

RHS Booster Club Meeting
June 6, 2007

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

Attendees: Ann English, Paul Fahrner, Vicki Grant, Karen Jackson, Ellen Johnsey, Lennie Melvin, Doug Moritz, Donna Nichols, Richard Nichols, Duke Owen, Phyllis Taylor, Stan Thomas, John Vlahakis, Susan Weinstein, Sheila York

Minutes of the May Booster Club meeting were not presented – will be presented at July meeting.

BC Chair (outgoing) Doug Moritz presented a thank you note from Model Ram Award recipient Meghan Moritz.

TREASURER’S REPORT (Duke Owen)

The expenditures of April were reviewed & year-end figures discussed.

- Income for Spring 2006 overall was up over the previous year (in spite of fewer home lacrosse games)
- Freeman retirement donation has been approved (\$250) but not yet made
- No donation yet made to PTSA, but discussion of donation in light of running a BC announcement in each PTSA newsletter
- No donation yet made to RHS Barbara Rossi Fund (\$200); Wendy Faxxon receives the letter – Doug to get to her
- Sunshine Fund discussion: to send flowers or something for variety of reasons
 - Criteria for beneficiaries?
 - Beneficiaries are usually ACTIVE BC members
 - Have used the fund for “graduating” BC members/parents
 - Need to establish guidelines (to be used as a guide, not set in stone)
- \$2,075 due each year for stadium lights payment
 - All donations made specifically for lights will go to lights even if we overpay the annual amount
 - 2 other ways to donate to lights fund:
 - Approx. \$1,000 from membership (decided not to donate a set percentage)
 - Approx. \$1,000 from mulch sale
 - Safeway donations

Cash on Hand	\$47,620
Receipts	2,574
Disbursements	(2,919)
Carry to next month	\$47,275

NOTE: Subsequent to June meeting, outgoing Chair Doug Moritz received Safeway Stadium lights donation of \$314.12 from “jugs.” Moritz’s suggestion: Talk to Safeway manager about a “Safeway Night” taking into consideration impact on and benefit to other corporate sponsors. Safeway has the most employees and customers that are already going to RHS so it makes sense to do something with them. Will need someone to manage the relationship and it’s potentially worth much more than \$300. New Safeway manager is Joe Sturm (sp?) [Add to July or August BC agenda.]

SCHOOL ADMIN REPORT & ATHLETIC DIRECTOR REPORT (Paul Fahrner)

- Back-to-School night will be Thursday, August 30, 2007
- Varsity Banquet Report:
 1. 23 coaches submitted Modal Ram nominations
 2. There were a little over 200 people at the Varsity Sports Banquet (May 30); 2006 count was roughly 250.
 3. Mostly absent from the banquet are fall and winter sports participants/parents probably because it's so far removed from the banquet.
 4. Banquet was about a week later than last year.
 5. Great job on booklet Karen and Rob!
- Search report for new coaches:
 1. Girls' lacrosse coach (Janis Maloney) leaving and position not yet advertised as of 6/6.
 2. JV lacrosse coaches (boys & girls) search underway
 3. 2 additional coach positions to be filled
 - a. JV field hockey
 - b. Varsity girls softball
- 2006-07 teams were competitive and some had very successful seasons.
- Three most expensive areas are transportation, security and field maintenance
- Coaches should never come to a BC member with a request for funding or projects; all requests should come through the Athletic Director
- All monies that come into the Athletic Department are divided equally according to Title Nine guidelines
- AD Fahrner sincerely thanked the Booster Club for efforts over the 2006-07 school year and said RHS has the best booster club in Montgomery County!
- Invoice for Rampage Ad was sent to AD Fahrner who will forward to the Booster Club (not received as of July 1)
- Field hockey practice may be off-campus in the fall
- August 15 practice times and locations will be printed in Rampage and will be included in Wood MS promotion (some RHS coaches went to Wood to speak with Lauren Caputo regarding a coaches orientation at end of June), and will be promoted on the Wood MS list-serve. Paul Fahrner will also post on RamsNet.
- List of RHS spring athletes who made all county/all division, summer all stars, etc. will be promoted on RamsNet list serve and at RHS morning announcements

No report from RHS Business Manager Pat Gamage on distribution of donations to SBOs (School Based Organization) was available.

