

SAAHJ Meeting Minutes – June 20, 2014 – Rosella Coffeehouse

Attending (29): Michael Vela; Brianna Dimas, Andrea Villanueva; Chris Shadrock; Jessica Elizarraras; Gary Cooper; Tessa Benavides; Steve Walker; Elaine Ayala, Moana Ramirez; Angel Martinez; Mariana Veraza; Jesus Chavez; Andrew Garcia, Dawn Thurmond; Joey Palacios; Maury Vasquez; Kris Rodriguez; Melissa Aguillon, Francisco Vara-Orta; Veronica Gallegos; Laura Calo; Pamela Paz; Asaiah Puente; Kristel Punete; Rick Canfield; Neal Morton; Neven Jones

Organizations represented by attendees: San Antonio Express-News; San Antonio Current; La Prensa; Texas Public Radio; WOAI-TV; KVUE-TV; KSAT-TV; KWEX-TV; KVDA-TV; KRTU-FM, San Antonio College – The Ranger; UTSA; Air Force Federal Credit Union; Café College; Aguillon and Associates; San Antonio Food Bank; Somerset ISD; Boy Scouts; Hispanic Chamber; Freelancers; and Students.

Meeting called to order at 8:50 by Francisco

1. Sign-in and Welcome:

2. Minutes for May – Jessica - Approved

3. Treasurer’s Reporter – Neal

Neal: Operations account was mostly quiet last month

Total operating: \$7289.93

Foundation: Support from Gala: \$52,250 collected of \$95,750 promised from sponsors

1500 coming from UTSA

Total Foundation: \$167,473.19

Jessica: We need to get scholarship money to students early since the Gala is later in the summer than usual.

12 students receiving scholarships

4. Elections – Nora

Nora issues ballots and calls for additional nominations. There are no vocal calls for last minute nominations but voters will have the opportunity to add a write-in candidate.

5. Gala Updates

Elaine: Gala is on 8/8. 45 tables have been sponsored. Latest sponsor is La Prensa. WellMed has bought a platinum table for \$10,000.

Melissa: Ed Lozano will be bringing in three cameras.

Gary: Filming of Scholarship recipients begins Saturday.

Elaine: Offers to make pitches to bosses for gala tickets. If you would like Elaine to pitch to you boss to pay for your Gala ticket, contact her.

6. NAHJ Conference Update

Francisco: Several members have been asked to be panelists at the conference. Pre-reg discount has been extended until June 23rd.

The SAAHJ Board voted during the last executive meeting to remain a stand-alone chapter and not become a member of NAAHJ as an organization.

Conference is August 7th – 9th. SAAHJ is giving out \$30,000 in Scholarship money in honor of NAHJ's 30 years in existence.

7. Scholarship Committee Update

Jessica: Filming of scholarship winners will begin Saturday – WOAI-TV at Noon. Scholarship recipients include students from UT, SAC, A&M San Antonio, NVC, UTSA, Texas State, and others

8. Election - 27 ballots cast.

All single candidates selected. Board for next year is as follows.

Francisco Vara-Orta, San Antonio Express-News - President
Gary Cooper, WOAI-TV - Vice President
Joey Palacios, Texas Public Radio - Secretary
Neal Morton, San Antonio Express-News - Treasurer
Jessica Elizarraras, San Antonio Current - At-Large Print
Moana Ramirez, Univision - At Large Radio/TV
Melissa Aguillon, Aguillon & Associates, At Large Communications

9. Charles Gonzalez of KSAT-TV welcomes us to his entrepreneurial endeavor – Rosella Coffeehouse

Charles is current weekend anchor with KSAT. He started first internship with Maury Vasquez at KENS5 and has been in Journalism for 16 years. Started focusing on opening a coffee shop three years ago, used the city's Small Business Development office for advice and assistance. Wanted to make this a place where you can host big groups or even just two or three people. Says he owes a lot of thanks to the late Jim Boyle of KSAT for understanding his schedule.

Announcements:

On July 17th the Hispanic Chamber will be honoring San Antonio Business Owners. Melissa Aguillon will be honored as rising star of the year.

Air Force Federal Credit Union – is currently holding a food drive to benefit the San Antonio food bank to collect both food and cash.

Ed Lozano: Is looking for students and interns to help with filming- paid positions – sports games etc.

Tessa Benavides – Café College: Students from Brackenridge taking a trip to the northeastern U.S. to visit 10 colleges in the Ivy leagues. These students need support in gaining funding to make this trip as the SAISD cannot supply funding. Donations are welcome

Angel Martinez – Boy Scouts: We just broke ground on the Mays Family Scout Ranch. We will invite people out later this year. The facility will service youth south of downtown. There is a treasure trove of stories from the scouts available

Melissa: Café Commerce – Grand opening is June 30th at 10AM at the central library. Café Commerce is a mayoral initiative.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:40 AM