

LSM Athletic Booster Club, Inc
Monthly Meeting
Monday February 12, 2024
6:30 P.M.
LSM Conference Room
lsmathboosterclub.com

Presiding Officer:

Matthew Mooney - President

Board Members Present:

Laurie Dinunzio: Vice President

Amy Battisto: Secretary

Mike Carrano: Treasurer

Heather Chirumbolo: Event Coordinator

Deanna Tiso: Event Coordinator

Becki Green: Concession Stand Coordinator

Jay Pelchar: AD (non-voting member)

Non-Board Members Present: Rosie Zeller, Brook Joiner

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:45pm by Matt M.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from the meeting on 1/9/24 were reviewed and approved. Laurie D. made motion. Chris B. seconded.

Budget:

- We ended the month and year with \$29,992.19 in the bank
- We had a net loss of \$1,372.23 for the month
- Monthly revenue was \$3,944.09 and included \$2,969.55 from concessions, \$610.87 from Squad Locker, \$300 Ace sponsorship for the Spartan Open from Torrington Savings Bank and \$63.67 membership revenue
- Monthly expenses were \$5,316.32 and included \$2,380 for the soccer sweatshirts, \$475 volunteer coaching reimbursement to J. Fox, \$343.23 for Coach Ciarlo/girl's basketball training aid, \$82 for annual PO Box renewal, \$1,368.01 of concession expenses, \$320 for the Parent Booster annual renewal, \$288.08 reimbursement to Laurie for shadow boxes and \$60 reimbursement to A. Daly for the basketball senior gifts (6 players x \$10)

- The Board needs to file taxes annually, but only incurs IRS penalties if we miss filing for 3 consecutive years. When renewing our non-profit status with Parent Booster Club a few weeks ago, we were notified that we missed the tax year 2022 filing because it was due by 12/15/23. Filing it late still would count as a missed filing, so the Treasurer and Parent Booster person (Jason) agreed it makes sense to just wait and file next year. Given the Booster Club's annual gross receipts now exceed \$50k, we must file a more complex tax return (the 990EZ instead of prior years 990N). Shortly after our fiscal year end in July 2024, the Treasurer will work with Parent Booster to file our 2023 990EZ which is currently a \$350 fee. Parent Booster will also compile our required CT annual report going forward (this will incur a \$50 pass through fee charged by the state of CT).

President's Update:

- \$1500 total has been collected so far for raffle baskets. 4 sports have donated. Volleyball will do their own basket. Carrie R. will reach out to the swim team. Rosie Z. will reach out to the track team.
- Matt shared a thank you note the boys' soccer team wrote thanking the booster club for the championship sweatshirts that were purchased.
- In the past couple months there have been some votes taken by board members outside of a meeting for time sensitive items. One vote was to approve \$2,380 for the purchase of sweatshirts for the boys' soccer team. A second vote was to approve the partial payment for the softball coach to travel to Florida with the team. The third vote was to approve \$400 to be used to purchase gift cards for fan appreciation nights at the basketball games.
- Discussion continued about giving each senior athlete a gift card at the end of the year, or using the money to purchase something in their name. The amount would be around \$800. Brooke J. suggested having 3 possible projects and allowing the seniors to vote. If it was a large project we could include the class of 2025 as well as 2024. Chris B. suggested updating the thunderdome banner, or purchasing a new PA system. These items would be utilized by more people than just athletes. Other possible ideas: covers for soccer benches, banners for all senior athletes, like the basketball banners. It was decided that we will not give gift cards, but we'll continue to discuss what could be done instead.
- Fan Appreciation Day - We are currently doing a fan appreciation during the basketball games. Discussion was had about doing something like this during spring and fall sports. Another possible idea is having a "youth night" to go with each sports team. Matt will send an email to spring sports parents to begin.

