

Minutes

May 5, 2010

RM ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

Attendance:

Kevin Brooks	Ryan Fleming	Neal Owens
Cindi Brooks	Bob Hamilton	Tai Randall
Brenda Dunham	Cheryl Hoover	Cary Dimmick
Helen Blankfeld	Paul Lofgren	Reid Miller
Ed Spear	Tom Wiemer	Gail Rothsberg
Alan White	Sandi Coleman	Susan Silverberg
Marla Brannan	Bob Tendrich	Paul Whaley
Mary Ann Bliss	Lisa Fumai	Michele Whaley
Bill Burchett	Dave Kindermann	
Bob Maxey	Kris Dighe	

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

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

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the April 7, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved with one change. Under the Athletic Director's report, the date that the U.S. National Basketball team practiced in the RM gymnasium was changed from April 19th to April 14.

President's Message – Kevin Brooks

Kevin gave his last message as Booster Club President, thanking everyone for their support and letting them know it was a privilege to serve the last two years as president. He noted that he was very proud of what the Boosters have accomplished, and although there were a number of challenges and setbacks, the club continues to be strong. The club supported many groups in the school this past year, such as the yearbook, the *Tide*, the SGA and others, and he stressed the need to continue recruiting new parents and volunteers next year, now that a number of senior parents are leaving.

Introduction of Head Football Coach – Neal Owens

Kevin Brooks introduced the new RM Varsity football coach, Neal Owens. Coach Owens gave an overview of his academic and coaching background and his community involvement in Rockville. His first meeting with potential players was attended by close to 100 students who have showed interest in the new program. He stressed the importance of grades and weekly grading sheets for players, and has already begun introducing community service projects for the potential players. Fifty players attended his first community service project. He is also working hard on developing a feeder

program from Julius West Middle School and is working with the Rockville Football League to take over a team to start teaching them the plays that will be run in high school. He is also developing free football clinics at local elementary schools and two Rocket Youth Football camps. He is looking forward to the coming year at RM. He also noted that the JV coaches for RM will remain the same from last year.

Athletic Director's Report – Bob Maxey

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

- Mr. Maxey thanked the Booster Club in helping the athletic department finalize many needed projects over the past year. The department is in good shape going into the upcoming school year.
- The boy's volleyball team won their first playoff game. The softball team looks strong and is expected to do well. Four RM teams have won 4A divisional titles so far – Boy's Tennis, Girl's Softball, Boy's Track and Boy's Volleyball. The school has won 15 divisional titles so far.
- Academically, there has been steady improvement in the average GPA of RM athletes, up from 3.04 in 2007 to 3.22 in 2009.
- The percent of ineligible athletes has decreased from 7% in 2007 to 3% in 2009.
- The spring sports awards night is scheduled for May 25th at 7:00 pm in the auditorium.
- Current project in the works is the installation of the baseball & softball scoreboards. The City of Rockville will be signing the contract next week to pay half the installation cost (\$9,000). The school and the Booster Club will both pay \$4,500 each. The City is very helpful in maintaining the baseball and softball fields for the school.
- The leak in the outdoor concession stand is being fixed.
- Storage containers for baseball have been installed. The athletic department is hoping to add the RM logo to the containers in the coming months.
- Mr. Maxey provided a 'wish-list' of athletic department projects for next year and beyond. The Booster Club will consider this list when discussing projects for next year.
- May is the month that the athletic department must reconcile its budget for the upcoming year. All expenses need to be submitted this month.
- A new Varsity field hockey coach, Ms. Hollenbeck, has been hired for next year – she is a four-time All-American player. Openings for the fall include a JV girl's volleyball coach.
- The date for the Homecoming game and ceremony has been announced for the fall – Friday, October 8 vs. Springbrook. The senior game will be home against Wheaton on October 22.
- Mr. Maxey announced that it is very likely that he will be leaving RM in the near future, due to his wife's new position as principal at a high school in Virginia. Nothing has been finalized and he will need to give the school 30 day's notice.

