Hillsborough High School Boys Lacrosse
Booster Club Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2013

Next Meeting Tuesday March 12th 7 PM (Room TBD)

Attendance

Coach Wilson, Lori Boch, Carol Cropley, Merrill Davies, Rob Fitzgerald, Dan Farinaro, Chris Gradone, Tricia Hiller, Karen Kellerman, Sara Kouten, Anne Marie Lazor-Shapiro, Fred Lewis, Paul Mahoney, Abed Medawar, Karen Melillo, Jim Panaccione, Crissy Pocaigue-Cace, Karyl Rucci, Leslie Siegel, Gaye Wenzel, Laura Ziminski

President's Report

Dan Farinaro stated that the time is now!!! We've had great success with our various fundraisers but we need to do more to build up our reserves. Committee members need to keep board members up to date – progress or lack thereof. We can hold emergency meetings when needed.

Vice President's Report

Rob Fitzgerald and Scott Kellerman have been interfacing with the town. They are not getting much feedback or assistance yet. Scott is working with Bob Frusco (Board of Ed rep). The wall was supposed to be on the last meeting agenda but it was pulled and is now relegated to third meeting of the month. The plans can't go to the board architect before a board meeting committee review. Nick Speciale is now in office of emergency management and will intervene on our behalf. Rob will also approach Mike Fanizzi (AD) about talking to Frusco as we are no further on their side than we were 6 months ago. Leslie Siegel wondered if respectful letters to the BOE would be helpful. Scott and Rob will wait until the end of week to see if we get any news. Karyl Rucci knows the mayor personally but doesn't know how much pull he has with Board of Ed. Rob will draft a petition and decide whether to pursue this avenue after Nick Speciale talks to the BOE. Frusco was concerned about the cost and funding for landscaping around the wall. Rob assured him it was all coming from booster club.

Rob solicited the group for landscaping/grading help. Rob will draft email to send to HS and youth.

Treasurer's Report

Chris presented a financial review which did not include all of the money from the Coupon Book sales. Our net from that fundraiser is $3195. This is slightly less than last year but still excellent. Chris recently made payment on the Spring Sports Scrapbook from last year. A donation to the Edith Stein Hospice was made in Zwirko's name after the passing of Coach Z's mother. The Senior Boot Camp Clinic (Feb. 23rd 10:30A-12:00P) will be limited to 40 youth players and should generate $975. Coach W will coordinate with the seniors. Parental supervision is required and Leslie Siegel, Karen Kellerman, and Merrill Davies volunteered to supervision and check in all attendees. Last month, Jim Panaccione requested comparison of funds vs. last year. Chris will get this info together for a future meeting. Our net is down from last year but that is due to large expenses last year. Jim P. will help with organizing Shake-A-Can.

Secretary's Report

Merrill Davies reported that last month's minutes and an updated Committee List have been posted on the website.

Coach's Report

Coach Wilson reported that currently there are no needs.

Topics

Media Guide - Abed Medawar has revised flier would like to distribute tomorrow. Several group members offered to proofread. Sue Harding of Milan Rose would like EVERYTHING completed by March 8th. This deadline is required due to Sue's other business commitments and also, this will have the guide in our hands as the season starts. Abed asked the group for assistance with contacting business sponsors. Only a few people offered to help (Merrill, Tricia Hiller, Lori Boch, Karen Kellerman, and Sara Kouten). Abed and Merrill will meet over the weekend to plan the guide and make a check-list of needed items.

Off-Season Activities – This includes all activities we do in the winter (pre-season) and extends post-season into summer and fall. These are parent run activities (not Coach W). If we want experienced coaches for winter league, we have to pay for it.

Immaculata's parent club is currently paying a Westfield coach $4000 for a 3-month program (mid-week practices and Sunday league) that incorporates strength/conditioning, agility, and speed training. Chris Gradone commented that the boys need more structure during the winter. It's possible that a winter box lacrosse league would be beneficial for player development. Jim P. suggested trade-offs like not getting special uniforms and using the funds for something else. (Post-meeting note: the alternate uniforms are paid for by Train for Lax and player contributions, not by the booster club). Laura Ziminski suggested taking parent contributions for subs/Gatorades as opposed to booster club funding that.