MEMBERSHIP (Donna Nichols)

- All membership documents have been turned over to Donna Nichols from Vicki Grant
- One new corporate sponsorship application received – PostNet (new store at Rock Creek Valley shopping center) and they will create their own banner
- BC should consider having a BC corporate sponsor create the advertising banners and new idea – decals
- Corporate sponsors should receive a copy of the Varsity Banquet booklet with a letter thanking for support and asking for renewal of support for upcoming year [Donna Nichols will send]
- Membership applications are ready for Wood orientation (6/12/07)
- Should also create a sports' try out poster [Donna will give to Susan Weinstein with an electronic version to Duke Owen for web site]
- Donna Nichols has received membership information from other school booster clubs in the county to compare/contrast and will put a proposal for changes together for the BC to consider [for July or August meeting]

CLUB REPORTS

- PTSA (Vicki Grant)
 - New PTSA President will be Stan Thomas
 - May began the alcohol and drug forum programs which was very successful
 - Alcohol & drug forum information to be sent to Wood parents and a representative may attend the next Wood PTSA meeting
 - Safe Home Pledge should be included in Wood orientation packet and be included parent package sent to RHS students in August along with schedule info.
 - The sign in front of the school has been installed
 - Phyllis Taylor will serve as the BC PTSA rep for the coming school year

CONCESSIONS REPORT

- Snack Bar (Lennie Melvin)
 - Overall, snack bar did well during the 2006-07 year
 - The 7x7 event didn't come through (not enough volunteers and it wasn't held because the RHS field was in use for another event.)
 - Extra events are successful for snack bar (City of Rockville track meets, etc.) and help to get other parents involved
 - Snack bar coolers are being emptied and will bring sodas, etc., to BC social on June 29
 - Outside cooler needs to be fixed; Susan Weinstein will call Coca Cola to schedule (no charge to BC)
 - Should BC purchase a new (larger) pretzel cooker?
 - Great job by everyone over the past year
 - No replacement for graduating Ellen Johnsey as yet.
 - Need to get new and incoming BC members to "shadow" BC members (Lennie for concessions, Duke for treasurer and web site) who'll be leaving after the 2007-08 year so they'll better understand positions and know what to do the following year.
- Spirit Wear (Susan Weinstein)
 - RHS spirit wear sales from the Wood 8th grade promotion ceremony June 12. Also will attend Freshman parent meetings this summer.
 - Reordering in progress
 - 2/3 of spirit wear sales come in the fall (football games) and just before December holidays
 - Lacrosse senior night sunglasses give away was greatly appreciated by all attendees
 - Suggestions:
 - Back-to-School night give-aways (8/30/07)
 - Flip/flops – some larger schools sell for \$15 per pair (have cloth bands), and Northwest HS sold hundreds of pairs using a pre-order procedure [Note: Susan has seen these and they are a little pricey, sold by Hometown Products who Susan has been in touch with in the past]
 - Decal – long strips with magnets on the side with the RHS Rams' head

OTHER

- Athletic Director's Wish List for 2007-08 (Paul Fahrner):
 - Cheerleading is becoming increasingly competitive – new mat needed at approx. \$6,000
 - Boys & Girls baseball/softball ball device – approx. \$5,000
 - Recondition wrestling mats – approx. \$3,000 (new mat is approx. \$5-10,000)

- Baseball/softball temporary fence to divide fields & keep tennis observers safe – approx. \$10,000. Without the fencing, it's possible that RHS will not be able to have baseball and softball games at the same time [Suggestion was made to approach MCPS or the County to provide this fencing since they designed and built the fields]
- Laptop for swim team – approx. \$1,000
- New lacrosse nets will be needed with additional 2 JV teams
- New storage shed to house new field maintenance equipment
- Outback Bowl XI
 - Vicki Grant has agreed to Chair this event
- Health evaluations
 - Sheila York is spearheading this effort; Pam Angelis (new BC Volunteer Coordinator) will help
 - Mailing to be copied and sent in early July
 - Progress report will be given at July meeting
- Mulch Sale Chair needed

