

# West Point Parents Club of Northern Illinois

WPPC-IL Meeting Minutes – Conference Call 7/13/15

**Attendance:** Kim Vander Yacht, Brian Vander Yacht, Janine Mogan, Bill Oakley, Karen Falk, Phil Falk, Bob Ocasio, Cathy McNally, Kristen Howard, Nancy Shares and Bill Binkley.

**Call to Order:** President Kim Vander Yacht called the meeting to order via conference call at 7:08 PM.

**Secretary's Report:** Nancy Shares stated that the minutes were emailed out 2 days prior for review. Kim Vander Yacht questioned the statement regarding the Grainger donation under the All Academy Ball notes and whether it was finalized to cover the cost of the cadets attending the Ball. Phil Falk stated that it was not finalized yet and should be removed from the minutes. Brian Vander Yacht gave the first motion to accept the May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015 minutes with that statement removed. Kim Vander Yacht gave the second motion. The minutes were accepted with the statement regarding the Grainger donation removed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jane Wilhelm stated that the June 30<sup>th</sup> bank statement was reconciled and emailed out to everyone. As of June 30<sup>th</sup> we had \$9,930.98 plus \$100 petty cash. Current balance is \$10,030.98. Three deposits in July: \$100 petty cash redeposit plus 2 memberships of \$262.50 and \$95.00 for a total deposit of \$457.50. There is a check going out to Kim Vander Yacht soon in the amount of \$540.00 for the Howitzer Ad. Jane Wilhelm stated that she has put together an income statement as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, which ties to the bank statement. Jane Wilhelm also mentioned a need to discuss budget information. It was decided that Brian & Kim Vander Yacht would discuss budget specifics with Jane Wilhelm and past treasurer Janine Mogan separately and then present for discussion with the leadership team during the next conference call. Nancy Shares gave the first motion to accept the treasurer's report with Kim Vander Yacht giving the second. All were in favor to accept the treasurer's report.

**Class of 2019 Welcome Picnic:** Kristen Howard stated that the picnic went really well except that there was a shortage of main and side dishes. Thoughts were shared on how to collect food donations more evenly amongst the classes so that there would not be a shortage next year. Jane Wilhelm suggested using a volunteer website where everyone can sign up for a food or drink item and can see what is already being brought. All agreed that this would be a good way to evenly distribute the donations. The venue, Oakbrook Recreation Center, was well liked and suggested again for next year. Kim Vander Yacht stated that she spoke to a representative at the Oakbrook facility about reserving for next year's picnic. June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 were both offered. It was decided that June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 would be the better date. A deposit of \$400.00 is required to reserve the facility. Bob Ocasio gave a motion to use current funds for reserving the chosen date of June

5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the Oakbrook facility for next year's Welcome Picnic. All were in favor of using funds to reserve the chosen date.

**Membership:** Cathy McNally stated that she has received payment from 43 families. For the Class of 2019, there are 10 current memberships, 3 having paid their dues for the full 4 years. The Class of 2018 has 9 current memberships, 3 having paid their dues through 2018. The Class of 2017 has 7 current memberships, 5 having paid their dues through 2017. The Class of 2016 has 6 current memberships. Class of 2015 has 2 memberships. Class of 2014 also has 2 memberships. We have 7 additional alumni memberships.

Kim Vander Yacht stated that she is working with Marissa Yelenosky to draft an email that could be sent out to all Illinois families that are not current members encouraging them to join the club. Kim Vander Yacht stated that once the email is drafted she had planned to send out to the class representatives so that they can forward to those families from their class year. Janine Mogan mentioned that there was a huge effort among the Class of 2014 to get everyone connected. Members discussed making phone calls as the best way to reach out to families and encourage them to join.

**Mentor Program:** No Report.

**Membership Directory:** Julie Binkley will update the directory when all new member names are given to her.

**Field Force Team:** Bob Ocasio stated that there is a new admissions representative from West Point for the Great Lakes area, which covers 12 states. His name is Capt. Wade Smith. Bob Ocasio stated that he is meeting with Capt. Smith tomorrow and will be able to share information from this meeting on our next conference call. The email for Captain Smith is wade.smith@usma.edu.

