



Greeley Sports Boosters

Horace Greeley High School

Chappaqua, New York

Minutes
October 20, 2020, 7:00pm
Zoom

ATTENDANCE

Board Members

Jennifer Bergin - yes
Laura Brail - yes
Bonnie Berg - yes
Jeff Dorst – yes
Elyse Falk - yes
Amanda Goodstadt - yes
Cindy Greenstein - yes
Samantha Potack - yes
Stacey Reynolds – yes

CCSD

Jason Semo, Athletic Director – yes
Brad Gitlin, Assistant Athletic Director - no
Jane Shepardson, Board of Education Representative - yes

Committee Chairs, Team Liaisons, Members & Guests

Ivy Braun, Missy Cohen, Mike Hutchings, Mike Rose, Lori Venturino Salore, Rita Santelia, Karen Yarasavage

WELCOME

- The September 2020 minutes were approved.

BOOSTERS UPDATE

- **Committees Status**
 - **Current committees** They have been hard at work. We are in the process of launching our new Training & Development Fund (referred to in these minutes as the “TDF” or the “Fund”) and want to focus on marketing it. Jane confirmed that the BOE is aware of the TDF. The Team Services Committee has met several times. If anyone needs to reach out to team parents or coaches, please touch

base with Elyse first so she can coordinate. Stacey is working with Suzanne Lodge to figure out whether events will be possible. If anyone else is interested in working on this, please reach out.

- **New Committee** - Create a new Committee for an “Excellence in Athletics Leadership” award. If interested in helping, please reach out to Jen. Goal is to present the first award at this year’s Senior Athlete Dinner.
- **Nominating/open positions** Doing quite well. Most positions have been filled. Looking for a social media and website person to update things this year and take over for Jeff after next year.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT UPDATE *(Jason)*

- **Fall Athletic Program protocols** The department wanted to align with what the district is doing in terms of safety and screening questions. Coaches have been distributing information on Sports You. We phased in varsity sports first, followed by JV. There is lots of collaboration with neighboring districts. Only two spectators are allowed per athlete at home games and the badges turned out great. Visiting spectators aren’t allowed.
- **Fall Publicity – Away Games** We have been reaching out to other schools to accommodate parents who take photographs or do social media (so that one Greeley parent can attend away games). This is usually only for varsity teams. Send message to Jason’s office first thing in the morning or the day prior to an event so he can confirm with the away district.
- **Local Live/Zoom** This fell within our strategic plan and budget. The system was active and live prior to our first contest this year. Really appreciate the Boosters’ support for adding a third camera. Focus is to get as many games as possible on the contest field so our parents as well as parents from other communities have access. Varsity gets preference but if no varsity games at home, JV can be on that field. If there are multiple varsity games, preference goes to a senior night game followed by whichever game was scheduled first. Looking at option of Zooming from C field and tennis courts, but will need to resolve Wi-Fi issue in order to do so. Today we hosted a cross country meet for the first time in 50 years. Would be a great opportunity to Zoom an event such as this. Main gym will be a camera site for indoors.
- **Winter Athletic Program status** Season is scheduled to begin November 30. High risk sports such as basketball and wrestling still haven’t been approved by the NYS Department of Health. There are discussions among athletic directors regarding what happens if start dates must be pushed back. Jason feels that if we can’t play games until January 4 then we won’t start the season on November 30, but we will instead look to do some conditioning.

- **Rising COVID Cases in the County** (*Jane*) Jane spoke to Dr. Ackerman today and given the increasing number of cases, there are discussions among government officials about the possibility of pausing recreational sports. This shouldn't impact high school sports. Jason noted that he and Dr. Ackerman have continual conversations about known outbreaks.

STATUS UPDATES

- **Financials** (*Cindy*) Cindy sent financials by email prior to the meeting. She and Missy will co-chair financial operations this year. Feel free to send questions to either of them. Jen mentioned that we had to amend the budget that was approved last month because of our Local Live sponsorship. She moved that we approve the amended budget as proposed (including a \$6800 expenditure for Local Live). Her motion was seconded. The amended budget was approved.
- **Fundraising** (*Bonnie*) As Jen mentioned, we have launched the TDF. Coaches were directed to our website for the application and process. We would like to build excitement about the fund and introduce it to the community. Ways to do this were discussed at the last Fundraising Committee meeting. The Fund will be discussed at the next BOE meeting and information about it will be included in our next eBlast and the PTA blasts. Bonnie spoke to David Hayes about including it in the district newsletter as well. We will post about it on social media. Tamara Brolin suggested a Zoom presentation with someone of interest to the athletic community. Attendees would be asked to make a donation to the Fund. Please reach out to Bonnie if you have ideas or contacts.
- **Membership** (*Samantha*) Making slow but good progress. We are at 75 members, which is approximately 60% lower than last year at this time, but we have only half of our teams playing. Jennifer noted that we presently have 365 registrants for fall sports when usually there are 500. We have four new lifetime member families, for a total of 67 families, and we created a video to thank them. The video is currently being played on the big screen and Local Live during home games. Total number of members, including lifetime, is 139. Varsity boys and girls soccer are almost at the threshold to qualify for a Fund application.
- **Team Services** (*Elyse*) Had a successful meeting with several of the fall team captains' parents. Gave out introductory letter listing point people for the various programs. Nice to have everyone together on Zoom because people have felt "on their own" in the past. We will do this again each season. We can engage Team parents to be a part of Boosters & help drive team membership and awareness of the TDF through this avenue.
- **Technology** (*Jeff*) Created a separate contribution/donation page for the TDF so we can isolate these funds going forward. The page has a progress bar towards a goal of \$25,000. For merchandise (especially car magnets), Jeff is in process of creating a page so people can order through the website.
- **Youth & Modified Sports and Events** (*Stacey*) Has spoken to Suzanne to try and develop ideas. Suzanne has reported that people are tired of all the virtual events. Stacey suggested having the athletes do some kind of introductory video or perhaps a short

montage on Local Live in order to increase visibility in the community. Please reach out if you have ideas.

- **Poster program** (*Karen*) So far two teams are utilizing the program. She mentioned that we need to get our “seniors” banners back. Two are still hanging at Bell and one is at Greeley. Laura suggested asking Joe Gramando for assistance.

GENERAL COMMENTS, QUESTIONS & NEW BUSINESS

Jane reiterated that if anyone has additional information about the TDF we’d like to share at a BOE meeting or with Christine to please let her know. She also mentioned that the button saying “Click here for downloadable receipts” on our website doesn’t work. Jeff is aware and working on fixing it.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.