Booster Club board meeting

Monthly Minutes

July 11, 2018

Prepared by Linda Persigehl

Present: Curt Bohn, president; Tracy Behnken, V.P.; James Bartels, treasurer; Linda Persigehl, secretary; Chuck Oborny, Brittanie Butterfield, Kairi Prososki, Kim Leuders, at large members; and Greg Lamberty, A.D. Absent: Danita Diamond

Meeting was called to order by Curt at 5:30pm. Curt motioned to vote to approve June minutes, sent out to board members in advance for review. All voted in favor.

Chuck Oborny gave the treasurer’s report:

Checking $30,968.97

Clothing $30,001.69

Savings $17,659.58

Curt Bohn provided summary of finances for fiscal year, July 2017-June 2018. Total profit was $17,659.15

Chuck Oborny also provided breakdown for booster funds spent on each sports program for the past five years. (Attached)

Greg Lamberty confirmed that wrestling program and BHS athletic budget were covering their 2/3rds of cost of wrestling mat. Chuck should cut a check for our one-third, which we voted to approve last meeting, for $2,779.

Chuck will also cut check for concessions ice machine, which booster club agreed to purchase in June. Invoice for machine and installation costs totaled $3,997.

Greg read new funding requests:

1. Wrestling Cheer has requested 18 -6” spirit poms, for $373.50. Poms will stay with the program.

Curt motioned a vote to approve this purchase. Tracy seconded motion. All voted in favor.

1. Softball program requested funds to purchase 4 portable hitting nets @$79.99 ea., 2 batting tees @$149.99ea.; and 3 portable home plates @$19.99ea., for a total of $679.91. The items are needed as more athletes join the team (no cutting yet) and to allow players more reps in practice.

Kairi motioned a vote to approve entire purchase. Chuck seconded motion. All voted in favor.

Heather Goertz addressed the board about the Parent Network Coalition, a group formed to address the use and sales of drugs and alcohol in Bennington community, especially by/for BHS students/student athletes. Co-leader of group is Renee Pokorny (not present). Heather explained Bennington is lacking in local resources to deal with the issue, aid in parent education and student prevention. She would like to ask that Booster Club consider lending a board member to her group to discuss ways they can partner in the cause. (Board will discuss at a later date.)

Clothing Report was given by Brittanie Butterfield. She is working with Squad Locker on an online apparel site for Boosters. After researching different companies, she found that their markup on items ((5-20%) and shipping fees ($5.95) were the most workable. The group cuts a monthly check back to organization and charges no maintenance fees or contracts also.

Coaches of each sport can submit their own logos or go with a generic Badger sports logo. Orders are sent directly to customers’ homes. Launch of this site should help reduce the number of coaches finding it necessary to send out their own clothing links, and give parents option to buy year-round.

Tracy Behnken suggested that we put “The official site of the Bennington Athletic Booster Club” at the top of the home page. Also, we can hand out fliers/cards or post signage with site address at home football games to address customers who have clothing requests we can’t fill that day.

Curt Bohn suggested we revisit arrangement with FBLA in August to see if they want to continue partnership with us.

Membership fees structure committee of Brittanie, Curt, and Tracy met ahead of July meeting and came up with new tiers - $50, $75 and $100+ for individual memberships; and $150, $300, and $500 for corporate sponsorships. Corporate benefits for each level are listed on membership form.

Reasons given for raising minimum membership free from $25 to $50 were:

1) minimum fee has not been raised in last 5 years (quite possibly much longer)
2) cost of buttons, banners, booster club equipment/supplies mandates it

3) majority of booster clubs in area have a similar minimum membership fee

(A board vote on whether to adopt the new membership tier structure was taken July 24 via text per motion by Curt. All board members voted in favor.)

As Tracy is unavailable to work BHS registration dates because of Washington Co. Fair, Linda Persigehl and Curt Bohn have agreed to cover shifts on Thurs., Aug. 2, 1-6pm and Mon., Aug. 6, 1-6pm.

Curt said he would look into ordering a Bennington Athletic Booster Club banner to hang at registration, as well as athletic awards nights and by clothing tables.

Greg Lamberty said fall sports picture date will be set once he double-checks schedule, visits with Kim Thirkildsen, but likely will be the week of August 13-20.

Curt is working with Tough Shed to get estimates on a concession stand for softball. He is considering looking at raising private funds to sponsor building cost, estimated about $4,000. (BAL has not committed.)

Curt called meeting adjourned at 7pm.

Next meeting will be Wed., August 1 at 5:30 in library.

(Per text, Curt moved the meeting back a week to accommodate vacation schedules. New date is Wed. August 8 at 6pm)