

Minutes

April 7, 2010

RM ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

Attendance:

Kevin Brooks	Bob Maxey	Lisa Fumai
Cindi Brooks	Ryan Fleming	Charlene McClelland
Brenda Dunham	Jerry Kashatus	Dave Sault
Helen Blankfeld	Bob Hamilton	Dolores Barnes
Chris Kelly	Cheryl Hoover	Krist Dighe
Ed Spear	Cathy Muha	Mary Ann Kent
Alan White	Paul Lofgren	John Lynch
Marla Brannan	Tom Weimer	
Mary Ann Bliss	Sandi Coleman	
Monique Barber	Bob Tendrich	
Bill Burchett	Debbie Cordaro	

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm.

The Booster officers made introductions. Booster President Kevin Brooks welcomed new attendees and new members.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the March 3, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.

President's Message – Kevin Brooks

Kevin thanked everyone for their involvement in the winter sports season and noted that there have been a number of projects completed this year despite some obstacles. He specifically thanked the spring potluck dinner coordinators, Dolores Barnes and Cathy Muha and also Cheryl Hoover for her coordination of the recent mulch sale. The mulch sale is the Booster Club's largest money maker for the year.

Membership Report – Chris Kelly

Chris reported that seven new members joined at the spring potluck dinner and there are currently 127 Booster members. He is actively recruiting for a new membership chairman for the upcoming 2010-2011 school year and asked the attendees to get the word out.

Athletic Director's Report – Bob Maxey

Mr. Maxey gave an update on upcoming events, project updates and other items of interest.

- Spring sports are underway. With the unpredictable weather, updates on games will be posted on the RM listserv and parents and students should check there for any cancellations and rescheduled games.
- There are currently approximately 300 spring athletes. The number of athletes each season continues to increase.
- The spring potluck dinner went well. The spring sports awards ceremony will be held on May 25 at 7:00 pm.
- Baseball and softball batting cages have been installed.
- The installation of the outdoor scoreboards is still an ongoing issue. The Rockville mayor currently has a letter on her desk asking for partial funding of the scoreboard installation by the city. As soon as it is approved, the installation can go forward. The cost of installation will be paid for by the school, the Booster club and the City of Rockville.
- An RM parent has volunteered to wash and repair the team flags that currently fly above the stadium. The flags will be hung back up, but in the future will most likely be taken down in the summers to save on wear and tear.
- Team championship banners for the gym are currently being updated and will be hung shortly.
- Spring team photos are currently being taken and should be finished shortly.
- The U.S. National Basketball team will be practicing in the RM gymnasium on April 19th prior to their national game.
- Report cards will be distributed next week (April 14) and will be reviewed for athletes' eligibility.
- The Booster Club has been very supportive of Athletic Department projects throughout the past year. The Club has been asked to come up with any suggestions for additional facilities upgrades for the upcoming year. Two items on the Athletic Department wish-list include starting a Hall-of-Fame in the gym lobby and tarps for the baseball/softball fields.
- An attempt is being made to provide vans for the upcoming Penn Relays, so RM track athletes have a way to travel to the tournament.
- The Athletic Department end-of-year budget needs to be submitted in May.
- A suggestion was made to provide sideline shade tents for teams that play on the turf field. Individual teams could use money from their team accounts to purchase the tents.
- Hiring of the new varsity field hockey coach is still in progress, with the leading contender being Jen Hoffman, who is the current JV coach at Clarksburg. She is working on figuring out whether her current responsibilities will allow her to take on the position.
- Congratulations were given to RM parent and coach Elaine Knobloch for being nominated to the U.S. Women's Lacrosse Hall-of-Fame.

- Discussion was held regarding who reports sports scores to the local papers. The Athletic Department encourages coaches to report scores on a weekly basis, however, reporting is not a part of their job descriptions. It has been a struggle in the past few years to get coaches to provide that information. A suggestion was made to get a journalism student from the school newspaper or from the Rocket Corps to make that task part of their weekly responsibility. It was also suggested that in the coaches meetings at the beginning of the year that reporting scores be emphasized more.

Treasurer's Report – Ryan Fleming

- Financial documents were not made available at the April meeting but will be available at the May meeting. A suggestion was made to provide coaches their team balances at the end of the year so they will know how much they have in their accounts at the start of the new school year.

