

**STEINERT HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL BOOSTER CLUB**

Meeting date: Thursday, April 3, 2008

Meeting time: The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm

Presiding: Joe Ferrara, President of the Booster Club

Members present: Please see sign-in sheet

Joe Ferrara, (JF), President of the Booster Club, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for taking the time to attend tonight's meeting. JF then got right down to the evening's business.

Committees

JF began by listing two committee positions that have now been filled: sophomore parent rep by John Pulley and junior parent rep by George Case. Thanks to both of them for volunteering.

JF then listed the committees that still need co-chairs. They are:

Freshman Parent
Concession
Fundraising
Alumni
Spirit/Pasta Parties
The Long-Term Facilities Improvement

JF told everyone that due to a scheduling conflict, Terry McCarty could not be at the meeting this evening. In his absence, Terry asked JF to let everyone know that he is very interested in filling the Alumni position on the Executive Board. Terry paid up his booster club dues to be sure that he is a member in good standing.

At last month's meeting, Joe Conklin (JC) mentioned Mindy Curro as one of the co-chairs for the concession stand committee. Joe is still hoping that this is a possibility. He has tried to contact Mindy a few times over the last month, but so far they have not connected. Over the next few weeks, Joe will try to contact Mindy again. JF mentioned that we might be able to get Deb Devenney to help again this year if her son (who is an incoming freshman) decides to play football.

JF asked Lisa Goodarz again to chair the Fundraising committee. Lisa said she would be happy to do it, but she absolutely needs help. Tesa Danaso volunteered to join Lisa on the committee.

JC volunteered to be on the Long Term Facilities committee. This committee will look at longer term projects such as a permanent building down by the field. The building will be for the players during half-time and pre-game and also to house the equipment. Also, the building will include a more up-to-date and functional concession stand. JF recommended to Coach Jordan that one of the Assistant Coaches should also be on this committee. Since the projects are longer term and most parents will rotate of the board in the coming years.

JF mentioned again that once we fill the Freshman Parent position we will have to work with that person to ensure that we enforce the “freshman policy” next season. This policy will make it mandatory for all freshman parents to sign up to work the concession stand and chains. Sometime before the next season begins, we will schedule a meeting for just the freshman parents to discuss what is expected of them next season. Coach Jordan will be going out to the Middle Schools in April/May so we should have a tentative list soon. He will have a better idea of who will actually be playing after mini-camp in June. JF will also talk to the Coach Panfili so he can help spread the word. Michele Christopher suggested also providing all important information to the freshman parents in writing. JF asked Michele to put something together for us. Michele said she would be happy to do it.

The other committees were not assigned. JF said we would continue this process at the next meeting. Hopefully, all positions will be filled very soon.

Coach Jordan's Report

Coach Jordan began by updating everyone on the positive and rewarding experience the players are getting from going to TASK (Trenton Area Soup Kitchen). We are scheduled to go the first Tuesday of every month from 3:00p.m. – 5:00p.m. Another group of about 6 players and 3 parents went this past Tuesday. The students do a variety of tasks from preparing and serving the food to cleaning the floors and tables. The patrons are very appreciative of everything the boys do for them. JC spoke with Becky Lang after going to TASK. She said that her son, Ryan, really did not want to go to TASK, but she really pushed him to go. As they were leaving TASK, Ryan told Coach Jordan that he would like to go every month. Coach Jordan said most of the boys feel that way and he has no problem finding students to go every month. TASK requested the players go on the first Monday and Tuesday of May. They had a group cancel and they can really use the help. Coach Jordan requested that the boys who have participated at TASK have their names listed on the website.

Coach Jordan also mentioned another opportunity for the players to become involved in a community service project. Rich Everett asked that the team become involved in a 5k walk/run for Autism on June 7th. The run is being sponsored by the senior class GT (Gifted and Talented) class. The festivities go on for most of the day. There is a \$10.00

entry fee. Coach Jordan would like the Booster Club to pay the fee for all of the players who would like to enter. We estimate funding 30 players. Some of the team will have to miss due to the SAT which is schedule for the same day. Tesa Danaso will put the details on the website.

Coach Jordan said off season training is going very well. There are about 30 players who are lifting at the school every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. There is also a group of boys who are working with Joe DeMarco at Gold's Gym. Along with lifting, the coaches are also working with the players on their speed and agility. They players will also begin throwing the ball around informally a couple days a week. Of course, anyone playing a spring sport is exempt.

