

Blue Thunder Booster Club

July 23, 2007 Minutes

Called to Order: 7:01 PM

Adjourned: 8:47 PM

Attendees: Deb Shawd, Michel Johannes, Sharon Knox, Sally Hoesel, Denise Hauser, Michelle Dixon, Bob Moore, Mike Rogers, Sue Lemke, Ann Czechowic, Kelly Tripp, Dianna Peterson, Karen Reynolds, Gail Adkins, Tracey McConnell, Sandy Kaske, Joan Ollmann, Sue Rodakowski, Michel Johannes, Carla Sullivan, Alicia Perez, Kari Boling, Veronica Rosas, Dawn Stone, Chris Norgard.

Secretary's minutes were approved by Sue Rodakowski and 2nd by Gail Adkins.

Treasurer, Joan Ollmann, reported that our checking account was opened this week with \$21,499.65 from \$6000.00 in membership fees and the remainder a start up from the Buc Booster Club. We also have a tax ID number now so we will have to file a non-profit tax return. The next step is to apply through the IRS and state of IL to become a tax-exempt organization and John Young, an attorney from Reno and Zahm, will help us with this. This will enable us to make purchases without having to pay sales tax. Step 3 is a 501(c) 3, which would make us a charitable organization so members could deduct all or part of their contributions. Joan is also looking into a merchant account so we can accept credit cards for payment, and a raffle license so we can sell 50/50 tickets. She also said we have to buy an insurance policy for liability for members who handle cash, and this will cost \$100.

Committee reports followed:

Membership: They are selling Founding Memberships at three levels: Gold-\$1000, Navy-\$500 and Scarlet-\$250 with benefits to include a lifetime membership, their name engraved on a plaque, 2 passes to all BNHS home sporting events for 2007-08, priority season ticket seating for BNHS home football games, and discounts on North merchandise. They will also sell an annual Family/Individual membership for \$25 and these members will also receive a discount on North merchandise. Mike Rogers said they have six Gold level members to date and more checks are coming in. 140 names are logged in on their list to contact and they asked for more names for potential memberships. Alicia Perez said an article about membership was in the BDR and she is going to get something mentioned in the Journal, the Register Star and put an ad in the Shopper.

Merchandise Sue Rodakowski, Michel Johannes, Trudi Gleasman and Sherrie Morris met with Salkeld Sports and ordered hats, sweatshirts and t-shirts and spent a total of \$3,126.82. Discussion followed about the need to have our logo copyrighted and Joan Ollmann said she would discuss this with an attorney. It was also decided that the marketing committee should make a decision on the use of the logo in regards to how it is used, with what fonts are used with the logo and the exact colors. Curt Tobin, our new head football coach, met with Fast Lane about coach's hats. A working schedule sign up sheet for selling merchandise at the fair was passed around for volunteers to help with two-hour shifts.

50/50: Jenny Hazelwood, chairman, wasn't present to give a report.

Marketing/Website: Alicia Perez will have membership cards printed on a hard plastic with navy blue lettering and a blue logo. She can get 500 cards for \$100. There was discussion about the Individual/Family membership cards being printed on a card stock every year, but it was decided that these wouldn't hold up well. So every member will get a hard plastic

card and annual memberships will receive a sticker with and expiration date to place on theirs each year. Our website will be printed on the cards so members can check to see what businesses are offering discounts. Gail Adkins mentioned a change we need to make for a link on our site. The sports.com should be sports.net.

Thunder Spud: Sandy Kaske said a call has been made to Northwoods to see if they will scrub potatoes for all nine games this year, and Annette Byers has a notebook of instructions for running the potato concessions. A sign up sheet for helping sell potatoes during football games will be at the merchandise booth at the fair. Sandy would like 5 to 6 people per shift and 3 people on Thursday nights to wrap. Joan Ollmann made a motion to name our potato the Thunder Spud and it was 2nd by Mike Rogers and approved by all. Alicia mentioned we should have laminated signs made for the booth.

Concessions: Michel Johannes said Football concessions will be taken care of by various teams and after volleyball tryouts they will ask volleyball parents to help during volleyball games. Our concession manager is going to be Sandy Christianson, an Aramark employee at BSMS. She and Pam Barr will work together. We need to let them know if we want to add different food. Carla and Pam are considering using a locked cage in the soccer area of the concession building for each school to have their own refrigerator. This way we can purchase and inventory our own food. It was suggested to store our own candy and paper products in a bin that could be kept at North and Karen could transport it to BHS for all North home games. It was also announced that BHS is getting a new popcorn machine and usually the spring sports coaches go to every game early and pop the popcorn for which they receive \$50 per game for their sport. Carla said we should look into paying \$50 per game for other coach/team volunteers who could help with grilling or 50/50 at every game as well.