- Laurie ordered shadow boxes. They will be presented at each team specific ceremony. There was discussion about doing the presentation at a larger event such as the academic awards night.
- Scholarship - Booster Club scholarship application is available for students to fill out. The deadline is March 23rd.
- Spartan Open - had 1st meeting. Need help soliciting businesses. Matt will send spreadsheets out for people to sign up to help solicit. Goal for fundraising is set at \$30,000.
- Mark Fallon, the president of HYSA, has asked if we could donate a pair of season passes to the golf tournament (Nine and Dine) they are running. We will make a Super Spartan basket for them - passes, concessions, apparel.

Webmaster/Social Media: (Tina/Chris)

- Matt gave a shout out to Chris B. for all the amazing work with the social media posts that she has been doing all year long.

Membership: (Traci/Trisha)

- No update at this time.

Events/Fundraising: (Deanna/Heather)

- Spring Madness Event - working on how to have brackets filled out. Deanna checking to see when brackets are available to be made. Will want everyone to pay ahead of time - they'll pay first and then they get the link and password. Viewing party - possible ideas: have a 50/50 raffle and charge to go to party - maybe charge \$5 or \$10; use a few leftover items from Spartan Open for raffle; or charge \$15 for bracket and then just have the 50/50 and some appetizers that will be covered. Working to decide on which date to use - possibly Thursday, March 28th.
- Sparty Event - May 17th as a possible date. 4 sports teams will be playing at Mills that afternoon. Could have an ice cream truck available, and invite the youth sports kids. Anyone wearing their jersey would get a free ice cream. This is an event that could possibly use the \$800 from the gift cards and be sponsored by the 2024 senior athletes.

Concession Stand: (Suzanne/Rebecca)

- Working to adjust how much pizza to have available at each game.
- Alaina Ljbuncic and Jenna Putnam have been working most of the girls' basketball games. They've been a great help. We will get them a small gift card to say thank you. Will also get a gift card for Chelsea Mayes who has been instrumental in the running of the concession stand.

- Will work email next year to have freshman parents sign up for shifts at the concession stand.

Merchandise: (Heather)

- Squad locker check is in.
- Discussion about possibly selling apparel at snack shack, Spartan Open, lunches, and other events. Would possibly use Bill Brown for swag - he's cheaper than squad locker

Athletics Update:

- Baseball fence and tennis court update. Fence - cost will be covered by the district. Booster club wants to help with cleaning the tennis courts. Warranty requires the company who installed the courts to be the ones to clean them, but they are all booked up. District will not help fund this unless the company that installed the courts is used. Jay reached out to Putnam Tennis for cleaning. Cost would be about \$4200. Booster club will reach out to the district to discuss having this company clean the courts. Courts should be resurfaced every 10 years, but this would be a district initiative.
- Batting cage shell - we have one available, but the dolly to wheel it in and out needs to be replaced. They do have an activity fund that could cover both things (the dolly and a pitching machine), but may exhaust their funds.
- Pitching machine - possibly booster club could give \$500 to help with this purchase, but not fund the whole thing - we would either do the wheel for the dolly or contribute to the pitching machine. Mike will send out a spending spreadsheet to make sure we are being fair to all the teams with expenses.
- Tennis and golf don't have uniforms. In an effort to make sure all teams have quality uniforms we are looking into having the district use BSN Sports. Cost of a contract would be around \$17,000 per year. All sports teams would have uniforms that are cleaned each year and updated every 5 years. Coaches would also be given 1 apparel item depending on the package chosen with the company. Need to find out if this would include football. Looking to see if we could do a plan where the booster club pays some of the cost over 5 years and the district pays the rest. Jay will talk with AD at Avon. Avon already has a contract with Under Armour. Our board currently pays \$9-10,000 now for uniforms. Whatever plan we come up with has to alleviate the board from being on the hook for a large amount of money. Would this deal include football which would free them up to not have to have their own booster club and they could join ours? Could this be our next big initiative that the booster club works toward?

Other:

- None

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm. Matt made a motion to adjourn. Laurie seconded.
- Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 11, 2024 at the library at 6:30.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Battisto, Secretary
LSM Athletic Booster Club, Inc.