

Walter Johnson High School
Booster Club Meeting
May 13, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Tricia Skelly.

Athletic Director's Report by Sue Amos:

Varsity Baseball won their division.

The padding purchased by the Booster Club has been delivered and is waiting for installation. There will be a "donated by the Booster Club" sign affixed to the padding. It will be installed by the Fall.

There was a general discussion about the need for notifying the Booster Club as early as possible about play-off games and rain reschedules so that concession stand sales can be organized.

The minutes were read by Tricia Skelly. One correction was made to pary VII, Concessions – Janet Slacter's name will be changed to Jane Slacter. The minutes were approved as amended.

The Historian of the Booster Club, Maria Limarzi, gave a short presentation:

WJ was one of the first schools to have an all school Booster Club and has been a role model for other schools.

The BC acts as a cheerleader for students

It has become harder to get commissioners for clubs because there is no clear role for them. Sometimes there are class parents, sometimes not. In the past, the Booster Club has allocated money 50-50 between clubs and sports.

There is a 2-fold criteria for funding

- educational
- need

When asking for money, the BC requires WJ students to do something for the school and for the BC, including such events as annual fundraisers. This is what the club sponsor should focus on, it is their responsibility.

The BC never paid for travel even if it was part of work for a club or sport. The only refusal of funding was for an AIDS Ride several years ago. It was not a school sponsored event, but the kids were sponsored by individuals.

Funding for Capital equipment

The criteria is on the website. The electronic funding form is also posted there. It helps the sponsors show the need and the educational part of the funding request. Exceptions are made on occasion. One non-school sponsored group wanted funding for a photo exhibit, but because the impact of the exhibit would be on the entire school, it was funded. The group returned part of the funding.

Concessions

The system works well, and the kids are supposed to participate more than the parents. There is no community service involved because there is a financial benefit to the club or team when working concessions.

Structure

Informal – There have been co-presidents in the past, but the bylaws are silent on the subject. There used to be a Ways and Means position, then an Auction chair.

A question was raised as to quorum. The bylaws are silent on this, but in the past if a meeting has been not well attended and there is a major issue on the table, the decision has been deferred because of the need for more information. Anyone who is a member of the Booster Club can vote according to the bylaws, but no formal list is consulted before voting.

Tricia Skelly noted the need for a new set of bylaws.

Communication from the Booster Club to the WJ Community is done through

- Presentations at Middle School parent meetings
- Back to School Night
- Blue Sheets

It is difficult to get people involved.

Reports

Principal's Report given by Carol Goddard:

Construction is on schedule

There was a general discussion about the rehearsal issue

The senior picnic was cancelled due to a lack of interest.

WJ funds graduation costs for students who cannot pay themselves. If kids have not paid their obligation they cannot go to prom or participate in graduation. They do get their diplomas.

Ms. Goddard and Dr. Maxwell asked that the Booster Club not fund the Senior class funding request approved at the April meeting until all the money raised by the class has been received. Suggestions for improving fundraising for the senior class include having class parents help collect the money, collect money through each of the 4 WJ years, and that the Senior Class sponsor take the lead in negotiating a contract for the Prom locale.

Treasurer's Report

Arlene Fornace reported that the total in the bank was \$\$23,452.52 plus \$334.63.

Expected inflows to include an estimated \$3000 to \$4000 from the race.

Membership

Mary Ruttkay reported that \$15,305.00 was earned through membership dues. There were more members this year, but in the \$25 category. Mary expressed a concern that

next year the BC may not have as many members if there is not a joint membership form with the PTA, as was done this year.

There was a general discussion of ways to increase the BC membership.

Concessions

Jane Slacter reported that Captains were needed for the playoffs scheduled for the May 14, the Lacrosse playoff. There is a need to recruit more captains for next year.

Commissioner's Report

Adeen Postar reported that plans are in place for the Sports Awards night on May 28th. Tricia Skelly reported that due to time constraints the Competitive Club awards night was cancelled for May 27th, but another try will be made to hold them next April.

Race Report

Mary Cumberpatch reported that there are 70 volunteers and 120 racers to date, for the Race scheduled for May 18. There is a contest in the 4th period - the class with the most participants gets a free lunch and a field trip to Café Gelato.

The next meeting will be a potluck on June 11, at Stella Graves house. Commissioners and Captains will be invited. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25p,

Adeen Postar

Acting Temporary Recording Secretary