Bennington Boosters Monthly Meeting

Minutes for November 1, 2017

Prepared by Linda Persigehl

Present: Curt Bohn, president; Brad Blum, vice president; Chuck Oborny, treasurer; Linda Persigehl, secretary; Danita Diamond, Kairi Prososki, Shelli Oborny, Brittanie Butterfield, members at large; and Greg Lamberty, AD.

The meeting was called to order by Curt Bohn at 5:30pm. Curt motioned to approve minutes from October meeting, emailed out to board members ahead of time. Vote to approve minutes was unanimous.

**Treasurer’s Report**

per Chuck Oborny

Checking $28,445.62

Clothing $39,880.62

Savings $13,588.76

**Membership/Programs**

Brad Blum said no new memberships to report. Curt asked him to provide board members with updated member list via email to allow listing boosters in winter sports programs. 1,400 Winter programs are being printed, compared to 1,600 last year.

**Clothing Report**

Brittanie Butterfield said she is gearing up for launching winter sports clothing sales. Online link to basketball, wrestling apparel will be sent out to parents shortly. She will also be placing an order for volleyball tshirts should the girls’ varsity win and advance to state competition. FBLA will help with tshirt delivery again if needed.

A discussion was held about FBLA students staffing the Pride Shack during parent-teacher and needing lots of guidance. Mr. Lamberty suggested that next P-T session, Mr. Grinvalds should set up his station in same room as Pride Shack to make himself more available for help, improve oversight of kids.

**Concessions**

All Junior High games are fully staffed by groups, Lamberty reported. He will check with Coach Pokorny to see if parents will again be staffing two wrestling tourneys this winter.

It was decided that JV basketball games concessions will be staffed by Booster Club. Freshman games will be staffed by Booster Club through December; we will evaluate at Jan. meeting whether to keep staffing or to seek outside groups, including Cross Country, Robotics and Quiz Bowl.

Shelli Oborny suggested adding popcorn to Junior High/auxiliary concessions. Brad Blum will take measurements to see if there’s enough room to fit a popcorn maker in space and price them out.

A discussion regarding purchase of ice machine was held (again), as Boosters are spending $80-$100 per football game on ice. Mr. Lamberty said he had approached the administration about making this purchase multiple times already. Booster Club is willing to help with cost of purchase if necessary, so another pitch might be in order.

Shelli suggested making concessions signup on the Booster Club website a bit easier to locate, possibly renaming How to Volunteer tab, and providing better instructions on how to sign up for a shift. Also, maybe making a separate tab for Clothing sales signup.

Mr. Wright and his student website team should have winter sport schedule entered on the website soon so volunteers can begin signup. It was also suggested that someone go through site and spell check names on membership list.

**Photos**

Mr. Lamberty said winter sports photos (both team and individual) will be held Sat., Nov. 18 beginning at 10:30am.

Kim Thirkildsen will again be photographer. She and Danita Diamond will help in assembly, distribution of athlete buttons. Linda Persigehl will deliver new button maker to Danita and assist as needed.

**Funding Requests**

Per Mr. Lamberty

#1 Several School Record Boards are being picked up and bills will be submitted to Booster Club for payment soon.

#2 Field Tarps –Coach Scott Heese with baseball has submitted request for pitcher mound tarp, $550.99, and for field tarp, $792.99 for a total of approx.. $1,350. Curt Bohn motioned to approve purchase in full; Brad Blum seconded motion. Vote to approve purchase was unanimous.

#3 Volleyball transport – Cost of 55-person charter bus to and from western Nebraska for competition, approx.. $4,200.

A discussion of what distance should qualify a team for a charter bus (rather than a school bus) began, and whether this would set a precedent. It was decided that no firm # of miles or # of athletes should determine whether to cover, but rather each situation/expense should be determined on a case by-case basis.

Brad suggested we cover a portion of the volleyball charter, deemed necessary by all. Curt motioned to approve $2,500 toward the cost of the charter bus, with the BPS district picking up the rest. Chuck Oborny seconded the motion, all voted to approve.

(Mr. Lamberty later informed us that the district had decided to pick up the full cost of the charter bus and our funds were not needed.)

**Scholarships**

Discussion continued on the specifics of the proposed Booster Scholarship Form, which Curt prepared.

Regarding item 3f, it was decided to continue to use the two key scholarship questions on the general BHS scholarship application as criteria for the Booster award, and NOT to add a sports essay question

Regarding 3g, it was decided that children of Booster Board Members would be ELIGIBLE for the booster scholarships, as omitting them was deemed unfair to the athletes, and might also discourage Booster volunteerism among sports parents. Booster Board parents with kids under consideration would be then denied any scholarship voting privileges.

Regarding 3h, it should be added that we will write the scholarship check made out to the student athlete, not the college they’re attending, so as not to negatively impact their financial aid eligibility/package.

Linda Persigehl agreed to research criteria to use for booster scholarship recipients and put together a ratings sheet to be used by coaches and voting Booster members to evaluate athletes and aid in choosing recipients.

Final discussion of scholarship criteria will continue at December board meeting.

Meeting was adjourned by Curt Bohn at 7pm.