FORM COLLABORATION DISCUSSION

- Marching Band is truly an “orphan” as it is not supported by the Athletic Department and does not qualify as a Student Based Organization.
- Marching Band performs for all home football games
 - Band members aren't permitted to eat in uniform, but do purchase from the snack bar once performances are over
 - Band parents purchase from the snack bar during games
- RHS participation in marching band competitions are being cancelled for the 2007-08 year due to lack of funds
- Cost of maintaining the marching band (instruments, uniforms, music, etc.) is approximately \$500 per participant.
- There are between 41-47 members of the marching band
- Each participant pays just under \$100 to participate
- At other area schools, the Marching Band (music dept.?) has its own booster club which runs the snack bar, handles the 50/50 raffle, etc., and fees are split between participant fees and fund raisers
- There was discussion around revenue sharing and co-oping of sales markets
 - Add a donation line item to BC budget
 - FORM parents would work snack bar in return for percentage of revenue
 - FORM parents would become BC members and vote on BC issues
 - Open spirit wear sales at their competitions (?) and winter and spring concerts
 - Have specific spirit wear items for band/FORM
 - FORM would help solicit corporate BC members from the music industry
- BC can't designate specific sports as recipients of BC dollars, how could we then give to a specific group?
- Would a FORM donation need to go through the Dr. Munk donations?
- What does FORM do currently to raise funds:
 - Manage a small snack bar for concerts/tournaments
 - Wreath sale for winter holidays
- BC offered several fundraising suggestions:
 - Football club offered to give them their scheduled car wash Saturday at Rock Creek Valley Exxon (10:00am-2:00pm, June 9)

- BC will offer FORM the opportunity to run the 50/50 at fall football games (all or some?)
- FORM should approach the football club for additional support and/or ideas as that is not a school club and they may not have the same limitations for donations (Stan Thomas is president(?) of the football club)
- FORM could organize a silent auction
- FORM needs approximately \$25,000 – large budgets require big fundraisers. Perhaps one or two larger events (i.e., silent auction) versus numerous smaller events.
- Potential options for BC regarding FORM:
 - Approach MCPS (or appropriate agency) to have marching band fall under the purview of the athletic department
 - BC could allocate a percentage of fundraising to marching band (ala 79% to Athletic Dept. and 21% to SOBs; these percentages could be adjusted to give a percentage to marching band)
 - Provide an incentive to FORM, i.e., BC would match dollar for dollar up to a certain percentage or dollar amount, and pull it out of the 79/21 percent split

ACTIONS:

- Group voted that after all budgeted expenses are taken care of, any left over should be divided as 79% to the athletic department, and 21% to SBOs thereby removing the 6% to parent outreach organizations (eliminating any potential PTSA donation). Therefore,
 - \$1,450 goes to Dr. Munk for SBOs
 - Per Treasurer that allows \$1,300 to go to available funds for distribution as noted above
 - Back to school night should include presentation by Ann English of “checks” to Dr. Munk and AD Fahrner during main introduction of BC (discuss further at July BC meeting)
 - General accounting of Athletic Department funds should be dispersed to the RHS community so they can get a feel for where the county money – and BC funds – actually go, thereby dispelling the apparently widely-held notion that a disproportional amount goes to the football team [done by AD Fahrner via RamsNet list serve in June].
- FORM issue discussions begun; no decision made; issue tabled for further discussion at July BC meeting (rather than carrying over entirely to next school year)
- Doug Moritz, Duke Owen, Ann English, & Phyllis Taylor to meet informally to provide new BC administration orientation on immediate needs [this meeting took place on Sunday, June 10]

Meeting adjourned at 9:40pm

/pmt-7/11/07