

**Minutes of the September 8, 2015
CHS Athletic Booster Club Meeting**

Members in Attendance:

Paul Anello	Tracy Hickey	Mark Steward
Dawn Avallone	Bill Karpowic	Celeste Stinson
Robert Barnett	Mark Kellstrom	Nancy Styple
Sue Barry	Bonita Kirton	Jennifer Terry
Chris Delsandro	Joanne Kowalczk	Brian Tobin
Mark Devlin	Dawnel Kraus	Lisa Tognola
Dawn Druhot	Tony Lind	Cheryl Vivona
Kim Falone	George Macchia	Dave Vivona
Christine Gentile	Cathy McAuliffe	April Wingate
Jeff Hale	Denise Mortensen	
Christy Hartigan	Jennifer Mullen	
Marianne Hauck		

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Copies of the minutes of the June 2, 2015 meeting were provided for review. Rob Barnett asked that everyone please sign the attendance sheet.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the June 2nd meeting were approved.

Secretary's Report: Dawn Avallone reported that "thank you" notes were received from the following: (i) Kristen Maiorano for the Anthony Mack Sportsmanship Award, (ii) Emily Walczyk for the ABC Most Accomplished Female Athlete Scholarship, (iii) William Mitchell for the ABC Most Accomplished Male Athlete Scholarship, (iv) Isabel Chin for the ABC Harvey Cohen Scholarship, and (iv) Peter Daquila for the ABC's donations in the amount of \$1,925 (to cover the cost of Shadowman tackling equipment) and \$1,657.35 (to partially cover the cost of a new sound system for the CHS A/B gym).

Treasurer's Report: Mark Steward reviewed the Treasurer's Report and noted that checks were written between June 1st and August 30th to cover the following items: (i) \$1,657.35 for the new sound system in the A/B gym, (ii) \$2,500 for coaches' stipends, (iii) \$1,620.21 for spirit wear stock, and (iv) \$1,925 for the purchase of Shadowman tackling equipment.

Mark also highlighted the following receipts during the same time frame: (i) additional \$2,687.86 in net funds collected in connection with the spring beach bash fundraiser, and (ii) \$4,750 in website ad sales.

Copies of the Treasurer's Report were provided for review.

Head Liaison's Report: Celeste Stinson reviewed the general responsibilities of the team liaisons. Team liaisons must order and pick up senior day roses from Coviellos. They also attend the beginning of the season coaches' meetings to plug the ABC and hand out annual appeal letters. Lastly, liaisons are responsible for advising the athletes' parents of ABC volunteer opportunities and for advising parents and coaches of the process for accessing ABC funding.

The new cheerleading coach has been getting a lot of good feedback. A question was raised about whether the cheerleaders could have music to go along with their dance routines. Bill Librera indicated that this has been investigated previously and cannot be done. If parents are interested in challenging this decision, Bill encouraged them to attend the board of education meetings and voice their disagreement.

Concessions' Report: Cheryl Vivona reported that the shack has been cleaned in preparation for the new season and the following items have been purchased: (i) an event grill for use in preparing hamburgers and hot dogs, (ii) a hot chocolate machine, (iii) a pretzel warmer, (iv) two dry erase boards for listing price information, (v) two cabinets (w/4 drawers each), (vi) two candy/chip countertop displays, (vii) a folding table for grill prep, (viii) grill tools, and (ix) coat hook and first aid kit. Cheryl suggested that a cooler with wheels would also be a useful addition to the shack for use near the grill and noted that upgraded plumbing would be necessary in order to use the hot chocolate machine. Bill Librera will find out if the district's maintenance staff can handle the plumbing upgrade. Upgraded electrical service in the shack has also been on our wish list for a while. Bill Librera indicated that this upgrade cannot be addressed in the near future, since that upgrade would cost in the neighborhood of \$20,000, based on prior pricing investigation. Volunteer Spot will be used to schedule concession volunteers this year.

Athletic Director's Report: Bill Librera reported that the fall sports season is underway. The volleyball team participated in a tournament in Madison and did very well. The fall "Meet the Coaches" meeting was held September 2nd. The NJAC Board of Governors will soon be voting on whether Chatham should be placed in a different football conference.

Board Approved Purchases/Funding: Since the June meeting, the board reviewed and approved the following purchases: (i) funding to cover half the cost of the new sound system in the A/B gym (\$1,657.35), (ii) new grill for the shack (\$400), and (iii) new hot chocolate machine for the shack (\$600).

Coaches'/AD's Requests: The following new funding request was presented for the group's consideration and will be voted upon at the next meeting:

1. **Fall Sports Videotaping.** Boys' Soccer (\$2,000), Girls' Soccer (\$2,000) and Girls' Field Hockey (up to \$2,000).

2. Fall Coaching Stipends. (Carried over from June 2015 meeting.) Up to \$15,000 is needed for fall coaching stipends. These funds would cover the stipends for up to nine (9) coaches for six sports (girls and boys soccer, boys and girls cross-country, tennis and football).

Old Business:

1. **Executive Board.** The ABC Executive Board members proposed for 2015-2016 are Paul Anello, Jennifer Cosgrove, Jane Maltby, Cathy McAuliffe and Lisa Tencic. A vote was taken and all five Executive Members were **approved**.
2. **Team Stipend Increase.** It was proposed that team stipends be increased from \$8/player to \$10/player with the addition of a minimum team stipend for each team of \$250 to assist those teams that have smaller participation numbers. This increase was voted upon and **approved**. The team stipends can be used for various expenses, such as team lunches for tournament play, year-end banquet offsets, team banners, team tents, etc. Paul Anello prepared a summary memo regarding the process for requesting ABC funding (both stipend and non-stipend) last May. An updated version of this memo will be provided to all of the team liaisons following this meeting.
3. **Concession Leads.** We are still in need of fall, winter and spring concession leads for 2015-2016.
4. **By Laws Rewrite Update.** Paul Anello is trying to find an attorney who is willing to donate time to get this project wrapped up.
5. **Holdover – Proactive Plan for 2016 Spring Snow Management.** The SDOC will not allocate money to provide indoor venues for spring sports practices in the event poor weather conditions prevent practice on the CHS fields. Bill Librera is investigating the cost of various local indoor venues and will provide this information to the interested parties. The cost summaries will include the expense of busing the athletes to the alternate venues. This may be a cost that the boosters can help defray.

New Business:

1. **Funding of Portable Lights for Fall Cougar Weekend.** Cougar Weekend will take place from October 5th through October 12th this year. Funding for field/parking lot lighting is being requested for the weekend games on an expedited basis, since Cougar Weekend is right around the corner. Up to \$5,200 to cover this expense was requested, voted upon and **approved**.
2. **Storage Shed.** It was suggested that we purchase an 8x10 storage shed in which all of the “booster gear” (i.e., spirit wear, field decorations, ABC records/papers, shack supplies, etc.) could be stored. This would open up space in the shack and relieve board member from having to provide storage space in their homes. A shed of this size has been priced out at \$2,100. After discussion, it was decided that a slightly larger shed should be priced out (10x12) before finally presenting a funding request to the membership for a vote. Bill Librera will ask the vendor who provided the two existing sheds on the Cougar Field grounds for pricing.
3. **Fall Cougar Weekend Decorating.** After some discussion about how decorating responsibilities for Cougar Weekend should be divided, it was decided that each team would be responsible for handling the decorations for their own games. The boosters will provide all of the supplies needed for decorating, but the teams will be responsible for arranging for volunteers to handle the set up and clean up for their own games.
4. **2015-2016 Website Ad Status.** Brian Tobin advised that a mailing has already been sent out to solicit website advertisers and that we are well ahead of schedule on ad purchases and collections. All ads will be loaded onto the site in the next few weeks.

5. **Cougar Field.** The in-ground “CHS” wood sign may have to go, since the grounds crew is unable to keep up with maintaining it or the grass surrounding it and it is beginning to look very unattractive. Everyone was in agreement that it made sense to remove this sign. Perhaps we can look into installing an off-the-ground sign in its place.
6. **Back to School Night.** BTSN is scheduled for October 1st. Spirit wear will be for sale in the gym.
7. **Fan Buses.** A question was raised about whether fan buses would be provided for the upcoming Chatham/Randolph football game, which is the first football game of the season. Because of the cost (\$400/bus) and the difficulty in getting parent chaperones to ride on the buses, fan buses are being offered only for playoff games at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the CHS Media Center.