Coach Jordan also mentioned that some of the players will attend the 7 on 7 competitions at Monmouth University on June 21, 2008. He said last year the boys participated in the 7 on 7 competitions at Rowan University. He hopes to alternate between the two locations every year. The players in the skilled positions participate It is a great experience for the players who attend. They get to interact with the University coaches and the other schools who are competing. Coach Jordan asked that the Booster Club pay the \$200 entry fee. He also mentioned that the Brown's provided a bus last year to transport the team. The Booster club will look into this to see what we can provide. The bus will leave the school at approximately 6:30am that morning.

He also expects the skilled players to participate in the 7 on 7 passing league at Mercer County Park again this year. All of the CVC teams participate. The fee for this league is \$150.

Coach Jordan was also going to find out about the Monroe 7 on 7 which is run in a quad scrimmage format. There is no fee for this competition since there are no officials present.

JC asked if it was possible to send the lineman to the Rowan University clinic at the same time that some of the other players will be at Monmouth University. Coach Jordan said he would look into it.

Next Friday and Saturday, the coaches will attend a clinic at Rutgers University. They will have the opportunity to attend many breakout sessions and lectures. They will also be able to observe some practices over those two days. They hope to acquire practical knowledge that they can really utilize in the upcoming season. It is a great clinic to attend. Coach Jordan asked for the Booster Club to pay the coaches fee for this clinic. It cost \$55.00 for each of them to attend. The coaches will continue to attend clinics to improve their skills during the off season.

The next two mat drills are scheduled for April 19th and 26th from 9am – 10am. The sessions will only last one hour. Coach Jordan said the March mat drill went very well.

Note: The booster club will provide refreshment (granola bars) and water for the mat drills.

Treasurer's Report

Fred Ewell distributed the cash flow report from last year for everyone to review. The cash on hand as of March 3, 2008 is \$11,248. Fred said he will deliver this year's budget at the May meeting for approval. The budget period is from April 1, 2008 – March 31, 2009. Fred will give everyone the opportunity to review and discuss the income and expenses at that meeting. This will give everyone the opportunity to step forward if they think they can provide (or knows someone who can provide) services for cheaper than we list on the budget. Once the budget is approved we will not have to vote on every expense item that needs to be paid. We will only have to discuss and approve items that are not on the approved budget.

While reviewing the income and expenses, Fred asked how we should list the Chic-fil-a income for next year. Should we budget the amount as if we will win the competition (\$1,000) or as if we will lose the competition (\$500). It was decided that we should be conservative and list it as is we will lose – then when we win, we will be pleasantly surprised!

Secretary's report

Nancy Everett told everyone that the minutes from the March 6th meeting were available for review. No comments or changes were made. Doreen Norton motioned to approve the minutes and Denise Koval seconded it. The minutes will be filed for Audit.

Expense Items

1. Update for Practice field irrigation/seeding game field improvements-projected expense \$5000

Dave Warrick will supervise this process. Dave was not available to attend tonight's meeting. JF said he spoke with Mr. Giallella and everything is fine to start the project, but we cannot start until the spring sports are completed. Again, the Booster Club intends to do most the labor for this project so we will be asking for volunteers to help. Rich Everett will handle the electrical work that needs to be done. Permits and approvals need to be obtained as soon as possible. We hope to start watering the practice field in June.

2. Concession stand upgrade-projected expense \$1000

We need to make repairs to the concession stand. We also need to update the electrical box. Rich Everett will be asked to assist with this upgrade. We will also buy some tents to use at the home games. We can utilize the tents to sell additional items from the concession stand. We hope to start this project on May 3rd.

3. New Storage Container-projected expense \$1500

Another container will be purchased just for the football equipment. We will locate the new container under the bleachers. Denise Koval has a contact to obtain the container.

The cost of the container should be under \$1,000. It will cost about \$500 to have it delivered. We should be able to store a lot of equipment and other stuff in this container.

4. Landro Video Editing Machine and Monitor projected expense \$2000

The Booster Club will purchase the Landro Machine Coach Jordan requested at last month's meeting. JF said it is best to purchase a refurbished machine directly from the company. The machine is in great shape and does come with a warranty. Denise Koval moved that we spend up to \$2000 for the Landro Video Editing machine and a monitor. Carl Palombi seconded. The motion passed.

5. Coaches \$7000

Coach Jordan is still confirming the coaching staff for next year. There are a few vacancies to be filled. Fred Ewell asked if we should still budget \$2,000 for an off season coach to train the players. Coach Jordan said that is not necessary. It was decided that we would just float the \$2,000 in case it is needed for something else.

Fundraising Ideas (not final)

1. Clothing drive – Cindy Donnell has the left over inventory at her house. She has now gone through everything and can make recommendations about ordering for next year's drive. She knows what items sold better than others (hoodies and t-shirts are our best sellers). We have to decide on the pricing for the left over clothing. How much do we want to make on the sales? Should we list them on the website? Up to this point, Fred said the clothing really is not a huge fundraiser for us. It would be great if we could sell the remaining clothing for a profit. Of course, as needed, we will discount the items to get rid of them!

