**Booster Club Meeting May 5th, 2021**

**Joni Schultz, Secretary**

**Attendees**: Chad Colvert President, Tracy Behnken Secretary, James Bartels Treasurer, Joni Schultz Secretary, Amy Douglas Apparel, Danita Diamond At Large, Michelle Holtz Concession Stand, Sheryl Cornett At Large; Keo Jorgensen At Large, Heather Harkin Volunteer Coordinator, Mr. Kessel Athletic Director

**Guests**-Megan Detjens, Andrea Foltz, Leslie Hiatt, Dr. Blomenkamp, Mark Byars

Absent: Malea Melis

Motion made by Chad to approve April minutes as submitted.

Seconded by Sheryl

Motion voted on approved

Discussion was had on the video board.

Chad updated the Booster Club on steps since the implementation of this idea.

1. Daktronics met earlier this year with the Booster Club Board to show different proposals of video boards
2. Dr. Haack, Chad, and Dr. Blomenkamp met. Chad was told there was no advertising through the district, and we could not ask for sponsorships. It has since been learned this is not the case as there currently no advertising policy in place
3. Chad sent an email to School Board asking them to review the advertising policy and proposal
4. A meeting was held with Joni, Chad, Dr. B., the School Board Finance Committee, Daktronics, and Dr. Haack
5. An email came back from Mark Byers saying that this project was being differed until September

Mark Byars from the School Board Finance Committee was at the meeting to talk to the Booster Club Board about the school’s decision.

There are two main drivers for School board’s agenda for September

* 1. Advertising policy- a policy will be created this summer
  2. Athletic equipment in front of the district they need to figure out

Several questions were asked by the Booster Club Board.

What are the other proposals that would affect this proposal since we are donating? The title 9 lawsuit talks about promotions/advertising

1. Scoreboard
2. Fencing

The school board is crafting a plan to resolve this.

He said If they approve our scoreboard, then what can be done for softball?

Even though there is no cost from the digital scoreboard, they have to be cognicent of needs and agreements

We stated that Booster Club is willing to donate a video scoreboard for the softball field as well as a video board for the high school main gym.

It was asked why we were told by Dr. Haack that there was an advertising policy in the district when in fact there was none. Mark replied that since there was no policy, the superintendent’s practice governce.

The Booster Club asked Mark if the school is asking the PTO’s to not advertise/get sponsorships if the Booster Club cannot? Mark replied they are not advertising on district assets. They advertise on shirts, folders, ect.

It was brought up that other school’s concession stands have popcorn bags that have sponsors on it. on Why does Bennington not allow that? They are working on the language in the advertising.

Discussion was had if the Booster Club can own the video board instead of the school. The schools does not want to do it that way so it is not a feasible option.

It was also discussed that in September will the board approve the video board. Will the new advertising rules go against advertising to be displayed? The Booster Club does not want to waste anymore time on this project if that in fact is the case.

It was asked of Mark if there is a way to touch base with us as it goes through and they discuss?

He said he would try to keep up updated.

The timeline of the video board was discussed.

1. The video board takes 12 weeks to make
2. The school will have to have an electrician do the electrical work needed
3. It takes 2 days by Daktronics to install into the school

If approved in September, the Booster Club does not have enough time to do a capital campaign to gains sponsorships and have the board made and installed in the 2021-2022 school year.

It was discussed we could do our fund raising now and be ready to implement after the September meeting, but if it is not voted on by the board, then we have done a lot of work for nothing

Mark suggested we maybe do it that way, the Booster Club did not agree. How can we go and ask businesses to sponsor without knowing the advertising policy that will be created will even favor this?

It was discussed with Mark that the community knows the Booster Club has around $97, 000 in our bank account. How can we spend the money? Do we have to go to the school board for every large amount we want to donate? Does the school make every group go through this whole process?

In one of the initial meetings it was asked by Dr. Haack if the Booster club would be willing to pay half and the school pay half. Is that option still on the table? Mark said that could be an option, but they have to think of taxpayer dollars

Mark explained to the group how state aid is given to the school district.

Discussion was had by the Booster Club on the following options:

1. Use our funds to pay for it all now and be depleted of money
2. Start a capital campaign in hopes of the School Board passing in September
3. Wait until next year to put up video board and start capital after September

It was discussed that we are not confident that the new school advertising program will be. Will the guidelines be in favor of this ? Waiting to see what is decided would be the best option. The Booster Club Members are volunteers and are extremely busy and do not have time to work countless hours on this project and then find out in September that the advertising policy is to stringent or that the Board would not approve the video board.

James gave the treasurers report:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Clothing | $21,653.12 |
| Concessions | $12,402.62 |
| Memberships | $14,636.39 |
| Savings | $48,696.30 |
| Total | $97,388.43 |

He stated that the Concessions had better revenue toward the end of the school year especially at the high school track meet.

James said that we need to change our QuickBooks to go online. Our subscription is about up, and we need to do this before May 31

Tracy gave the update on membership.

Individuals- 160 members

Corporate- 52 members

Rolling total = $28,512.75

Discussion was has on sponsorship levels. We need to evaluate the current levels. This discussion will be tabled to the next meeting.

Amy reported on apparel.

Squad locker revenue = $560.00

$1300 was sold at track meet last week.

Blankets are going to be ordered again. Discussion on how many to order. She is going to work with the vendor to see what the discount is for ordering in bulk.

State track, baseball and soccer shirts will be ordered.

Michelle updated on concession stands-

The last event is Saturday. The remaining inventory will be sold to the Legion Club.

$1300 is approximately what the inventory left.

The school would like to buy the pop for the senior event. It was decided that the Booster Club would just donate it.

The popcorn machine needs to be moved back that back to the softball field. Mr. Kessel stated he is going to do that.

Heather said they are done with volunteers for the rest of the year.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Next meeting June 2nd, 2021