Committee Updates/ Discussion Items:

- Merchandise: The Booster Club made \$670 in merchandise sales at the spring pot-luck dinner. The school store has been making between \$200 and \$300 in spirit wear sales every other Friday that it has been open. There is also a merchandise table open at all the lacrosse games in the spring. Total sales this school year have been approximately \$13,000. The club will also be providing a link to the Julius West listserv for merchandise sales for the outgoing eighth graders.
- Events and Outreach: There were approximately 275 people at the spring sports potluck dinner. A budget has been created for all the events throughout the year and will be very helpful in planning events for the upcoming school year. Outreach will also be made to cluster schools for upcoming cluster games this spring.
- Website: Brenda Dunham gave an overview of the Booster website and her role in updating the site and providing sports photos for the school. The majority of teams have had their photos taken and she is working on finalizing the rest. On-line sales for the Mike Curtis golf tournament have also been coming in. Brenda stressed the importance of providing accurate information to post on the site.
- Concessions: The outdoor concession stand will be open only for boys and girls lacrosse games this spring because the JV and Varsity games are usually back to back and it has been easier to get parent volunteers to work. Softball and baseball usually play at 3:30 pm and JV and Varsity do not play back to back. Detailed instructions have been posted in the concession stand and cover all aspects of setting up, running the equipment, cleaning up and where supplies are stored. It was brought to the attention of the club that using the roll-up window area to access the stand is a liability and people should not hop up onto the counter and get into the stand that way any more. Real Maryland soccer has been taking good care of the stand and leaving it very organized and clean when

they are finished. The new pizza vendor for the concession stand is La Pizzeria. A suggestion was made to let coaches know that they can send someone up to the concession stand to put together ice bags prior to their games for potential injuries.

- **Mulch Sale:** Cheryl Hoover thanked the many volunteers who made the March 27 mulch sale a big success. At the time of the Booster meeting, 7515 bags of mulch had been sold - 2,000 more than last year. Many of the coaches were very responsive this year in encouraging their teams to work and there were many more new customers this year. There are still people calling to order mulch and Cheryl is trying to accommodate them. It was suggested that the Boosters continue to do the sale around the same time next year to get a jump on the other schools. She thanked a number of football players who stayed very late to help deliver the last bags. There were 14 teams who participated in the sales. We are anticipating an \$11,000 - \$12,000 profit from the day. Another suggestion was to prepare coaches about the sale earlier on in the school year so they know what to expect.
- **Mike Curtis Golf Tournament:** The tournament is set for the 1st week in May at Hampshire Greens Golf Club. This will be the third year of the tournament, and the information has been posted on the Booster website. This year, there is a push by some NFL alumni for Mike Curtis to be inducted into the football Hall-Of-Fame, so this tournament is important for him to publicize that effort. He is trying to bring in some additional NFL alumni to the tournament. A silent auction will also be held in conjunction with the tournament and Booster members are asked to help find items for the auction. Some suggestions were to encourage local businesses and vendors to contribute gift cards or services. One suggestion was to offer a black & gold membership for the next school year.

Old Business:

Booster Bylaws: A discussion regarding updating the current out-of-date Booster bylaws by Paul Whaley was tabled until the next meeting because Paul was not present at the meeting.

Board Member Recruitment: There is one month left to recruit members of the Booster Club to serve on the Booster Board next year. Anyone interested in being nominated for President, Vice President, Treasurer or Secretary should contact Booster President Kevin Brooks. All Booster members will be encouraged to attend the May meeting and vote on the incoming Board.

Scholarship Committee: A committee has been formed to review Booster scholarship applications and conduct interviews at the end of May. The scholarships have been advertised on the morning announcements for two weeks, the guidance office has advertised them in their list of available scholarships and information for parents has gone out on the RM listserv.

New Business:

Electronic Sign: A proposal for an electronic sign to be placed in front of the school has been brought to the attention of the Booster Club. The sign would announce school events and also athletic events and tournaments. The proposal asks for joint funding by the school, the PTSA and the Athletic Booster Club. A motion was made to contribute \$3,500 for the sign by the Booster Club, which is 1/3 of the total cost, provided that the school and the PTSA each contributed 1/3. The motion passed unanimously.

Fundraiser at Austin Grill: The *Digits*, a local band made up of a number of former and current RM parents, will be performing at Austin Grill in Town Center on April 10 to help raise funds for the RM Post-Prom and the Every 15 Minutes program.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 5th at 7:00 pm in the RM cafeteria.