**OKEMOS ATHLETIC BOOSTERS MEETING – Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017**

**Present:** Julie Staky, Lisa Plascencia, Betsy Meschke, Steve Karlzen; Ira Childress, Karen Fraser

**Call to Order:** 7:08 pm

**Approval of Minutes –**

Minutes from the Jan 2017 meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

**Athletic Director’s Report -**

Bleachers fundraising proposal – The school is reviewing the proposal, but is not sold on the idea. There are many pros and cons to take into account. Also, adding another responsibility to the boosters right now would be challenging.

Gus Macker – We are not sure yet what the expectation is for the OAB, and need to get more information as it develops. (Meridian Township has not finalized everything yet, they are still working on details.) We discussed the possibility of water sales and/or a 50/50 raffle to make some extra money other than our portion from the event itself.

Winter Sports – It’s close to playoff time for most sports.

Hockey – currently in 2nd place

Wrestling – season is complete

Skiing – regionals are tomorrow

Basketball – One week left in regular season for the girls, two for the boys.

Swimming – currently undefeated

Spring Meet the Chiefs will be held on Monday, March 20th. (Tryouts begin 3/13.) Boys golf has a new head coach – Chad Kurmel – who is a pro from Forest Akers.

General discussion re: the future of the Boosters given declining volunteerism/participation. Ira will help by challenging the coaches to provide two parents per sport to be part of the boosters going forward. (Not a team liaison position, just to join the Boosters. He will request that they get contact info to Julie Staky by about the time frame of our next meeting.

He will also reach out to the other AD’s in the area and try to get some information regarding issues with concessions. Will try to get any info on how they’re doing currently, plus potential solutions, problem-solving.

**President’s Report –**

Winter Event – Toast To The Chiefs will take place on Feb. 25th. Sign-ups are low currently, but many typically sign up late or pay at the door so it’s difficult to gauge turnout at this time. The Silent Auction will most likely not be as large as last year, but will be bigger than two years ago.

Al-Lins Floral offered the OAB a fund-raising opportunity of selling their parking spots during the Playmakers Summer Sale. Discussed the issues of staffing parking lot monitors at all entrances over multiple days in July and not sure that will be an easy thing to accomplish.

Julie will email Cathy Ash to find out how the Boosters could be involved in the new Superintendent search – either submitting questions or being on the committee. If you have question ideas, let her know.

**Concessions -**

The Concessions Volunteer Coordinator was not able to attend the meeting tonight, but sent in the following information:

* Still having to send reminders to fill last few concessions spots each week, but almost through the winter now.
* Haven’t had a chance to approach the NHS group about working to get volunteer hours, but will soon. Their deadline is coming up soon, so doubtful that this will help much for the Spring season.

**Treasurer’s Report -**

Overall account balance is down compared to same timeframe a year ago, but the question was raised as to where do we really need to be at the end of each year to feel comfortable starting the next year? Karen will make a list of fixed annual expenses and bring it to the next meeting to help us determine this.

Concession revenue is up slightly.

Sponsorship donations for the winter event are down from last year (currently about half). We are still waiting to hear back from many of last year’s donors, and hope to end up about the same as two years ago.

Next meeting will be on March 15th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm