

RM Minutes

June 3, 2009

ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

Attendance:

Kevin Brooks	Patty College	Ed Spear
Cindi Brooks	Paul Lofgren	Debby Kennedy
Donna Fuqua	Helen Blankfeld	Tom Wiemer
Cary Dimmick	Lisa Fumai	C. Wijeyesinghe
Lisa Hill	Marla Brannan	Bob Hamilton
Cheryl Hoover	Ryan Fleming	
Chuck Mansius	Jerry Kashatus	
Cathy Muha	Matthew Swanson	
Brenda Dunham	Dolores Barnes	

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the May 13, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved. The Booster Board was introduced.

President's Message – Kevin Brooks

Kevin gave a short overview of the events and projects that the Boosters were involved in over the past school year.

Athletic Director's Report – Bob Maxey

- The Spring Awards Night assembly was attended by approximately 200 people. The awards presentation process will be re-evaluated in the fall to figure out the best way to get athletes and parents to attend.
- A status report of athletic department projects was given. The installation of the flag poles and scoreboards is still pending, per MCPS action. There are other county projects currently higher on the priority list and the Boosters will be informed when the installation is scheduled. Real Maryland soccer team is pushing to get the flagpoles installed because they are currently being fined for not having regulation flags flying during their games. The Boosters will possibly look into hiring a private company to do the installation of the flagpoles and scoreboards if it is delayed too long by MCPS.
- The discus cage and soccer goal posts have been installed, and fence repair, wall plaques and selected tree removal is in process. The gym floor will be refinished on August 3, summer field aeration and fertilizer will be applied in mid-June, and four batting cages will be installed this summer.

- Championship plaques are being created and will be displayed in the gym hallway within the next few weeks.
- An athletic department financial report was presented to the attendees. The report spelled out in detail the following areas: MCPS allocation, gate receipts, total income, Booster financial support, concession income and general expenses. Gate receipts for the 2008-2009 season were up 38% from the previous year. The total gate receipts equaled \$39,197 for the school year.
- The athletic department is submitting a proposal for a county-wide spectator pass that could be purchased at the beginning of each season. The pass would be good for both home and away games.
- Try-outs for fall sports begin on Saturday, August 15, 2009 at 9:00 am. The athletic department will gather all athletes in the gymnasium prior to tryouts for a pre-season meeting.
- There will be a coach's lunch on August 14th at 1:00 pm. The athletic department would like the Booster Club to provide the lunch.
- A 'wish list' of athletic department future projects and large equipment purchases was presented to the club to review. The list also included the approximate cost of each project and purchase. The Board will review the list and come back at the next meeting with their recommendations on what they would like to fund and the priority of each project/purchase.
- The schedule for team uniform rotation for 2009 was provided. The teams scheduled for new uniforms this coming school year are Boy's Soccer, Girl's Soccer, Softball, Wrestling, Softball and Co-Ed Volleyball.
- The RM weight room will be open this summer for football players, general use and for girl's teams. The room will be open until 6:00 pm and Coach Jennifer Hoffman will again staff the room for girl's weight training.
- It was also suggested by the athletic department that the Booster Club pay for certain seasonal awards every year. The Board will also look into this suggestion.
- The athletic department spent \$3,500 during the 2008-2009 season to send various teams to tournaments. The Booster Club was asked if they would like to help defray these costs. The club was also asked if they would like to take on the responsibility for paying for senior day gifts for teams. The cost per team averages out to approximately \$200, depending on how many seniors there are. The Boosters felt that the athletic director should add the senior day expenses to the athletic budget for the upcoming year and then should let the coaches know that they each have a certain amount to spend.
- Mr. Maxey stressed the importance of student athletes and coaches having the resources they need to succeed. He encouraged the Boosters to work together with the athletic department in the coming year to provide those resources and to show a united effort.

Treasurer's Report:

A balance sheet was provided to members and an overview of income and expenses was shared. The current net income of the Booster Club is \$6,908.68 and total current assets in the general fund are \$79,377.37. Total income from concession sales for the year equaled a little over \$28,000. There was discussion as to how coaches are allowed to use the money in their team accounts and Donna Fuqua explained the policy.

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 next year. Renewal letters and applications will be sent out to current members in August and a strong push for members will begin in the fall.
- Website: It was suggested that RM coaches be told that they can put their individual conditioning schedules on the Booster website, along with any forms they need to provide to their teams. The Pay Pal system for payment worked well this past year and will continue to be an option to pay for photos, mulch, memberships, spirit-wear and on-line auction items.
- Mike Curtis Golf Tournament: Mike Curtis has promised to work on promoting his tournament earlier and to more people next year, especially in the Baltimore area. The Boosters will provide photos from this year's event to the Indianapolis Colts to use next year in promoting the event. The Colts were a major sponsor of the tournament this year.
- Spring Concessions: There are four REAL Maryland games left this spring and summer, and volunteers have been secured for the remaining games. The Ice Hockey team will be working the first game and the school newspaper, *The Tide*, will be working the remaining three.
- Merchandise: The merchandise committee is looking into having a new graphic design created to use on some of the spirit-wear for the upcoming year. They are also looking into various new items to offer.

Old Business:

- A motion was made to approve payment for the storage cabinets that were constructed and will be installed in the ticket booth in the new stadium. The cabinets will have locks to secure spirit-wear items and other Booster supplies. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- An update was given on the installation of the RM Rocket. Gaithersburg High School's auto shop cleaned and painted the Rocket, and the RM Boosters paid for and provided the paint. A list of general contractors approved by MCPS will be reviewed to determine a company to work on the installation. A decision will be made as to the location where the Rocket will be installed in the stadium, with

input from the Boosters, the Athletic Director and the Principal. A plaque explaining the history of the Rocket will also be installed. The plaque will cost approximately \$2,500. The Boosters will also work with the city of Rockville to showcase the Rocket in the community once it has been installed.

- The position of Booster Treasurer has been divided up into two positions: Events Treasurer (Helen Blankfeld) and Reporting Treasurer (Ryan Fleming). Helen 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.
- The turf maintenance issue was revisited. Kevin Brooks gave the club a recap of his meeting with MCPS to discuss the expectation by MCPS that the Boosters will pay for the maintenance on the turf field. Again it was mentioned that the Boosters were not informed up-front of this expectation. The club discussed whether the Boosters should be responsible for maintenance of a county field and if we refuse to fund the maintenance, whether it voids the current warranty on the field. Kevin was asked to look into the warranty and report back at the next meeting his findings.

New Business:

- It was brought to the attention of the Boosters that some RM parents had contacted coaches at inappropriate times. The Boosters agreed that parents should be considerate of the RM coaches and respect their privacy and their time away from their coaching jobs. Team parents can emphasize this at their team meetings before each season begins.
- It was suggested that the Boosters use the list of accomplishments developed recently in their membership renewal letter to go out in August.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, July 1, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the RM Cafeteria