

Minutes

October. 7, 2009

RM ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

Attendance:

Kevin Brooks	Lisa Hill	Matthew Swanson
Cindi Brooks	Dolores Barnes	Monique Barber
Brenda Dunham	Lisa Fumai	Sue Alterman
Helen Blankfeld	Barbara Cano	Nelson McLeod
Ryan Fleming	Alan White	
Chris Kelly	Marla Brannan	
Ed Spear	Cary Dimmick	
Paul Lofgren	Bob Tendrich	
Jerry Kashatus	Mary Ann Bliss	

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 September 2, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.

President's Message – Kevin Brooks

Kevin thanked members of the Booster Club for working with team parents to organize volunteers for the concession stand in addition to working on merchandise sales, the Alumni tailgate, and promoting the Raise the Rocket campaign. He is pleased that the Boosters are off to a good start this year and there is a positive outlook for the future of the club. He also noted that the club will be looking to elect a new Vice President due to the resignation of current VP Elaine Koubek.

Principal's Report – Nelson McLeod

- The introduction of the Spirit Shack and the enthusiasm and energy of the Booster Club during back-to-school night was noted by many parents and staff members. Dr. McLeod also thanked the Boosters for donating spirit wear to the 2009-2010 new school staff.
- Friday, October 16 is RMHS Cluster Football Night. All cluster students will receive a complimentary ticket with a paying adult. Also, complimentary RM cups will be distributed.
- Regarding the installation of the RM Rocket, the MCPS Dept. of Facilities Management has received all the necessary information to move forward with approval of the Rocket. They have forwarded their recommendation to the Director of Construction for approval.

- RMHS has established a staff spirit committee to coordinate with SGA to enhance the school culture, promote a positive teaching and learning environment and provide opportunities for students and staff to engage in spirit-related activities throughout the year. The group will try to break down the barriers that may exist within the school towards school spirit.
- Dr. McLeod has recommended that the Booster President, Athletic Director and alumni coordinators meet in October to discuss the installation proposals for the baseball and softball scoreboards. The group will select a company and submit to the Dept. of Facilities Management the required paperwork to get the proposed site plan from the company approved.
- The new Girl's Varsity Basketball coach is Ms. Jennifer Hoffman, who was previously the JV coach for RM.
- RM is working with the Dept. of Facilities Management to secure a formal cost proposal from MCPS-approved vendors for the installation of stadium flagpoles.
- To support the "Raise the Rocket" campaign, RM has pledged \$1,000 to the project.
- Dr. McLeod meets monthly with the Booster Club President to discuss the partnership between the administration and the club regarding booster initiatives and programs.

Booster Treasurer Ryan Fleming noted that the Boosters will try and meet with MCPS-approved contractors to combine projects, such as the scoreboards and the flagpoles into one proposal and noted that it takes a long time for approvals and that MCPS isn't approving many big projects. He noted that we are moving in the right direction and have done everything so far according to procedures.

Athletic Director's Report – Bob Maxey

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

- An update on fall team records as of Oct. 6 was reported to the group. It was noted that September gate revenue was down \$1,500.
- Pending projects include covering the wall pads in the main gym and ordering dry erase boards for the team rooms. The athletic department will buy the fabric for the wall pads and cover them. The dry erase boards were funded by the Booster Club and will be installed by the winter season
- Future projects include batting cages (mid-Oct) and Hall of Fame plaques. The plaques project will be tabled for the present time to allow for completion of current pending projects.
- RM will host some post-season playoff games, including the 4A West boy's soccer semi-finals, 4A West boys & girls soccer finals and the 4A state girl's soccer semi-finals.
- The winter sports season begins on Saturday, November 14. Mr. Breslaw has agreed to staff the weight room after school from 2:40 – 4:30 pm.
- The JV football team has broken their long losing streak and is currently showing much promise.