Fundraising: Chris Norgard said he spoke with Chrysler and they would be interested in bringing cars to any event we might have to get people to test drive them and fill out a questionnaire. Chrysler would in turn give our organization \$100 for each person doing this. He also said Jack Wolf would look into a car raffle that we could sell tickets for and he could use as a promotion to win a car and advertise this. Chris is also trying to contact Chicago Bears to have them play basketball at North against our players. He will talk with Pam Barr about this benefiting both high schools. The membership committee volunteered to help Chris with these fundraising events.

Old Business: The Golf Play Day brought in around \$10,000, so we will get \$5,000 and Buc Boosters will get \$5,000. Since both Booster Clubs run this event it was brought up that we should take charge of this next year and try to promote it more.

New Business: **Fair Fee**-The Boone County Fair Fee for the merchandise booth is \$500 per year. Since the Buc Boosters are allowing us to sell merchandise from their Buc Mobile this year we are going to pay half of the fee, which is \$250.
Minutes on Website-It was also decided that after our monthly meeting minutes are approved, Deb will send them to our Webmaster to be put on our website. Our Agenda for the upcoming meeting and our Treasurer's report will also be posted on our website.
Season Ticket Sales-Founding Members Day for purchase of season football tickets for North will be August 14th in the Athletic Dept. at North, with a maximum purchase of 4 tickets. Gold Level may purchase between 5:30 and 7 pm, Navy Level may purchase between 7 and 8 pm, and Scarlet Level between 8 and 9 pm. The remaining tickets will be sold on August 15th at BHS from 3-7 pm and August 16th from 8 am to noon.

Athletic Fees-Karen said a request has been made for us to help athletes who can't afford the athletic fee, but aren't on the free lunch program. She said a coach could recommend the athlete to the A.D. and the Boosters could decide the amount to give. Mike Rogers suggested setting a budget number per year and setting criteria for receiving the money, such as keeping grades up and having an athletic fee contract signed by the athlete and parents. It was also suggested that the athletes chosen should assist in concessions. Karen will check with IHSA for rules regarding this. Joan Ollmann made a motion to give \$1000 per season, \$3000 per year, to help fund athletes not able to afford athletic fees pending legalities after Karen talks with IHSA. This would be \$100 per athlete, one time per year, for a total of 10 athletes per season. Sally Hoesel 2nd this and it was approved by all.

Castle Challenge-This event will take place of the Steak Fry this year and will be held on Friday, October 5th. This is the night of the Blue Thunder vs Bucs game. Scott Mortensen will be our liaison through the bank, and Chris Norgard said he would help coordinate this event. It will be held from 3 pm until the Varsity game starts, and will be set up like a tailgate party behind the stadium. Booths will be set up with food, face painting, dunk tanks and other games. Sponsors will pay \$500 and have their names announced over the speaker and possibly have their name placed on a brick paver at the stadium. Between the JV and Varsity game will be a parade of all sport athletes for both middle schools and both high schools. Dekalb/Sycamore made \$20,000 their first year running this event and the next year made \$80,000.

Upcoming Events: July 31st – Coaches meeting at 3:00 pm at BNHS (membership committee to speak)
Aug. 1st – Sport Physicals at BSMS from 6 to 8 pm for \$30
Aug 5th – Fall athlete/parents meeting in the Gym at BNHS – registration @ 5:00 pm with the meeting at 6:00 pm. Karen asked for volunteers to help beginning at 4:30 pm. Michel Johannes, Deb Shawd, Carla Sullivan, Sharon Knox, Alicia Perez, Denise Hauser, Michelle Dixon and Tracey McConnell volunteered.
Aug. 18th – BNHS Fall Recognition night, team photos and Red/Blue Scrimmage
It was brought up to sell Thunder Wear at this event.
Aug. 19th - Open house for Belvidere North from 2 to 5 pm

Joan Ollmann motioned to adjourn, and Denise 2nd.

Our next meeting will be held on Aug. 27th at 7:00 pm at Timber Pointe.

Respectfully,
Deb Shawd