



# LEHIGH HOME CLUB

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, September 3, 2008  
Silver Creek Country Club, Hellertown

**Board Members Present:** Sean Hart, Dennis Zehner, John Berseth, Ollie Foucek, Mark Parseghian, Tom Rohrbach, Michael Stamberr, Martha Sullivan, Bill Trotter, Paul Wagner, Mark Yoder; **Guest Alumnus:** Bernard Harms; **Representing LUAA:** Monica Timar, Ann Coy.

Board President Sean Hart called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. and introduced Bernard Harms '07, a recent MBA graduate who wants to get more involved with Lehigh alumni activities, and Ann Coy, new Assistant Director, Affinity and Regional Programs, for LUAA.

**Minutes of May 14 Board Meeting:** The board reviewed the May 14 minutes. John Berseth moved to accept the minutes. Mark Parseghian seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

**Treasury Report:** John presented the treasury report, reflecting balances as of July 31. John noted that a disbursement of \$534 for July's freshman sendoff was not included in the report. John also noted that the balance of \$7,617.85 as of July 31 was the highest he could ever recall in the Home Club treasury, and suggested that the club be mindful to plan accordingly. Dennis Zehner moved to accept the treasury report. Ollie Foucek seconded the motion. The treasury report was approved unanimously.

**Conneen Award Update:** Sean reported that the plaque for the 2007-2008 Conneen Award, which honors the late Dr. Michael Danjczek, is ready for presentation at the Children's Home of Easton when his widow, Cynthia, returns to the Lehigh Valley. Paul Wagner reported that Mrs. Danjczek intends to return around the time of the Nov. 2 wrestle-offs. The board discussed the possibility of presenting the award or noting the award during the wrestle-offs instead. The Paul will keep the board posted.

**Report on IronPigs Event:** Dennis reported that the July 9 event at Coca-Cola Park for a Lehigh Valley IronPigs game was successful, with all tickets selling out and Martin Zawarski '78 of NicZ Homes, Bethlehem, offering club members use of his company's luxury box throughout the evening. Dennis noted that the club will give Martin status as a dues-paying member, with Sean's permission, for his

efforts. The board also discussed the possibility of a similar event in 2009. Ollie Foucek suggested canvassing owners of other luxury boxes with Lehigh connections to determine if a larger-scale event can take place in the various boxes during a 2009 game.

**Web Site:** Dennis noted that he would like to step down as web site manager because his Home Club responsibilities will change in the near future. The board and LUAA will seek a new web manager.

**Report on Freshman Sendoff:** Monica Timar reported that the Class of 2012 sendoff was “outstanding,” drawing 111 people – including 26 incoming freshmen, 29 parents of incoming freshmen, 17 other undergraduate students, 22 alumni, 8 friends, and 9 staff members. Sean reported that the hors d’ouvres menu worked well, as it cut costs by more than 50 percent and appeared to foster more interactivity among guests. Sean also noted that the addition of a short address by a current student, a short address by LUAA’s Bob Wolfenden, who was recently promoted to the position of Assistant Vice President, Alumni Relations, and breakout sessions for parents and students complimented the annual address by Dr. Joseph Sterrett, Director of Athletics, well. There were some issues with the acoustics and the short supply of beverages to be considered for 2009. Ollie asked about the status of event surveys, and Monica indicated that they are being processed. Sean also reported that the Home Club revived the tradition of presenting the Jack Conneen Award at the sendoff. The 2008-2009 honoree, Mark Parseghian, gave a short acceptance speech that went over well with guests.

**Eagles Event:** Sean reported that the club was not successful in putting together an event involving the Philadelphia Eagles training camp at Lehigh as the Eagles routinely sell out training camp sessions and often turn groups away.

**Air Products:** Monica and Ann Coy reported that an alumni group of Air Products employees are interested in working with the Home Club. The board discussed potential ideas – including a sponsorship of the freshmen sendoff and a lunch seminar at Air Products featuring Dr. Alice Gast, Lehigh University President. The board will discuss this matter again at a future meeting.

**Race Against the Sun:** Jessica’s Race Against the Sun has been scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 27. The board had voted to support the event, but it needed to determine the degree and shape of its support. There was a discussion about the need for caution in setting a precedent in order to avoid an influx of other requests. Dennis noted, however, that the board’s vote on January 9, 2008 to name the event the Home Club’s official community service project, should give the organization a strong answer to any such requests. The board agreed to ask LUAA for a mass e-mail seeking volunteers for the event. After a discussion relating to financial support, Ollie Foucek moved that the club provide a \$500

Silver Level Sponsorship. Paul Wagner seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Upcoming Events:** The board then discussed a series of potential events for the remainder of the 2008-2009 year.

**Request by Lehigh Valley Grand Prix:** The board reviewed an event request by the Lehigh Valley Grand Prix indoor racing facility in Allentown. While board members liked the event concept, they were not comfortable with the high prices offered. Sean will ask Lehigh Valley Grand Prix if it would be willing to provide lower pricing in exchange for marketing considerations.

**Alumni Weekend:** Sean indicated that the club has agreed to participate in Alumni Weekend activities on Oct. 4 relating to the football game against Fordham. Monica described LUAA's vision of molding alumni weekend into a homecoming-style event outside of the annual Lehigh-Lafayette game. John Berseth noted that such an atmosphere will provide the Home Club with opportunities to solicit dues-paying members.

The board adjourned for a dinner break at 7:40 p.m. The board resumed its meeting at 7:56 p.m.

**Lehigh-Lafayette Pub Night:** The Lehigh-Lafayette Pub Night has been scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 19, at 6:30 p.m. at Pearly Baker's in Easton. Sean has confirmed that the event will feature \$2.00 pints of beer. Sean reminded the board of last year's event in Bethlehem, which was upstaged by the Lafayette Leopard. Sean confirmed that the Leopard will be at the Nov. 19 event and renewed his call for the Lehigh Mountain Hawk to appear as well. Monica indicated that LUAA is working to arrange such an appearance.

**Lehigh-Lafayette Telecast:** Both Paul and Monica noted the tremendous lack of tickets for Lehigh people to this year's Lehigh-Lafayette game in Easton. While tickets at Lafayette have always been scarce, this year's shortage is significantly deeper than it had been previously. Therefore, there might be a greater interest in a local telecast party this year. The board discussed potential locations – including the Cooperhead Grille in Allentown, the new site of the Lehigh football team's weekly media luncheon; Starter's Riverport; and the Bethlehem Brew Works. Upon the board's recommendation, Dennis agreed to contact the Brew Works first for a potential event.

**Lehigh-Lafayette Bonfire:** Sean noted that the university is not in favor of holding a bonfire for a variety of reasons – including insurance costs and perceived environmental concerns.

**Family Christmas Event:** Sean reported that Donna Genay has agreed to chair this event again. One potential site would be Lehigh Valley Grand Prix if appropriate pricing can be arranged.

**Wrestling Sendoff:** The board discussed the March sendoff for the wrestling team, which will be held before the EIWA championships at the University of Pennsylvania. After a discussion of potential venues and last year's sendoff at The Lantern Restaurant in Bethlehem, the board agreed to pursue the Bethlehem Brew Works as a location with hopes of gaining a discount if the club held both the wrestling sendoff and the Lehigh-Lafayette telecast there. Dennis agreed to chair the event and pursue a discussion with the Brew Works in coordination with Paul Wagner and Head Coach Pat Santoro.

**Spring Family Event:** Mike Stalherr reported that the 2008-2009 State Theatre schedule offered few appropriate shows for a spring family event. The board agreed, therefore, not to hold such an event this year.

**Ideas on Events with Other Schools:** The board discussed reviving the seminar series it held with other colleges. A suggestion was made to hold a panel program on environmental issues around Earth Day 2009. Dennis agreed to check with his employer, the Da Vinci Science Center, as a potential site and partner and report at the next board meeting.

**Spring Student Theater Event:** John Berseth will chair this event. Further discussion was tabled until the next board meeting.

**Golf Outing:** As John and Bill Trotter would like to step down as golf chairs, Sean agreed to chair the event only for 2009 because he is stepping down as Home Club President.

**Summer Events:** As per discussion earlier in the meeting, the Board will pursue a summer event at Coca-Cola Park during a Lehigh Valley IronPigs game.

**Class of 2013 Sendoff:** Martha Sullivan agreed to chair the event. Dennis pledged his support relating to an idea to have both a sponsor and a "swag bag" of donated gifts for the freshmen.

**Dues Letter:** As the nominee for Home Club President, Dennis will draft the 2008-2009 dues letter and submit it to Monica in short order. Dennis moved to keep the dues prices the same as they were in 2007-2008. Sean seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Election of Officers:** As Sean had indicated earlier in the meeting, he is stepping down as Home Club President and that the time had come to elect the 2008-2009 officers. Sean presented the slate of nominations as follows:

President – Dennis Zehner  
Vice President – Diana Colahan

Treasurer – John Berseth  
Secretary – Martha Sullivan

Sean moved to approve the slate of nominees. Ollie Foucek seconded the motion. The slate was elected unanimously.

Sean moved to adjourn the meeting. Dennis seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned unanimously around 8:30 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 29, at Silver Creek Country Club.

Submitted by Dennis Zehner, Board Secretary

# Lehigh Home Club

## Treasurer's Report – Sept. 1, 2008

Opening Balance	4/30/2008	\$7061.62
Receipts	Memberships (Life)	0.00
	Dues	0.00
	Program Deposits	3278.08
	Wrestling, golf, tubing, Iron Pigs	
Disbursements		
	Yahoo Web	(26.95)
	Event Costs	(2695.00)
Balance	7/31/2008 (reconciled)	\$7617.85