The booster club needs to help with building up the Boro Pride program. Some parents suggested that at some point A and B teams are needed with tryouts for the higher level teams as this may keep kids from going to competing programs such as 2Knights Lacrosse (Bridgewater/Watchung). Boro Pride is less costly than these other programs. Parents need to consider the future of our town and program. Chris suggested that the parents put together a proposal for next season. Coach Wilson can help design it but cannot run it. Keep in mind that the Raider Strength Center is free. Leslie Siegel uses Constant Contact to create surveys and she suggests using it to get parent feedback. Rob wants to invite youth parents to join our meetings to see what to expect in high school but Chris reports apathy at that level, too.

Talked about bringing up mandatory requirements – can't do!!!! Coach wants to create more "unity of purpose" to progress against BR, HC and Ridge. These programs operate the best in the off-season. HC – only 4 kids from youth up did not participate in Red/Black program. Parents need to understand the tournament process. There will be losses and the team needs to bond to progress. Carol Cropley brought up idea of more competition for spots as way for kids to want to work harder. Coach did state that cuts may be possible this year (especially at freshman level). Chris stated that we want to design something that kids are excited about and don't want to miss. Abed agreed but stressed that we must convince parents of need for year-round commitment. Need to convey to parents the positive attributes of the game possibly via a Lacrosse 101 class.

Teens for Jeans - 1300 pairs of jeans were collected by the players. An article will appear in the school paper. Lou Coetzer will send something in to the Beacon and Hillsborough Patch**.**

"Save Around" Coupon Book – This fundraiser is completed and generated $3195 in profit. Leslie does not recommend doing this fundraiser in December next year as kids did not sell over the holidays. A proposal was made to distribute the books at the November parent meeting and have parents sign for the books. This will help to prevent loss. The boys can turn the money/unsold books (hopefully none) at the first Fit Club meeting on the Monday after Thanksgiving. Additionally, Leslie commented

that a shorter selling period is actually better. Crissy Pocaigue-Cace will be taking over this fundraiser next year.

Senior Recognition - Tricia Hiller and Laura Ziminski have nothing to report this month.

Spring Raffle - Karen Kellerman reported that solicitation to entire Hillsborough Lacrosse community worked. A former player's father will donate $250 and the Dinardi family (youth player) owns a garbage service and will donate 1 year of garbage pickup. Since the garbage service can only be used in town, it was suggested to use that for the golf outing basket auction. The booster club will fund the $1000 and $500 prizes. The drawing will be held on Saturday May 4th during half-time. Karen will try to leave the time off of the tickets in case game time is changed. Karen has started the required paperwork. Post-meeting note: The Ciattarelli Family (youth) have also donated $250 so this will further decrease funding by the booster club.

Apparel – Sara Kouten reported that we are waiting on the jackets and doing a few size exchanges. She and Pam Puleo will be selling additional apparel at games. The club will donate some of the older apparel to Project Graduation and will do the same for our Golf Outing. They ordered extra small size t-shirts to sell at the Fun Run. Sara and Pam need to design and order the pinnies for the Breast Cancer Awareness game and plan to order more than last year. Last year, 200 were ordered and sold out, with additional requests that could not be fulfilled.

Golf Outing – Jim Boland was not present so nothing to report this month.

Boro Tournament – The group is working on getting locations. For the Football/Lacrosse Complex, there is a town ordinance regarding who can use it and when. Fanizzi will let us use the HS fields but he needs to check on availability. Proposed dates are June 25-26. We don't want to conflict with Camp Heart or Youth Football Camp. HHS is a good option due to parking and facilities. We may have to do late afternoon or evening only. Docherty not a good option due to lack of parking, no concessions.

Banquet – Sodexho gave good prices. Lori will get sample manuals and have meeting in April.

New Topics – Laura Ziminski reported that we actually can do the Spring Sports Scrapbook as long as we don't tie it to the HHS yearbook. Laura spoke with Mr. Simpson (Vice Principal) and got the okay. If we decide to do it, we should have the Scrapbook delivered in May to generate more enthusiasm. We didn't necessarily do it

as a fundraiser last year but it was a benefit (awareness of our program). We broke even last year. Printing cost was $3.50 and we charged $10. We had 200 printed and didn't sell them all last year. We need to market better this year and sell at senior banquets. The club voted to do it but not print as many this year. Chris Gradone asked if our flier can be sent our via the Honeywell Instant Alert system. Laura will ask. We could also advertise on Hillsborough Patch.

Shake-A-Can – Will be held on Saturday February 23rd. Freshman, sophomores, and juniors will participate. A reminder or "save the date" email should be sent out. Coach Wilson will take care of this.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday March 12th at 7 pm (room 312).

Respectfully Submitted,

Merrill Davies
Secretary