Treasurer's Report – Ryan Fleming

- Financial documents were made available to the members. Ryan noted that current team balances were noted on the balance sheet. He also noted that the track coach and any students who paid for transportation to the recent Penn Relays will be reimbursed by the Booster Club. He noted that so far this school year, the Booster Club has given \$45,000 to the athletic department for facilities projects related to athletics and \$6,000 for student awards and tournament fees. He also reported that the mulch sale revenues were up 25% from last year, and merchandise sales were up 125% since last year. Concession sales were down 1/3 and membership dues were up 92%.

Committee Updates/ Discussion Items:

- **Membership Report –**
Kevin Brooks reported for Chris Kelly, who was unable to attend the meeting. Kevin stressed that the club needs a new membership chairman by the end of the school year so renewal and recruiting can go on this summer, prior to the new school year.
- **Merchandise:** Lisa Fumai reported that the school store will still be open every other Friday and will be open at the upcoming boy's lacrosse game on Saturday. New items for next year are being considered, and all suggestions are welcome. Lisa is looking for another volunteer or two to assist her next year, in hopes that someone will take over the merchandise chairman role once she leaves. She noted that the fall season is the biggest time for merchandise sales.
- **Events and Outreach:** Kevin Brooks reported for Dolores Barnes and Cathy Muha, who were unable to attend the meeting. He noted again that the spring sports awards will be on Tuesday, May 25 in the auditorium and the Booster Club will be providing cake and beverages afterwards in the auditorium lobby.
- **Website:** Brenda Dunham attended the RM Boosters Mike Curtis golf tournament and took photos of the golfers, which are available to purchase on her website. All RM spring teams have had their team and individual photos taken, and Brenda will be at the May 25 spring sports awards ceremony to take pictures. The Booster Club thanked Brenda for all that she has done over the past year in providing photos for the school and the Booster website. She noted that her contract with the Boosters is up for renewal and a motion was made and approved to renew her contract for another year.
- **Concessions:** There are three games left in the lacrosse season for the concession stand. The concessions process has been going well so far and many volunteers have noted how clean and organized the stand is now. Real Maryland soccer has done a great job of cleaning up after their events.
- **Mulch Sale:** Cheryl Hoover reported that she will give final revenue and expense numbers to the Treasurer and they will be reported at the June Booster meeting.

- **Mike Curtis Golf Tournament:** The tournament is set for the May 10 at Hampshire Greens Golf Club. This will be the third year of the tournament, and the information has been posted on the Booster website. As of today's meeting, there are 68 golfers and \$2,500 in sponsor money. It is predicted that the tournament will bring in a profit to the Booster Club. The dinner and silent auction are both open to the public and one of the raffle items this year will be a flat-screen TV.

Old Business:

Booster Bylaws: A discussion regarding updating the current out-of-date Booster bylaws by Paul Whaley was tabled until the next meeting.

Scholarship Committee: The scholarship committee met to review applications and to interview final candidates. Four \$750 scholarship winners were chosen: Philip Manougian, Max Kashatus, Andrew Tendrich and John McCullough. The committee suggested ways to get more student athletes to apply for the scholarships next year, including streamlining the application and having each team nominate a senior from their team, so at least every team is represented in the review process.

Electronic Sign: A motion was approved at the last meeting to contribute up to \$3,500 for the electronic sign in front of the school, which is 1/3 of the total cost, provided that the school and the PTSA each contributed 1/3. The sign company will start work on the sign at the end of June/early July. The sign will announce not only school functions, but sporting events and other events sponsored by the Booster Club, such as the Mulch Sale, etc.

New Business:

Election of New Board Members: Nominations were made and voting was held to elect the new slate of Booster Board Members for the 2010-2011 school year. The new Board will begin their official duties at the June 2 Booster meeting. The new Board members are: Alan White (President), Bill Burchett (Vice President - Marketing), Mary Ann Bliss (Vice President – Operations), Helen Blankfeld (Events Treasurer), Beth Mittl (Recording Treasurer) and Michele Whaley (Secretary).

Booster Bash

The end-of-year get-together for the Booster Club will be held on Saturday, June 12 at the home of Alan White. Invitations will go out to members of the Booster Club in the next few weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 2 at 7:00 pm in the RM cafeteria.