

West Point Parents Club of MA

Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2012

A meeting was held at Carl and JoAnne Vercollone's home in Lincoln, MA.

In attendance were: George Jedras, Nicole Burkel, Stephen Wallingford, and JoAnne and Carl Vercollone

Stephen Wallingford conducted the meeting.

June Picnic for New Cadets

Location: George will check to see if the Club can use St. Luke's Parrish center in Westborough given its convenient location.

Date: June 16/17 and 23/24 were considered and Saturday June 16th was considered the best option.

Speakers and Agenda: George will provide Stephen with an agenda from past picnics. Joe Mastrioni (sp) has spoken at past picnics and will be invited again. It was also suggested that Kathy Snook be approached to see if she was willing to address the parents in the general session.

New Cadet Listing and Invitations: Jerry Bolling at West Point has a listing of all the new Cadets. Stephen will get a listing from Jerry. Invitations will be sent to the new Cadet families, and current Cadets and members of the Club. Parents and current Cadets will be encouraged to attend to share their experiences and answer questions of new Cadets and their families. Deb Dalton has information that can be included in the folders we are handing out to new cadets and their families.

Holly Ball

Meeting with USNA: The Club is responsible for planning and sponsoring the 2012 Holly Ball. A meeting with USNA to get information from last winters Ball was postponed and needs to be rescheduled. Stephen will try to do this as quickly

as possible. USNA has much information and materials that will be needed for the 2012 Ball.

Date: It was agreed to schedule the Holly Ball for Saturday December 29th 2012.

Photographer: Stephen spoke with Lincoln Studio, who has done the Holly Ball in past years, and they are interested in doing it again. Steve believes that there is no cost for their service as selling prints compensates the studio. This needs to be confirmed.

Location: Stephen has spoken with the Seaport hotel, the location of last year's Holly Ball. They can accommodate us again this year and are holding the date. It was suggested Nicole review the contract once it's received and there will be an e-mail vote to ok the contract.

Speaker: There was a discussion about securing a speaker for this year's event. It was thought that West Point might be a resource for this and have some suggestions. Other thoughts included Scott Brown (or another local political figure), or author Sebastian Junger, who lives in Belmont.

Holly Ball Web Site: George reserved the url addresses hollyball2012.com and hollyball2012.org. This will make publicizing the Ball easier as well purchasing tickets. It was felt that last year's Holly Ball was not well publicized.

R-Day

WPPC-MA Table: Stephen, George and Diane Miller plan to attend R-Day and man the Club's table. They will arrive on July 1st to set up. R-Day is July 2nd. The Club will assemble packets of information and gifts for MA families of Cadets.

Summer Event

“Summer Beast Social”: In the past the Club has held a letter-writing event in July during Beast. There was a discussion about whether letter-writing was the best way to attract members to the event or was really valued by the Cadets. The consensus was that we might possibly attract more members (both families of new Cadets and existing members) if we make it a summer social for members to get together. The name “Beast Summer Social” was suggested. It would continue to be held in July during Beast. **[we didn't discuss this at the meeting but it occurred**

to me that if we held it after Beast and before A-Day we might get a better turnout of new and current Cadets, just a thought]

Fall Club Tailgate

Tailgate at BC Game: In past years the Club has organized a tailgate at a fall football game. Last years event was not well attended. It was discussed whether having this event on Oct. 6th for the BC game might attract more members. West Point offers a service to organize and cater tailgates. That will be investigated.

Volunteer Chairperson: It was decided that for the tailgate as well as other events an appeal will go out to all members for a volunteer chairperson to organize each event. In the past organizing all activities has been the responsibility of board member and this is burdensome. The hope is that the Club might have some success in seeking volunteers for distinct activities.