**January 9, 2017 AHS Booster Club Meeting Minutes**

In Attendance: Susan Rietano Davey, Janet Stokesbury, Jim Stapleton, Susie Downey, Jen Gorack, Esther Aronson, Staci Purcell, Susan Arciero, Diane Oberhausen, Giuliana Nolan, Maria Mascoli, Nicole Leavens, Valerie DiBella, Nancy Kostal, Kerry Magrini, Tom Saxe, Robin Saxe, Nancy Kostal, Tom Culbertson, Lizz Weiler, KC O’Brien, Todd Donovan, Mary Beth Hart, Sreehari Prathigadara, Adam Theriault, Steve Hahn

Start time: 7:34 pm

Winter Athletics and Spirit Week Review: Winter Spirit week has been a great success and accomplished the goal of increasing attendance at our winter sport events and building spirit and community. While some of the events we discussed had to be curtailed, we hope this becomes a yearly tradition. Of note was the increased attendance at the Swimming and Diving Meet and the level of sportsmanship in Wrestling. Regrettably, the Hockey Game and bus to AOF had to be cancelled because of weather, but we are hoping to make this up. Even though AOF is close, the bus is extremely important for increasing school spirit and a sense of unity.

News from Audience:

Swimming and Diving continues its undefeated season with a win against rival Farmington. This is especially notable since our boys and girls compete together due to constraints necessitated by our rental space requiring the girls to swim in the winter with the boys (Fall is the season for girls’ swimming and diving). Thus, our girls must qualify for States under boys’ times.

Indoor track has had a challenging season with 2 of 4 meets cancelled. We are hoping to add some meets to the schedule which was quite paired down to begin with because of budgetary constraints.

Wrestling had a great win over Glastonbury which is remarkable given that the current team is very young. The current roster only has 3 seniors and 2 juniors with the remainder being underclassmen.

Attendance by alumni and townspeople was increased by posting in the town wide bulletin board. A suggestion was also made that in order to promote town attendance we should post a sign outside the school. Wrestling accomplishes this by putting out their “Match Today” Banner and then putting the time in cups on the fence on West Avon Road. The football team also advertises games with the sandwich board. More sports should do this to get the word out

Minutes Approved: S. Downey/K. Magrini

Treasurer’s Report: Jim Stapleton

The biggest expenditure in December was the fall spirit week lights which finally came through. Relative to last year, we presently have more money in the account (>34,000) due mostly to a decrease in the amount of funds dispersed in the spring. Jim also pointed out that Activity Reports don’t include the actual balance in an account and that to obtain both an activity report and a balance requires a 2 step process. Any questions regarding balances should be directed to Jim Stapleton (j.stapleton@comcast.net).

Financials Approved: M. Mascoli/K. Magrini

Capital Disbursements:

January 31 - Deadline to submit requests for Capital Disbursements.

February 13 – Presentation of Requests by Team Rep, Coach or Student Athlete

March 13 – Vote on Capital Disbursement Requests

Items to be considered for Capital Disbursement should be “somewhat supplemental” to the sport. Items considered essential to the sport should fall under the athletics budget. Capital Disbursement Request Forms can be obtained on our website: <http://ahsboosterclub.weebly.com/documents-and-forms.html>

Janet Stokesbury presented the Eligibility Requirements for those members voting on Capital Disbursement Requests:

1. Must be a current PAID MEMBER of the Booster Club
2. Must have attended 3 Booster Club Meetings before the vote.

Because the vote occurs after the March meeting is adjourned, attendance at the March meeting counts for voting rights. If you came today and attend the February and March meetings, you will be eligible to vote.

Susie Downey requests that Team Reps who cannot attend a Booster Club meeting find someone to attend on their behalf and report back to their team.

We would also like to remind everyone that the Booster club is no longer using the PO Box anymore so that any mail should be sent to AHS – c/o Booster Club and it will be placed in our box in the office. While the PO Box goes through the end of February it is no longer being checked on a regular basis.

VP Events Jen Gorack introduced the new Migli Tournament Director, Steve Hahn.

The Migli Golf Tournament will be on May 22, 2017[[1]](#footnote-1) at the Golf Club of Avon. Maria Mascoli will continue helping out with this process. We will need help in obtaining sponsors and encouraging people to play, including former students who might be around at that time. There is a 9 hole division to increase participation.

The Link to the Migli Tournament will go live on our website beginning January 23.

If anyone is having a fundraiser, please send the information to Susie and she can help promote it through the school, on the website and in the Booster Bulletin. Her email is susiedow@aol.com.

President’s Report: Susan Rietano Davey

Adam Theriault’s Sports Journalism internship with the Booster Bulletin is coming to an end and we would like to get the word out to get a replacement. The work is very flexible and entails writing a monthly feature article, updating scores and schedules every week and contact with coaches and players for information and video interviews.

Lucas Weiler, our Booster Club website administrator is stepping down and Susan will be taking over this role.

Record Boards Update: Susan will put in a request to correct Kyle Emery’s name on the Records Boards immediately. There is apparently no money available in the budget for Records Boards at this time. After the Disbursement Requests come in, the Board is considering putting in its own request for funds to update the record boards.

Questions and Suggestions from Audience:

* This Saturday, January 21 from 1-2 pm the event “For the Love of the Game” will take place at AHS. This event partners the boys and girls basketball teams with their mixed ability friends. This event allows the children to team up with their own friends more so than the Adaptive program which is based out of Farmington. Joe Zone, Sports Director at WFSB will be there and there will also be music, food and tattoos.
* Local press coverage and protocols were reviewed. The local Valley Press and The Hartford Courant do not take content from us, but if we inform them of events they may send out their own staff reporters.
* Gerry deSimas, Jr. from the Collinsville Press covers a lot of Avon events and will also take a piece that we write.
* The Patch will also take our content and anything unique can go there.
* Any items you want highlighted should be sent to the Booster Bulletin, including photos, which we will post.
* Nancy Kostal was looking for feedback on how the District handles other sports with regards to paying for funds for transportation of athletes that have qualified for special meets and invitationals. Crew was told that their transportation to the Head of the Charles will no longer be covered by the school. After feedback from various attendees, Susan suggested that Nancy take this issue up with Tim Filon.
* The Board of Education has indicated that they will support the plan for the Turf Field. The funding for this project will likely come from the town, private donors and by referendum. The Board of Education is requesting to have a Representative on The Turf Field Committee. Because the rubber surface has been seen as controversial, they are looking at sand as an alternative. Consideration is also being given to satisfy neighbors with remediation such as shrubs, etc. This is really more of a community, not solely a school project.
* VP Events – Jen Gorack: Senior Athlete Recognition Day will be at 6:00 pm on May 24 in the AHS Cafeteria. Students, parents, guests and even some college coaches will be attending. This will be for all athletes playing a sport in college at the Varsity level. The “Signing” events are only for athletes receiving an athletic scholarship.

Meeting Adjourned 8:45 pm (J. Gorack/J. Stokesbury)

Respectfully submitted,

 Esther Aronson

1. This date was changed subsequent to our January Booster Club Meeting and it is now on Monday May 15, 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)