- The homecoming game will be on Nov. 6. There will be a pep rally that day, along with float decorating and the homecoming court at halftime.
- RM will host the county Pom competition again this year on Feb. 13, 2010. The school is also trying to get a cheerleading competition also.
- All fall teams have had their team and individual photos taken by Eye-On-The-Ball.
- The Athletic Department is requesting funds from the Booster Club for athletic team awards (5K), tournament entry fees (3K) and Senior Day expenses from team accounts.

Treasurer's Report – Ryan Fleming

Financial documents, including a balance sheet and a profit & loss statement were provided to the attendees. The Booster Club's current balance is \$72,654.18 and the club is currently spending significant amounts of money on planned projects and start-up items such as spirit-wear. The outdoor concession stand is bringing in good revenue. A suggestion was made to have two cash drawers for football games because of the volume of sales.

Committee Updates/ Discussion Items:

- Membership – Chris Kelly thanked everyone for their efforts in recruiting new members. He had 15 people sign up for Booster memberships at Back-to-School night and we currently have 108 members. Our next push will be for winter sports and will again be recruiting at the winter sports potluck dinner. He expressed the need to sustain our recruiting efforts throughout the year. A suggestion was made to consider bringing the costs down of membership for next year.

Merchandise: Lisa Fumai reported that the merchandise committee has had a successful first few weeks of school. Spirit-wear sales have been available at eleven events so far as well as Back-To-School night. Sales have totaled approximately \$5,700.00 so far. A suggestion was made to make RM spirit-wear available at Julius West events coming up this winter and spring.

- Events and Outreach: Dolores Barnes reported that the Boosters will work closely with Julius West for upcoming cluster night games at RM. The Boosters will also staff the Fall Sports Awards ceremony and the upcoming winter potluck dinner.
- Website: Brenda Dunham reported that the website currently is updated to provide information on the Raise the Rocket campaign and is set up to receive donations on-line. Also, all fall team and individual photos have been completed and are on the Eye-On-The-Ball website.
- Fall Concessions: Jerry Kashatus reported that the outlet placement in the concession stand has been examined and that more outlets will be installed in the next few weeks to solve the problem of fuses blown by too many appliances

plugged in. New signs and a dry erase board have also been provided for the concession stand. Soap dispensers have also been purchased and will be installed. A suggestion was made to provide chili in the stand for chili dogs. Jerry also noted that we will be able to utilize the space in the concession stand better next year.

- Banner Program: A new sponsor, Bethesda Massage has been added to the banner program. They are hoping to provide seated massages in a reserved area at the Nov. 16th and 30th football games and are also providing an Apple I-Touch for the Boosters to raffle off with proceeds going to the Raise the Rocket campaign. Game announcers will be encouraged to mention the banner sponsors during home games.
- Alumni Tailgate: Lisa Hill is organizing the 2nd annual Alumni Tailgate Event and reported that there are currently only 10 alumni signed up for the event. Lisa will do another e-mail to the alumni list and do more advertising with a possible ad in the Gazette newspaper.

Old Business:

- Tournament Fees/Awards/Senior Day: The Booster Board met separately and reported back at the October meeting their proposal to provide an amount not to exceed \$6,000 to the athletic department for tournament fees and awards for the upcoming school year. Also, each team would be able to use their team funds for senior day awards. A motion was made and approved to accept the proposal, with the added suggestion that each team spend no more than \$10.00 per senior. Two meeting attendees abstained from the vote.

Update on RM Rocket, Plaque and Mural: Construction quotes have been received for the installation of the RM Rocket. \$18,000.00 is the high end quote so far. The steel will be donated and the design is for a curved steel rod to support the Rocket, facing towards the sky. A general contractor has been approved and the project is moving forward. RM has pledged to donate \$1,000 towards the installation and fundraising efforts are underway.

New Business:

- Nominees for Booster Vice President along with voting will take place at the November 4 Booster Meeting, due to the resignation of current VP Elaine Koubek. An announcement will go out to the Booster mailing list asking for interested candidates.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 4, 2009 at 7:00 pm.