

RM Minutes

July 1, 2009

ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

Attendance:

Kevin Brooks

Cindi Brooks

Cheryl Hoover

Chuck Mansius

Brenda Dunham

Helen Blankfeld

Lisa Fumai

Marla Brannan

Ryan Fleming

Chris Kelly

Ed Spear

Tim Jones

Bob Hamilton

Mike Froelich

Elaine Knobloch

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the June 3, 2009 meeting were amended to strike a sentence from the Treasurer's report. The minutes were then unanimously approved.

The Booster Board introduced themselves.

President's Message – Kevin Brooks

Kevin mentioned the recent Booster Board meeting with Athletic Director Bob Maxey to go over priorities for the upcoming year and upcoming projects and equipment the athletic department would like to make a priority. He also mentioned that the Booster Club received a thank-you letter from the organizers of Post-Prom for the Booster's monetary donation to the event.

Athletic Director's Report

Because there was no representation from the Athletic Department at the Booster meeting due to vacation schedules, Kevin reviewed the athletic department's 'wish list' of proposed projects and equipment previously mentioned. The list was provided to the members to review and Kevin reviewed the projects that the Booster Board recommended to fund at this time. He explained that the seven recommended projects were considered 'common area' projects that would benefit a greater number of athletes. The remaining items on the list were more sport-specific and would be considered at a later time based on funds available.

An explanation of each recommended project along with an approximate cost was given and discussion was held among the committee. Each project was voted on separately and the results were as follows:

- Upgrade of Stadium Speakers – unanimously approved

- Upgrade of Gymnasium Speakers (including wireless microphones) - unanimously approved
- Addition of Side Panels to one Gym Scoreboard – majority approved with 1 opposed
- Re-covering of Protective Mats in Main Gym in Black and/or Gold – majority approved with 1 opposed
- Dry Erase Boards in Team Rooms - unanimously approved
- Mirrors in Weight Room – majority approved with 5 opposed
- Installation of Roll-Up Windows in Outdoor Ticket Booth (for spirit-wear sales): majority approved with 2 opposed.

The total estimated cost of the proposed projects came to \$29,619, but some projects may end up costing less than estimated. At the August meeting, additional items on the athletic department's wish list will be discussed.

Treasurer's Report:

New Reporting Treasurer Ryan Fleming gave the group an explanation of the duties of the two Treasurer positions: Helen Blankfeld (Events Treasurer) will be responsible for handling finances on-site at all events during the year and Ryan will do the monthly recording and reporting duties at the Booster meetings. Ryan indicated that he will have financial reports ready to discuss at the August Booster meeting.

A request was made that the new Treasurer make sure that all coaches know the amounts that they have in their team accounts and Ryan agreed to provide that information.

Committee Updates/ Discussion Items:

- Membership: The Boosters ended the year with a little over 100 members. The club hopes to increase that number to close to 200 members in the next school year. Renewal letters and applications will be sent out to current members in August and a strong push for members will begin with back-to-school night, the fall team's potluck dinner and outreach to parents of new 9th graders. Black and Gold memberships were the most popular memberships last year. Discussion was held as to possibly changing the membership fee structure. Membership Chair Chris Kelly agreed to pull some members together to discuss revising the membership categories and fees. Suggestions were also made as to 'give-aways' to new members and Chris will work on that with his group. He will also be attending the coach's luncheon on August 14 to encourage coaches to reach out to their team parents to get involved in the Booster Club.
- Merchandise: Lisa Fumai introduced the new spirit-wear committee consisting of herself, Helen Blankenship and Donna Fuqua. She noted that new apparel and other merchandise have not been updated since 2003 and that it is time to update our current spirit-wear to offer many more items. The committee has met with a number of vendors and have come up with new items, some of which include short and long sleeve t-shirts, football capris for girls, sweatshirts and

hoodies, windbreakers, socks, long gym shorts, re-usable pom-poms and RM blankets among others. The goal is to have everything available by back-to-school night in September. The school store will be open to sell merchandise as well as in the ticket booth near the outside concession stand. The committee is also looking for a catchy name to identify the locations where merchandise will be sold. To accomplish their goal of revamping RM spirit-wear, the committee proposed a start-up cost of \$20,000. Discussion was held among the members and a motion was made to approve the requested amount. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- Turf Maintenance: As a follow-up from the June 2 Booster meeting, the turf maintenance issue was revisited. Former RM Booster President Mike Froelich gave the members background information on how the approval for the turf field came about. He reported that former Principal Moreno Carasco had approached the school board directly, and the RM Booster Club was never contacted regarding an expectation that we would be responsible for paying for any maintenance contract on the field. Currently, the RM athletic department provides regular maintenance on the field which does not void our warranty. A motion was made by Ryan Fleming to deny the request from MCPS for the RM Athletic Booster Club to fund a maintenance contract on the turf field. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by the members present. The Booster Club will not pursue the issue with the county and will only respond if approached directly.
- Website: The current web coordinator, Brenda Dunham, submitted a proposal to the club to renew her services into the next school year. A motion was made and seconded to accept the proposal and upon signature by the Booster President, the contract will be accepted. The current list of Booster members will stay up on the site until the August meeting. Brenda will continue to provide photography services and will also provide photos of all the new spirit-wear to be displayed on the website for purchase.
- Spring Concessions: There are three REAL Maryland games left this summer and volunteers have been secured for the remaining games. *The Tide* will be working the remaining three games. Jerry Kashatus has agreed to chair the fall concessions committee and is looking for volunteers to assist him. A sign-up sheet for volunteers to help organize the concession stand and assist in purchasing supplies will be available at the August Booster meeting.

Old Business:

- An update was given on the installation of the RM Rocket. The Rocket has been restored and delivered to the school and is currently awaiting installation. A structural engineer has volunteered to create drawings and specifications showing various display options to present to the construction company and will provide two different versions within the next few weeks, along with potential construction costs for each version. The plaque with the Rocket history has been ordered and is currently being completed. A suggestion was made to involve

Peerless Rockville in the ceremony once the Rocket and plaque have been installed.

- A reminder was made of the coach's lunch on Friday, August 14. The Boosters will be providing the lunch and making a pitch to coaches to encourage team parent's participation. The Booster Social Committee will be in charge of planning the luncheon.

New Business:

- The Boosters are working with the new PTSA President to get permission to present a 2 minute video during back-to-school night highlighting what the Boosters do and to encourage parents to join. There will be a Booster table set up that evening for membership and to sell spirit-wear.
- The Boosters have been formally approved to award SSL hours for students who work in the concession stand.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 5, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the RM Cafeteria