

October Booster Minutes

Attendance: Sandy Sherman, Tim Gendron, Jeremy Hammond, Carolyn Krug, Valerie McNamara, Betsy Weischedel, Deborah Norris, Betsy Hoehl, Laura Darden, Ed Hockenbury, Jeff Culkin

Kate Duffy and Kelsey Murtha, two students from Pam Hemingway's Computers in Athletic and Recreation Management course, came to share the classes proposal for our winter sports program. They would like to have it ready for the first home game, which is 12/6 for girls hockey and wrestling. They can start the layout but rosters and pictures won't be available until the week of November 26th. Jeff Culkin, of Symquest Group, offered to have his company print the covers in color. The class would like to have some pictures of previous years' events to add to the pages. All are thrilled to have this class take on this project. Boosters would pay cost of materials. We would start with 500 copies, as only about half that amount was sold in the fall.

Jeff Culkin, U46 Board Chairperson and a member of the Unified Union Committee, presented a video about the committees work over the last three years and their unanimous decision to bring a unified union proposal to the voters on November 6th. They are holding public forums and have been addressing groups of citizens, such as ours, to provide information to voters so they can make an informed vote.

Wednesday, December 12th is the Rink grand opening. The boys and girls teams will play Spaulding HS. Kevin Sneddon of UVM, Governor Douglas and others have been invited to the ceremony. Last years state championship banners will be raised and there will be no charge for admission that night. The rink is pursuing advertising for the dasher board and the zamboni. There will be a second cafeteria operating at the rink. Is boosters interested in merchandise sales that evening or promotional giveaways?

Ed's report:

- He handed out the schedule for the Positive Coaching Alliance sessions. There will be advertising for it in local papers soon.
- The concessions at the cross country invite netted about \$2150. There is interest in developing a cross country trail at the Tree Farm Facility. This would give Essex a better place to stage the event. Kevin Martell will meet with the Tree Farm Board. Some existing trails would need to be widened and maybe a footbridge

built. This might be a good community service project for teams or prospective Eagle Scouts.

- Homecoming is Saturday, October 13, there will be games going on at 10, 12, 2, and 7. There will be a coin drop going on all day for Unified Sports. We will award Jill King the Super Booster Award at half-time of the boys varsity soccer game that day. Alumni buttons will be handed out at the football game to Essex Alums. The oldest alum will get a sweatshirt. Cheerleaders have submitted their final request for ½ the Mr/Ms Spirit prizes. \$128.38. Boosters approved this expenditure at the last meeting. No booster funding is needed for the fireworks. Student Government is handling the expense.
- Essex will **not** be requesting to host a championship football game, because it falls on the same weekend as the school musical.
- A couple large events have been scheduled for the winter that will require concession staffing.
 - 1/18-19 Wrestling Classic
 - 2/9 NVAC cheerleading tournament
 - 2/16 state gymnastics meet

Cheerleaders are hoping to host the youth cheerleading event on 1/26, but they have not yet been notified.

- Given the increase in tax liabilities to Essex homeowners, it may be hard to shift the captain's leadership program and the certified strength and conditioning coaches stipend to the athletic budget next year as planned. In addition, other items could be cut.

Jeremy Hammond, boys' track and field head coach, submitted a request for help with new uniforms for the boys' team. The last uniforms were purchased in 2002. Style was discontinued making it impossible to replace lost/worn uniforms. Total cost is \$3,000. The team made about \$375 from concessions at the summer Hershey Track Meet held at Essex. Athletic Dept can support \$1,000, track team has some money from previous fund raisers to cover \$1,000 before it would deplete money used to go to out of state events.

Betsy W. reported that we will need to reapply for tax exempt status with the state and federal government because no record can be found of our status with the state.

VOTE: Yes for \$128.38 for Mr/Ms Spirit prizes.

Yes for \$1,000 to boys track team for uniforms.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting 11/13, 7pm, C-101.