### **Upcoming Events:**

**Plebe Letter Writing Party:** Kim Vander Yacht stated that she received an email today from Bob Dold's office saying that July 25<sup>th</sup> may not work for their office anymore. Kim Vander Yacht proposed Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup> as a replacement date. Phil Falk stated that BEAST is almost over at that point. All agreed that it needed to be held on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. Kim Vander Yacht asked for suggestions on other venues to host the event. Bill Binkley stated that he would discuss options with her offline. More information regarding this event will be sent out to the club soon.

**Leadership Conference:** Kim Vander Yacht stated that the AOG (Association of Graduates) Leadership Conference at West Point will be held August 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>. The AOG puts on a leadership conference each year for their alumni and also includes parent's clubs from across the country. It is a great opportunity for club representatives to share information amongst each other. Kim Vander Yacht mentioned that she attended last year with Phil and Karen Falk and felt that

someone who was interested in assuming a leadership role in the club should attend this year. Our current Vice President, Kristen Howard, is interested in attending. Geriann Weisbrook has also shown interest in joining Kristen Howard this year. Janine Mogan stated that those who attend should receive a \$250 stipend if they fill out the paper work requesting it.

**Parent's Weekend 2015:** Bill Binkley stated that to date there are not many families signed up to attend the tailgate this year. Bill Binkley also mentioned that he has received \$150 in donations to be used for the cost of the cadets. The goal is to receive enough donations to cover the cost of all Illinois cadets. If there is not enough to cover all cadets then there will be a charge of \$25 for cadets whose families are not club members. Bob Ocasio suggested that the club help fund the efforts of the tailgate. Bill Binkley asked all members to reach out for donations. Bill Binkley also stated that he would email out a donation form to make the request for donations an easy process. Karen Falk suggested sending out more information regarding the tailgate and donations after A-Day. Bill Binkley asked members who plan to attend to purchase their football tickets soon so the group can stay together. Tickets can be purchased through the Army athletic office. It is important to state that you are with the West Point Parent's Club of IL when purchasing.

**Fall Picnic:** Kim Vander Yacht stated that she inquired with the Oakbrook facility to hold the fall picnic there this year. Dates available are: October 25<sup>th</sup>, November 8<sup>th</sup>, and November 15<sup>th</sup>. Bill Binkley stated that the picnic is usually held earlier in the fall. Last year's picnic was held on October 5<sup>th</sup>. All members agreed to look into an earlier date. September 20<sup>th</sup> was suggested. Kim Vander Yacht will work on this date and get back to the club with venue options.

**Army/Air Force Watch Party:** Kim Vander Yacht has reached out to the Air Force Club regarding a watch party for the Army/Air Force football game. More information to come.

**All Academy Ball:** Phil and Karen Falk stated that the venue for the All Academy Ball has been changed to the Union League Club of Chicago from the Marriott Lincolnshire. It will now be held on Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup>. A recent committee meeting was held. The silent auction was one topic discussed. Karen Falk asked for volunteers to take on the auction/raffle otherwise it will have to be scratched from the program. Kim Vander Yacht suggested that the committee discuss other ways to fundraise at the Ball.

Karen Falk stated that we still need to sign a contract with a DJ and florist. This will be a topic for discussion at the next committee meeting.

The ticket prices for attendees, including cadets, will be more expensive this year unless we can get a lot of donations. Donation letters have gone out to committee members and will soon go out to our club members. Phil Falk asked all members to use the donation letters to send out to their contact lists.

**Boodle Party:** Kim Vander Yacht stated that this will be discussed at a later date.

**Firstie Brunch:** Kim Vander Yacht stated that this will be discussed at a later date.

**Adjournment:** Brian Vander Yacht asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 PM. Nancy Shares gave the first motion to accept, Jane Wilhelm gave the second. All were in favor to adjourn. The next conference call will take place on August 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nancy Shares  
Secretary