of Minutes: 10/5/09**

Judy Nies read the minutes, Mark Piercy identified a typo and Nathan Busker moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Arlene Sorce seconded the motion and it carried.

**Report on “Nation of Wimps” program**

Kathy Scarpelli reported that there were 100 people in attendance at the October 20 program. The author/speaker’s content was excellent, however she was not a dynamic speaker until the Q & A which was outstanding. She provided excellent advice and tips on how to parent to produce independent teens. After the program, many of her books were bought and groups of parents stayed and talked afterwards. The program was videotaped and Kathy will work to edit the tape and provide to Channel 77 and then promote the program airing to the Parent-Teacher organizations.

## **Review Progress on Heroes and Cool Kids**

Tom Kersting reported that he and Matt Kohlbrenner from RHS are coordinating this program. They, with the help of teacher and guidance counselors, have identified 40 sophomore and junior student/peer/role model/leaders to be trained. They are getting the permission slips back now and the training will take place at Bergen Community College on November 16 from 9 AM to 1 PM. The visits to the three middle schools 6<sup>th</sup> grades classes will take place on November 30. Two more outreaches will take place.

## **Report on Defining Moments Senior Program**

Jack reported on this program that was held on October 13 and 20. The program was good but cost \$20 per person and the feeling was that it was not worth the cost per person. The suggestion is that next year the three towns might want to go together, find a bigger venue to bring the cost per person down. Nathan Busker re-offered the use of Ponds Church facilities.

## **2009 New Programs**

Tom Kersting reported that he will be requesting \$500 to provide a program on December 16 and 17, assemblies at both high schools with speaker Steve Benvenistis. After discussion, Arlene Sorce moved to approve the request and Joe Collins seconded. The members voted and the motion carried.

Kathy Scarpelli reported on an item of old business. Lorraine Knox had inquired about doing a program, Jesse's Journey. Apparently that program's website is down and the program is currently dormant, not available at this time.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance 2009**

Jack reported that all the paperwork had been completed and the check was released for this program.

## **2010 Budget**

Jack reported that the budget had been accepted and approved for 2010 as follows: \$10,356 for programs, \$5250 for cash match and \$17,000 for in-kind match. The transfer of funds has also been accepted. Jack will know by the December meeting how much is left for 2009 programs.

## **Introduce 2010 Grant Requests**

There has been a request from Valley Middle School for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance. Jack said he will bring this up for discussion and vote next month. Joan Megin said the program manager will attend next month's meeting to make a formal request.

## **Open Comments and Suggestions**

Jack had a copy of the form that high school parents sign for the Safe Homes program and asked if the parents could have the high school students sign as well. After some discussion, it was determined that this would be very difficult to accomplish.

Jack has asked Mark Piercy to gather statistics on alcohol and drug related incidents among kids in the community. It was suggested that that information is reported at the school level and may be available on the schools' websites.

Kathy Scarpelli reported that there is going to be a program at Franklin Lakes Middle School on suicide prevention on November 19. She will get flyer information to Judy Nies who will distribute to the OMA members for distribution to their respective groups.

Mark Piercy reported on a video called "Sticks and Stones" on the subject of cyber bullying. He thought the content was good except for the very end scene when there is strong suggestion that the story ends with a suicide (attempt?).

**Next meeting date: Monday, December 7, 2009, noon, RIH Conference Room**

**Adjournment:**

With no other business to discuss, Jack Tauber closed the meeting at 12:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted: 11/2/09

Judy Nies

Recording Secretary