

**STEINERT HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL BOOSTER CLUB**

Meeting Date: Thursday, May 1, 2008

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

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 at 7:35 by welcoming everyone and introducing Mrs. Mattis who had an announcement.

Mrs. Mattis acknowledged the ongoing investigation by the Mercer County Prosecutors Office of the football coach. She said she is making no judgments and cannot discuss this issue any further. The players will be communicated to and the football program will continue as usual.

Budget Report:

Fred Ewell (FE), Treasurer went over the budget items line by line and explained income and expenses. The figures given were based on prior years' performances coupled with known inventory and quotes received. The numbers are conservative. Items worth noting are clothing sales in 2007 showed a negative number because of large inventory available for sale this year. The booster club will not be holding the gift raffle as in previous years. We will continue to have the super 50/50 which will be announced at the end of the season and the weekly 50/50 raffle at the home football games. The booster club has purchased video equipment and will also purchase a recorder. Denise Koval moved to approve the budget. Susan Ferrara seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Fred Ewell then went over the treasurer's report. Balance as of April 30, 2008 is \$9,370.92. Denise Koval moved to approve the treasurers report. Sue Ferrara seconded the motion. The report will be filed for audit.

Events scheduled for this year include:

Autism Walk June 7 at Veterans Park. The booster club has committed to supporting the football players (up to 30) interested in participating as part of the team.

Car Wash at Chic-Fil-A - June 28

November 1 – Hibernian Club – Comedy Night

In talking about communicating the events to the booster club and the school community, Mr. Giallella indicated we could use HGTV to advertise events. Mrs. Deissinger indicated she had some difficulty last year in posting events. Mr. Giallella said he would help out if events are not being posted. We need to give HGTV ample time.

Committee updates:

JF went over the need for committee chairs and co-chairs.

Sue Fiorello will co-chair as junior parent rep with George Case.

Kim Smith and Sue Fiorello will co-chair fundraising with Denise Koval and Lisa Goodarz.

JF indicated that spirit and pasta parties will now fall under the responsibilities of the Senior parent representatives. Joanne Mauriello will act as a co-chair with Doreen Norton and Rich Everett.

LTC facilities committee. We are asking incoming sophomore or junior parents to commit to this committee since they will be at the school for a longer period of time. Joe Conklin (JC) would like Freshman parents to get involved since their children will benefit from the new facilities. One half of the membership fee is to be set aside for facilities improvements.

Coach's Report

Coach Caruso reminded everyone of the 5K run for Autism. The booster club discussed with Coach Jordan that for team unity we would sponsor approximately 30 players who were interested in completing the run as a team. Many of the class of 2009 will not be able to participate due to SAT on the same date.

Training will continue Monday, Wednesday and Friday after school to about 4:45. Those players that train at Gold's Gym still need to come to these workouts to build team unity.

Matt Drills – Coach Caruso said participation is getting larger but they still need a better turn out.

The coaches went to the middle schools to talk to the students about the football program at Steinert. There was a massive turnout at Reynolds Middle School and about 25 students at Crockett who are interested in participation in the football program.

Coach Caruso wanted to let us know about a day camp at Lafayette College in Easton, PA. It is run by coaches from all over the country. The ratio is about 8 players to 1 coach. It is a good opportunity for the players to receive some exposure and make contact with Division I, II and III college coaches. The guest speaker is a Penn State Football coach. The cost is a minimum donation of \$25.00 which is given to the

Lauren's First and Goal Charity. Information as well as the registration form can be downloaded from the football website – www.steinertfootball.com

We then asked Becky Lang about the interest in the Rutgers Football Camp. To date, 8 people have confirmed. We need 15 to get discount. Becky Lang will register everyone together whether or not we get the discount so that the players will be placed together. She wants a final count by 5/19. Medical forms need to be completed. Mrs. Mauriello indicated that the school nurse can give you copies of the medical forms completed for Steinert. Sue Ferrara said Rutgers will let you know if you forgot any piece of required information.

Coach Caruso said volunteering is good for the players resume and a good experience for the boys. The Booster Club has committed to work at TASK though the first week of September. Allowances will be made during football season if we continue to volunteer at TASK. Joe Conklin (JC) reminded us that TASK needs us Monday and Tuesday in May. JC distributed a volunteer sheet to have parents commit to which dates they can drive the players over and volunteer. JC will make sure we have enough volunteers signed up through September. Coach Caruso will make sure the players know about TASK. We go on the first Tuesday of the month because towards the end the recipients run out of money so it is more congested. The beginning of the month has more manageable crowds for the boys. Mrs. Rubio asked about other volunteer activities. The booster club is open to suggestions.

JC expressed the reward you receive from giving to others. Mrs. Rubio said this is a good thing for the boys to see how privileged they are.

Secretary's Report

JF told everyone that the minutes from the April meeting were available for review. No comments were made. Denise Koval(DK) moved to approve the minutes. Lisa Goodarz seconded the motion. The minutes will be filed for audit.

Alumni Report

Tesa Danaso spoke for Terry McCarty (TM). Terry requested permission to have a breakfast on Thanksgiving morning for all East and West football alumni. Cost would be \$10. Mrs. Mattis gave permission to reserve the cafeteria for the breakfast. Tesa Danaso will call the main office to get building use application. He also would like special seating in the stands – possibly rent portable stands for the band to sit in. Wants to give out a T-shirt. He anticipates between 100 to 200 people. Before the game TM would like to honor the 50, 40, 30, 20 and 10 year anniversary teams. Then TM would like to honor these anniversary years every 2 years at our home Thanksgiving games. TM will contact Mr. Giallella to locate players. He will look at the yearbooks at school.