Cindy has already spoken with the vendor to discuss next season's purchases. He needs about 2 ½ weeks to deliver the items. We discussed whether or not we should have a new design for the upcoming season. Everyone thought it was best to leave the design the same. It was a very nice design and should sell well. However, we will have a new design for the big 50th Anniversary game. Cindy is going to ask her son, Mark, to draw some designs we can review. Someone suggested having two helmets clashing. We would like to unveil the new t-shirt at the Saturday evening game in June (mini-camp). Coach Jordan can show everyone. It would be great if we could have some available to sell that evening. We can order more after the season begins. We have to decide on a color – green or grey?

2. Coach Jordan's football camp – the camp will run from June 25 – 27 from 9:00am – 3:00pm and will conclude on Saturday, June 28th from x pm to y pm. Coach Jordan will end the camp with a game under the lights at the Pop Warner field on Saturday night. Coach Jordan is aware of a few conflicts for some of the players. If anyone attends the Rutgers camp they may have to miss the first day of Steinert's camp. Also, the Wrestling camp at TCNJ is also during this time. He knows that both of these camps are important so he understands if someone has to miss or be late.

Tesa Danaso will make copies of the camp form so Coach Jordan can distribute when he visits the Middle Schools. We can also place some at Nottingham Little League. The form should be emailed to all the current football families.

We asked Coach Jordan if he needs t-shirts for the camp too. JF told us that his company, Banchi Outdoor Adventures, would sponsor the camp this year so the Booster Club does not have to purchase anything.

3. Program (replace ad book concept) – We would still like to make this more of a “to read” book. Have stories/articles from coaches, athletic director and principal. Also, maybe some local athletes could contribute a story. It does not have to be only football we can also include other sports – maybe their schedules and statistics. Our goal for this year’s program is to include more corporate sponsors. We really want to push that idea. We want the program to be glossy with great ads. (JC mentioned that Hopewell Valley made about \$18,000 on their 2007 ad book by going to all their local businesses.) We know it will be difficult to get all of these ideas incorporated into this year’s program. We will do as much as we can this year and then the rest will be implemented in the coming years. Denise Koval is will chair the program committee. This is a huge amount of work so Denise will need lots of help.

Note: Denise will meet with Lisa Goodarz and Tesa Danaso (Fundraising committee) over the next few weeks to discuss the project. We want to be sure we are careful not to inundate local businesses with requests for support.

8. Suggestions – there were a few very good suggestions on new activities. 1. Lisa Goodarz suggested a Comedy night. The evening would cost about \$40 a person but it would include a DJ, dinner, drinks, and the comedy show (which includes three comedians). We could hold the event (called the “Football Social”) at the Hibernians. This event would replace the previous year’s “Beef and Beer.” Lisa Goodarz does not want to coordinate another Chinese Auction this year. We could hold this event approximately 4 or 5 weeks (September 27th or October 11th) after the mandatory parent meeting.

Denise Koval told us that she is attending a “Wine Tasting” evening at Enterprise Firehouse soon. She will report back to us on whether or not we should pursue this type of event as a fundraiser.

Tesa Danaso requested the players hold a car wash to raise money. There is really no cost to us and the players would have a great time. We could hold the event in Chic-fil-a’s parking lot. Many schools have done this in the past. It would give us the opportunity to give back to them. Everyone thought it was a great idea.

Michele Christopher reminded us that we mentioned a fundraiser for the players too. We will investigate some options in the coming months.

Note: The Fundraising committee will meet over the next few weeks. They will present their suggestions at the May meeting.

Note: JC suggested fundraising be divided into two categories – “final” and “open” this way we know what items we need to focus on.

Website update – Tesa Danaso will be the contact person for the website. She will coordinate the updates with Mark Szabo. Tesa requested some information/updates at this evening meeting. Everyone is going to get her the information she requested over the next week or so. We would like to utilize the website as much as possible this year. It can be a great tool for fundraising. We want to be sure we take advantage of the opportunity.

Off Season Camp Info

1. Mat drills April 19th and 26th
2. Rutgers overnight – June 22 – 25. Becky Lang will coordinate for us. We will get a discount if we register 15 players. Cost \$320

Senior Banquet

Becky Lang and Joanne Mauriello will co-chair this committee. We will try to move the banquet to December 7th. We will ask Becky and Joanne to see if Colonial Firehouse is available on that date. The space worked well last year so we would like to use the space again.

Questions and Comments

Coach Jordan wanted to thank Carl Palombi for donating some equipment to weight room. It was very generous and greatly appreciated.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45p.m.