

November Booster Minutes

Attendance: Sandy Sherman, Carolyn Krug, Valerie McNamara, Betsy Weischedel, Deborah Norris, Betsy Hoehl, Laura Darden, Jeff Goodrich, Jay Austin, Jeanne Barnes, Steve Ferreira, Sarah Keener

Jeff Goodrich, Boys Basketball, came to request funds for a piece of equipment. The Shoot-A-Way shooting and skill development machine would be used by both the boys and girls basketball programs. The cost is \$5,000. They have about \$900 from a mini-camp they put on and mini-metro has offered \$500. They were going to do a winter program until they learned that boosters was doing one for all winter sports. They gave the sponsors they had secured to the booster program. They have secured a financing deal that would require \$1,500 down with 0% financing for nine months. After that, the remainder would be due. They are willing to help with concession duties where needed. If they order now, it would take about two weeks to be delivered.

Steve Ferreira, representing boys baseball, came to request help buying soil for the infield. They get the clay soil from New Jersey. It is \$2,700 a load. They raised \$2,800 last fall for a load but still need another half load. They split a load with Essex Junction Little League, but still need to raise the funds for it. They will do fundraisers for part of it and have received a small amount from the athletic budget and some from private donations. They do the work themselves. They usually raise \$3,500-\$4,000 each year and spend \$2,000-\$2500 for new equipment. The Babe Ruth organization was hoping to contribute money to the program this year, but did not have the funds. Baseball will appreciate whatever we can offer of the \$1,050 needed.

Sarah Keener, of Nordic Skiing, came to request money for new uniforms for the Nordic ski team. They will have about 25-30 kids and they are looking for new varsity uniforms. Sixteen new uniforms will cost about \$1,200. They have found a good deal on some uniforms used for rowing. JV will wear the old uniforms. They have been shrinking and are pretty small. Ed has \$500 available from the AD budget. They are looking for \$700.

Scott Mosher has requested money to cover his lodging and registration fee for the National Soccer Coaches Conference in Baltimore, MD. We covered this last year. He estimates \$550.

The Cross Country team sent 9 girls and 9 boys to New Englands. In the past we have paid \$50/athlete for those traveling to New Englands.

Concessions at the soccer championships grossed about \$1,700. We paid \$267 to the Tree Farm. Not as good as hoped.

Ed was unable to attend but sent his report.

- They hope to hire a head football coach by Christmas.
- The Positive Coaching Alliance was a success overall. The feedback from the students, however, was that it was too elementary. There was not a large turnout for the parents' session. Perhaps it was not a good idea to hold on conference night. Jay Austin attended one session. Said it was started with a video and the presenter was very good. One stat that was interesting was that by age 13, 78% of children drop out of sports because there is too much emphasis on skill and not enough on having fun. Also, there were a number of coaches from outside of Essex who attended.
- Meet the coaches night for winter sports is Tuesday, November 27. We have parents for all sports except Nordic skiing and girls hockey. Deborah Norris is willing to help with girls hockey. We will look for someone else to step up also.

Jeanne Barnes reported that we sold \$1,900 worth of merchandise at the November 8 conferences. The new t-shirt that she ordered came in unacceptable. She sent them back and will get a credit. She will look into ordering an Under Armour type loose-fitting shirt or spandex shorts. Lisa Cray has offered to help out with clothing.

Betsy Weischedel reported that our checking account has a balance of around \$26,000.

The final schedule for winter concessions will be on the website after the times are nailed down for the NVAC cheerleading tournament.

VOTES:

\$700 for Nordic ski team uniforms—approved

\$550 for Scott Mosher to attend soccer conference—approved

\$1,050 for soil for the baseball infield—approved

\$900 for cross country teams to go to New Englands—approved

\$3,600 for basketball programs for Shoot-A-Way machine—approved

The next meeting will be Tues., 12/11 at 7:00 in Room C101.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37.