ΛΑΜΠΑΔΙΑ ΕΧΟΝΤΕΣ ΔΙΑΔΩΣΟΥΣΙΝ ΑΛΛΗΛΟΙΣ

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY FRIENDS OF HELLENIC STUDIES (FHS)**

**MINUTES**

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

FHS MONTHLY MEETING (On Zoom)

Start: 6:35 P.M.

**Present:** Cathy Karathanasis, Mariea Kazantzis, Katherine Panagakos, Tom Papademetriou, Sarah Albertson, Mariana Smith, Sophia Demas, Sue Werner

* Katherine hosted and ran the meeting
* Approval of July minutes except for a correction—the meeting was on Zoom, not in person. Cathy moved; Mariea seconded; Minutes approved
* Approval of August 29th minutes of Special Board Meeting: Mariea moved; Tom seconded; Minutes approved

**Financial Report:** Tula was not present to report in person, but submitted a report showing, as of 9/13/22, an Operating Account Balance of $114,972.60. This includes a $2,500 donation from the Hellenic Women’s Club, at the behest of Jane Kourtis. A thank you letter will be sent in appreciation.

**Scholarship Update:** Katherine reported that $2,000, awarded in 2020 to Justin Melchionne, was distributed this year prior to his graduation. He attended the Paideia Living Greek program in Greece. $2,000 was also awarded to Jacob Collver who used it to attend the Attica School of Ancient Greek Drama. Both will be asked to write an article about their experiences for *The Hellenic Voice.* Additionally, $2,000 awarded to Eva Leaverton in 2020 will go to defray the cost of her upcoming study at the Aristotle University in Thessaloniki.

**Pappas Hellenic Center:**

* Tom reported that the Troy to Ithaca Program took place in August with a smaller group of vets. Those who participated will be asked to write thank-you notes. Tom said the program cannot count on support from the university this year and will need to look elsewhere for funding, including from the Veterans Organization.
* Tom reported that the position of the Georges Endowed Professorship of Greek Art and Architecture has yet to be filled since Prof. Amy Papalexandrou’s departure. He emphasized how important this position is and urged that we make this a priority while the funds are still available. Sue said she would speak to Dan Nugent, Chief Development Officer and Executive Director of the University Foundation, about the matter and Tom urged the Friends to speak up about this as well.

**Old Business:**

* The FHS website and emails are being monitored and updated. Mariea reported that 3 more names were added to our Distribution List. Katherine feels her Distribution List is outdated and needs to be looked at by Katherine, Mariea and Tula.
* The Constantelos Memorial Lecture and Summer Dreams program was well received. Guest lecturer Dr. Hatzidemetriou left information about and urged us to join Hellenic Link, an organization which supports many of our events.
* The Smyrna Webinar and documentary presented on 9/12 was viewed by 21 people, including the panelists.

**New Business:**

* **Ospreys Give:** Sue reported that this year’s Ospreys Give campaign will take place on October 12 and 13 and called for ambassadors and social media advocates to support and promote this annual fund raiser which raises money for the Stockton family, including the Friends. Sue suggested this could also be a good way to raise funds for the Troy to Ithaca Program.
* ***The Hellenic Voice:*** The focus of our next issue will be the centennial of the Near East catastrophe. Tom’s Greeting will include a summary of the topic. We will also include a brief article about the history of the region written by Tom and/or a student. Cathy offered to write about the culture of the region, including recipes. In the Student Voices section we hope to include articles from scholarship recipients and participants in the Troy to Ithaca program. In the Community Notes section Cathy will reach out to Kimberly Malaspina requesting an interview or article concerning her father-in-law’s family experiences. Mariea reached out to Annette Ladicos and Annette has submitted her impressions of the July Summer Dreams of Smyrna and Aivali event. We will also ask for articles from people in our community with roots in Asia Minor. All articles should be submitted to Sarah by October 16th.
* **Stockton’s Get Involved Information Fair, 9/20 and 9/21:** The Stockton Hellenic Society table will include information about FHS scholarships. Sophia

suggested that it also include copies of *The Hellenic Voic*e.

* **The A.A.U.W.’s visit** to the Constantelos Reading Room will take place on October 28th at 1:30 p.m. Tom, Tula and Cathy will speak to the group and refreshments will be served.
* **Exploring Hellenism:** It was agreed that we hold our event in the Spring and that we cover the Pontos region. Tom will reach out to a friend, Theodosios Kyriakides, an academic and critical speaker, to ask if he would like to be a guest lecturer. The event will include food, music and dance. Mariea will speak with communities in New York and/or Upper Darby about providing us with a Pontian dance group. Tom will inquire about possible venues at the Stockton Galloway campus including the Campus Center Theater; the Event Room; the PAC auditorium; and the Art Center. Tom and Mariea will report back at our next meeting. Tentative dates for the event: Saturday, April 29th or Sunday, April 30th. Related topics such as the Treaty of Lausanne and other regions of Asia Minor including Cappadocia may be covered in other ways.
* **Suggested Fall Activities:**
* Tom reported that the Greek American Hellenic Society of Philadelphia is holding an event which will feature a film about Philadelphia and the Greek War of Independence on October 2nd. He will send out more information.
* Tom suggested a bus trip to the Philadelphia Art Museum on a Friday in November for interested students, staff and Friends of Hellenic Studies. Mariana offered to speak.
* Another suggestion was that Emily Van Duyne may want to speak about her Fulbright experience in Greece and do a presentation on Sylvia Plath and Plato. It could be a Classical Humanities Society event. Sarah offered to speak with her about it.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:33 P.M.

**Next Meeting:** October 11, 2022, 6:30 P.M.

*The Friends of Hellenic Studies Mission:*

*To promote and help strengthen the Stockton Hellenic Studies program and enable Hellenic Studies students acquire the knowledge first developed by ancient, classical, byzantine and contemporary Greek scholars. FHS does this through annual fundraising events which fund scholarships, student and faculty financial support for study abroad to Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, lecture series and symposia and cultural activities.*