

**OAKLAND MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE  
MEETING MINUTES  
2/1/10  
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>	D. Burns, Council <u>  X  </u>	G. Clark, TOPS <u>  X  </u>
P Gannon, Heights PTO <u>  X  </u>	T. Kersting, IHHS <u>  X  </u>	J. Collins, IHHS <u>  X  </u>
N. Busker, Ponds <u>    </u>	P. Schad, public <u>  X  </u>	K. Gonzalez, 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>    </u>	S. Wagoner, Rec <u>    </u>
VMS Guid/Coun <u>    </u>	L. Knox, IHHS PTO <u>  X  </u>	A. Sorce, Com Pstr, Ponds <u>  X  </u>

Also in attendance were: Alan Slepp, Franklin Lakes, Kathy Scarpelli, and Wyckoff MA.

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

**Report on Heroes and Cool Kids**

Justin Peligri, student at IHHS was introduced to report on Heroes and Cool Kids. The program has 40 students from IHHS and 40 from RHS who are trained to mentor sixth grade students at Eisenhower, Franklin Lakes and Valley Middle Schools. The concept is to avoid bullying, drugs and alcohol by instilling positive thinking. There are three mentors per classroom so there is good interaction and the mentors can get to know the students. The mentors go to the middle schools three times a year, each visit is prepared for during an on-site training by local celebrity professional athletes at Bergen Community College. There has been one mentor session to date where the mentors each told their stories with challenges and sometimes disappointments, but each story provided a lesson of optimism, perseverance and other forms of positive thinking. The students are encouraged to ask questions during the mentor session and there is a question box at the school where the students can get answers during the next session. All questions that the mentors are not qualified to answer go to the teachers, and the teachers are informed of all questions that are asked during each session.

**Introduction of new members and guests**

Don Burns introduced himself as the new liaison from Oakland Council and Alan Slepp introduced himself as a member of the community who would like to introduce a new program.

## Approval of Minutes: 1/4/10

Judy Nies read the minutes. There were no additions or corrections, and the minutes were approved as read.

## 2010 Requests for funding

1. Ponds Youth Center requested \$800 for their after-care program to purchase two computers for their computer lab. The request was approved.
2. T.N.T. Program requested \$300 for The Senior Dance. Glenn Clark moved to approve, Joe Collins seconded the motion and it carried.
3. D.A.R.E. Program requested \$4950. \$2300 would come from the OMA budget and \$2650 would come from the OMA Trust Fund. The request was approved.
4. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance, June 10, 2010, requested \$1220 to \$1500. Jack Tauber made the request \$1500. Lorraine Knox made the motion to approve, Trish Gannon seconded the motion and it carried.
5. Project Graduation, IHHS requested \$3500. \$2500 would come from the OMA budget and \$1000 would come from the OMA Trust Fund. The request was approved.
6. Jack Tauber requested \$300 for a Senior Program on May 25, 2010; he has secured a speaker from AARP speaking on Falls, Medication Interaction and Care Giving. The request was approved.

## Open Comments and Suggestions

1. There were questions regarding the OMA Trust Fund in which it was reported that the money in the Trust Fund comes from the profit from the articles collected from the "clothing bins" located behind Borough Hall. Arlene Sorce asked if the residents of Oakland were aware of these recycling bins as they are not visible unless someone went behind Borough Hall. The recommendation was made that via the town publications, the "bin program" be promoted including where the bins are located, what materials can be donated and where the funds/profits from the collections go. This may increase the amount of donations into the bins.
2. Mark Piercy reported that the Rachel's Challenge program is scheduled to be back in this area next October. He would like to request that the three towns each provide \$2500 in funding for the two-day program. Kathy Scarpelli from Wyckoff M A said that their M A would be receptive to funding this program. Jack Tauber asked Mark Piercy to send a memo to each of the three MA to support funding and then follow this up with a request to each of the M As for \$2500 each. Janis Ing Strauss of Franklin Lakes M A will be informed via this document.
3. Alan Slepp described the program that he has developed and conducts based on the theory that you can stop kids getting into drugs by preventing and stopping use of tobacco. The target audience is fourth and fifth graders. His fee outside of the FLOW community is \$500 for his assembly program. He is offering to do the same program within the FLOW area for \$250 per program
4. Jack reported on a film, entitled *Stone Cold #2*. Glenn Clark said he had seen the first film, *Stoned Cold*; his daughter in another town was required to view this film with a parent before she was permitted to go to the prom. Jack said that if anyone wanted more information, the e-mail address is [melliangonzalez@humec.com](mailto:melliangonzalez@humec.com)
5. Lorraine Knox reported that IHHS PTSO has approved a budget to have Steve Benvenisti return to speak to the freshmen and sophomores.

6. Glenn Clark said he would like to request to repeat the Heroes and Cool Kids program for next school year. He is waiting for the second mentoring session and the feedback from that session before making the formal request. This is an informal "heads up" for the three towns to look for the funding in their budgets.
7. Kris Gonzalez, representative from Manito Elementary School reported that the PTO will be running a program on February 8, 2010 that teaches and reinforces the Eight Pillars of Character. She asked how to go about requesting funds. Judy Nies will e-mail the request form as well as the required follow-up forms. As the program will be held before the next OMA and before a request could be submitted, Jack Tauber said there was a chance that the request might not be approved and if it were, the PTO would have to pay out the money for the program and the OMA would be reimbursing the PTO treasury.

**Next meeting date: Monday, March 1, 2010, noon, RIH Conference Room**  
**Adjournment:**

With no other business to discuss, Jack Tauber closed the meeting at 1:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted: 2/1/10  
Judy Nies  
Recording Secretary