Press Coverage and Advertising Committee – TM looking for 5 options of alumni commitment with various levels of donations: Leadership level will be a \$1,000/year for

3 year commitment. TM hoping for 100 sponsors at this level. Touchdown level will be a one time \$1,000 commitment. The three remaining levels will have a smaller donation commitments. The money will be earmarked for long-term improvements. TM will have a plaque of recognition for the leadership level and expects \$25,000 in donations this year. DK will coordinate with TM for our programs.

Mr. Giallella's Report

Mr. Giallella is working in conjunction with West for the 50 year anniversary. There will be a special dinner the night before the game at Mercer Oaks for \$40.00. West will be selling their own clothing. Mr. Giallella indicated that there will be 80 throw back Jerseys that the players will wear for the Thanksgiving Day game. If the players want to keep the Jersey, they will be able to do so through an auction through the booster club. Mr. Giallella would like to see the alumni in T-shirts if they are in stands together. Mr. Giallella would like to have an honorary coach from each team at the game. He has contacted Pete Bresha for East. Each team will walk under goalposts and meet at the 50 yard line for coin toss. Mrs. Mattis would like the field decorated to reflect 50th anniversary.

Mr. Pawson asks if we could make a DVD of previous games for purchase. Mr. Giallella will ask coaches to look for all games. Mr. Giallella indicated that the Central Office, Mr. Bencivengo, wants full approval on all activities for the Thanksgiving Day game. He wants both schools to be equally represented and satisfied with the celebration.

All corporate sponsorships have to be approved by the board.

Budget Items

Dave Warrick working on practice field to improve conditions. Water service will be installed on street by practice field for irrigation. Dave Warrick will install sprinkler system with help from parents. He anticipates costs at \$4,100 for parts and water connection. Dave Warrick is getting plans for Mr. Giallella. He needs to meet with Mr. Giallella since the board must approve. The board needs to approve since they will be paying for the water service. The practice field will not be game field condition because of the heavy usage but right now it is a safety issue with stones, etc. The sprinkler system should alleviate the stones coming from the soil. Coach Caruso agreed rocks are an issue. Dave Warrick said once we have established field, rocks won't come up out of soil. Mr. Giallella said water will help but it will take a while. Soil will be analyzed every year. Dave Warrick is a landscaper so he will evaluate conditions annually. Last year the township did remove many rocks off of the practice field.

For the game field, Dave Warrick said the township will aerate and top dress with sand which should make the field have better drainage and improve soil condition.

Concession Stand

JC meeting Saturday, May 3 with volunteers to make a list of needed repairs to the concession stand. Already noted were a leaking roof, broken faucet and need to upgrade electric. JF indicated that the container the booster club is purchasing should help to minimize the break-ins we experienced last year because everything of value will be moved to the container after each game. Mrs. Mattis said police are patrolling regularly, however, even baseball fields have been vandalized. Mr. Goodarz reminded the club that we are currently under fire code violations with our grills and we need to purchase commercial grills. This item was not included in the budget. Our current grills can only be used 1 to 2 hours and then must be turned off. For the Thanksgiving Day game, we will look into renting or borrowing commercial grills from H & H or Fred & Pete's Deli. JF mentioned we would be buying pop-up tents for Thanksgiving. In-coming Freshman parents must man the concession stands during home football games. The booster club is developing a list for frequently asked questions for the web sit. JF said Mindy Curro opened up stand at JV games last year which brought in extra income.

Video Recording – Mrs. Mattis will make announce at school to see if a student would like to be responsible for filming and editing the games. Will think about possible scholarship or varsity letter for student who performs this function.

Clothing

Cindy Donnell will sell clothing last day of mini camp. New T-shirts commemorating 50th anniversary will also be sold. Cindy said the vendor will make stencil for our final approval. We have to decide what to put on back of T-Shirt. Mrs. Mattis suggested a contest for the students to come up with the artwork for the front of the shirt. Mrs. Mattis will need parameters.

Mini Camp

Mini Camp is being held at Steinert 6/25 to 6/27 and at the pop Warner field on the evening of 6/28. Dennis Koval mentioned that the car wash will be that morning. The booster club may open the concession stand at Pop Warner for the final day of camp. Family is invited to watch the boys on the final day of camp at Pop Warner. There will be discussions of holding the mini camp a full 5 days next year and to include younger children. Mrs. Mattis reminded JF to reserve practice field for camp and to obtain building approval for indoor facilities.

The coaches are aware of the conflict between the mini camp and Rutgers' football camp and Steinert's wrestling camp. Those players participated in these two activities are excused from camp during conflict times.

Program Book

JF will distribute ad forms. Dennis Koval said deadlines will be strictly adhered to so that all ads are properly placed in ad book. Last year, a number of paid ads did not make the book. JF said anyone who paid last year but was excluded can receive their ad for free this year. Mr. Goodarz said the Hibernian produced a nice book last year. Volunteers are needed for this committee.

Coach Caruso mentioned using a Madden football tournament as a fundraising idea. The students have asked him about it. Mrs. Mattis thinks another organization may already be doing this and will discuss further with Coach Caruso.

Website

Please check website at www.steinertfootball.com regularly for updates. Companies can advertise on our website for a fee which can include a direct link to their company web site.

Senior Banquet

Checking Colonial Fire Hall for December 7th since it worked so well last year.

Matt Drills

Matt Drills are scheduled for May 10th and May 31st.

Announcements

Mrs. Mattis said she was impressed with our commitment to the football organization.

Becky Lang mentioned that Matt Lang works for the Trenton Times and may be able to help out with press releases.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45.