

RM Minutes

Sept. 3, 2008

ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

Attendance:

Kevin Brooks	Elaine Knobloch	Rhonda Gaynor
Cindi Brooks	Marlene Kenny	Cathy Muha
Brenda Dunham	Patty College	Marla Brannan
Ed Spear	Robin Temin	Helen Blankenship
Bob Maxey	Doug Watson	Lisa Fumai
Bob Tendrich	Catherine Keech	Cheryl Hoover
Bob Khuen	Matthew Swanson	Betsy Fleming
Elaine Koubek	Patty Ramsay	Ryan Fleming
Arnold Lee	Bob Hamilton	Debby Kennedy
Lisa Hill	Dawn Rundhammer	Rick Brown
Donna Fuqua	Larry Center	Ann Brown
Mark Yantsos	Mike Froehlich	John DeVries
Jerry Kashatus	Alice Willer	Cissy Palomares
Liz Stoff	Steve Willer	
Chuck Mansius	Dolores Barnes	

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the August 6, 2008 meeting were unanimously approved with two edits. The revised minutes will be posted on the Booster website.

President's Message: Kevin Brooks expressed his excitement over the kick-off of the fall athletic season and the opening of the new stadium for the first football game. He noted that there have been many volunteers signing up to help the Boosters and the club is off to a good start, moving forward in a new direction.

Athletic Director's Report – Bob Maxey

- The practice field will be turned over to Richard Montgomery beginning on September 8th, and all the teams will begin using the field. The company that installed the field will be responsible for the maintenance of the field for one year. After that time is up, the school hopes to have an irrigation system in place. The goal is to practice on the grass and play games on the new turf. So far, teams have been very cooperative in rotating between the turf and the practice field.
- Mr. Maxey will be meeting to learn the procedures in running the scoreboard and the lighting system. The lights can be controlled by an outside company and set on timers.

- The press box has been completed with a sound system. There will also be wireless microphones to be used on the field as needed.
- Security lights have been installed on the poles. There have been a few glitches in working the lights, but they will be worked out.
- The tennis courts are being built and should be ready by the end of September. The baseball and softball fields should be completed by the end of November.
- Until all the fencing is complete around the stadium, security will be a problem, but the school is working on dealing with any situations that occur.
- The concession stand and bathrooms are complete. The ice machine has been delivered, and Coke is delivering beverage coolers.
- The school is waiting for the Central Office of the Board of Education to approve a date for the stadium to be dedicated. At that time we will have a dedication ceremony and festivities. The projected date is September 26. We are also looking to dedicate the baseball field as soon as it is completed.
- The fall potluck dinner was a success with a good turnout and plenty of food. The coaches reported that they had good meetings afterwards with their teams and parents and were very productive. Thanks were given to all the volunteers who helped at the dinner.
- Rocket Gold Cards were given out to all the members of fall teams and the goal was for each athlete to sell five cards each. The cards provide discounts at local restaurants and other businesses.
- Plans for the first football game in the new stadium are coming together. A section of the road and parking lot will be blocked off for Black & Gold Booster member parking. There will be signs and areas to park for volunteers also. Assistance is needed in manning the parking lot and directing cars. In the future, event shirts or jackets will be a way for volunteers to have more visibility.
- On Saturday, October 25 the Rockville Football League (RFL) would like to play their championship game on the new stadium. The boosters would run the concession stand for the game.
- The flags representing county teams have been ordered and will be installed around the stadium. The invoice was presented to the Booster President, and at the next meeting there will be discussion on the Booster's contribution to the cost of the flags.
- Team photos have almost all been completed by Eye-On-The-Ball Photography.
- A permanent RM logo for the center of the stadium field will not be completed until November. One possibility is to paint it temporarily.
- There are ongoing beautification projects going on around the athletic facilities, with new trees being planted and others in the works.
- The Athletic Director will be forming a Game Management Club of interested students to work on pre-game and post-game event management of athletic events. More information will be provided at a later date.

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 \$6,300.

Committee Updates:

- Merchandise: RM spirit-wear will be offered through the school store at the start of school and the merchandise is currently being moved in. Volunteers are needed at Back-To-School night to help sell spirit-wear, and a sign-up sheet was made available. Also, order forms were made available for Booster shirts for members to wear when working various events. RM drawstring backpacks will also be made available for sale this year.
- Membership: There are currently 34 Black and Gold members, and membership cards and parking passes were sent out to those members prior to the start of the first football game with a letter from the Membership Chairman. Membership cards and letters will also be sent out to Family, Individual and Supporting members. At Back-To-School night, new members will receive a RM drawstring backpack compliments of the Booster Club. Backpacks will also be sent out in a separate mailing to members who have already joined.
- Website: The website is getting a lot of traffic and all the updated forms and links have been added to the site. There is a new student page that gives an overview of RM athletics.
- Concessions: Help is needed in purchasing all the supplies needed for the new outdoor concession stand. A sign-up sheet was made available for people to volunteer to help Jerry Kashatus stock up and work the stand. We are allowing other RM teams to work concessions that do not play on the stadium field so they can earn money for their team.
- Banner Program: We currently have \$6,000 in banner sales and have also worked out a few barter (banners for services or products). There has been good response to the program so far.
- 9th Grade Orientation: Thanks was given to Marlene Kenny for running the 9th grade orientation. The Boosters were represented at the event and information was made available to incoming freshmen about the Booster Club.
- Back to School Night: Volunteers are needed to work the membership table and help sell spirit-wear. A sign-up list for volunteers was made available.
- Alumni Tailgate: The date for the alumni tailgate event has been confirmed for Friday, October 17, and invitations have been sent out by e-mail to RM alumni. The event will begin at 5:00 pm, prior to the Homecoming football game. Volunteers are needed to help Lisa Hill with the event. A sign-up sheet was made available. The event will include dinner and a ticket to the football game.
- On-line auction: The online auction that the Boosters are developing as a fundraiser has secured around 13 items at this point and organizers are hoping to secure more. Anyone with items or services to sell can contact Chris Kelly.
- Announcing: A request was made for Booster members and parents to volunteer to announce at home games this fall in the new stadium. The job would involve reading the team rosters and the MCPS Code of Conduct, playing the National Anthem, running the clock and keeping the score. Also, a request was made for teams to try and find someone to film games if possible. It was noted that any music played during team warm ups needs to not contain any offensive lyrics.
- Fundraiser at Austin Grill: Members were reminded of the musical fundraiser at Austin Grill in Rockville on September 6 by the group "The Digits". All donations made will be split between the RMPTSA and the Booster Club.

New Business:

- Marlene Kenny announced that she will be leaving RM on Sept. 30 and will no longer be the liaison between the Athletic Department and the Administration. A replacement will be announced at a later date. She thanked the group for their welcome and support.
- Installation of security cameras outside of the concession stand was suggested. There was discussion on the costs and feasibility of such cameras. No decision was made at this time.
- Keys to the concession stand will be held by a select few individuals and the Athletic Director.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2008 at 7:00 pm in the RM Cafeteria