



**Amherst Tigers Booster Club
October Meeting Minutes
Monday 10/5/2020**

In attendance: Mike Serotte, Karen Stelley, Neil Faller, Jeffrey Wheaton, Mike Webster, Amy Kantz, Alex Alicea, Marti Precurato Grubb, Lisa Roy, Jamie Tiberi, Melissa Calandra, Cherie Rondeau, Lisa (Murdock?), and one other participant by phone.

President's Report – Mike Serotte

1. OVERVIEW of recent months:

- a. Thank you** to Jeff Wheaton for his leadership and dedication to our student athletes throughout the process of planning for fall athletics. Also, thank you to Karen Stelley for maintaining communication.
- b. Less than typical activity:** no spring sports, no Tiger Gala, and a change in the format of the Athletic Kickoff to focus on safety protocols.
- c. No Tiger Card for 2020-2021.** The Tiger Card offers admission to football and basketball home games. Those sports have a greater chance of condensed/altered seasons, as well as limited fan participation. We will revisit the Tiger Card for 2021-2022.
- d. MASKS:** Boosters sold masks in early August to the general Amherst community. Most recently, the Boosters subsidized the neck gaiters purchased for all Fall Season 1 athletes. All student-athletes must wear a mask/gaiter. All teams will have a uniform look.
- e. Travel Gift Card Fundraising Idea:** gathering info and will report out at a future meeting.

2. Virtual Meat Raffle--There was discussion about holding a virtual meat raffle in lieu of the in-person meat raffle typically held in January.

- a.** Flat fee for tickets--\$40 or \$50--covers all rounds of the meat raffle as well as door prizes.
- b.** Zoom/Facebook Live the drawing of meat rounds and prizes--multiple people present to organize and insure transparency.
- c.** 50/50 held via Venmo.
- d.** Use a virtual prize wheel to run each round. Many to choose from.
- e.** Date/time/location must be set up for meat/prize distribution. Two dates?
- f.** Suggestion made for a meat voucher drawing in different denominations in lieu of specific meat items. The biggest advantage is that vouchers would eliminate the need to order, pick up, refrigerate/store, and distribute meat to winners. In addition, the butcher might agree to the voucher idea in the hopes that ultimately winners would spend more than the face value of the voucher, generating even more business for the butcher.
- g.** Advantages of the virtual meat raffle: keeps consistency within the Booster organization during a time when not much is consistent. Also, a virtual meat raffle has fixed costs: the price of the meat or vouchers. There are no additional costs like hall rental, alcohol, or other miscellaneous expenses for the evening. And finally, participants are not limited to the size of the hall. Unlimited participation because there are no space constraints.
- h.** Mike Webster knows someone who is running a virtual meat raffle. Boosters will generate a list of questions and Mike will gather the answers for our planning purposes.
- i.** Committee to work on virtual meat raffle: Lisa Roy, Cherie Rondeau, Mike Serotte, Niel Faller, and Jeff Wheaton. Other interested volunteers are welcome. Target date: January 2021.

3. Women's Tennis Team

- a.** 5-0 win over Hamburg today (10/5/20). Congratulations!
- b.** The student-athletes want to be involved/volunteer in some meaningful way.

- c. Ideas: distribute the fall sports poster to local businesses and/or help solicit door prizes for the meat raffle.

4. Fall Sports Poster--The graphic artist, Ligia Hubert, an Amherst parent, is a bit behind due to some unforeseen circumstances. Ideally, 150 posters will be printed by mid-October. QR code should be on the poster to access Arbiter Live for the most updated athletic schedules.

Athletic Director Report – Jeffrey Wheaton

1. Fall Sports Updates

- a. Approximately 400 students tried out for Fall Season 1 sports. Approximately 320 are on team rosters.
- b. All health and safety protocols are being followed. No issues thus far.
- c. Each athlete received a neck gaiter for the season, partially funded by the Boosters. Goal: unified look/pride for Amherst CSD.
- d. Each athlete received two spectator passes.

2. Winter Sports

- a. Tentative 11/30/20 start date.
- b. Governor Cuomo could decide a start date as late as 12/31/20 for high risk sports.
- c. High risk sports are: basketball, wrestling, hockey, and cheerleading.
- d. Low risk sport: bowling.
- e. NYSPHSAA is waiting on further guidance from Governor Cuomo.

3. Wall Graphics near South Gym--Because of some construction/renovation near the South Gym, the wall graphic on the men's locker room door must be replaced. In addition, Mr. Wheaton is looking to add a graphic to the women's locker room door. Mr. Wheaton will get a quote and ask the District for the funds. Mr. Wheaton may ask the Boosters for a contribution, but there are some other options. There will be a graphic on the back of the scoreboard at the athletic field. Perhaps there can be a deal incorporated into the quote for the door graphics.

4. Sponsorship Change--The district is switching from Coke to Pepsi. Future concessions will have to be Pepsi products. One change will be the cooler in the Snack Shack. The current cooler is a good size for our needs. Anything bigger may not fit in the Snack Shack because of space restrictions. Mr. Wheaton will gather the specs and share with Marti Percurato Grubb.

Vice President Report -- Lisa Roy

- 1. **Thank you** to Mr. Wheaton for his leadership and hard work these last several months, trying to create the best athletic experience for our students.
- 2. Introduced **Mike Webster** as Mr. Wheaton's Administrative Intern through the University at Buffalo this year.
- 3. The **neck gaiters** purchased for our student athletes are a little big for many students. Gators can be rolled in the back to tighten them. A few stitches at the top of the back of the neck gaiter can also tighten it.

4. Parent Liaisons

- a. Lisa explained the role of the parent liaison as the bridge between the Boosters and the teams/coaches.
- b. All agreed that Sign Up Genius worked as an ideal way to keep track of the teams and their parent liaisons.
- c. Lisa will update Sign Up Genius and use it for the parent liaisons during 2020-2021.

Treasurer Report -- Alex Alicea

- 1. **Balance: \$5992.54.** This includes the deduction for the initial mask order. However, it does not include the approximate \$1040 withdrawal for the student athlete neck gaiter contribution.
- 2. **Initial mask/neck gaiter orders:** Alex will fill all remaining orders this coming weekend (10/10/20). New orders are coming in. Booster members will help distribute orders.
- 3. **Next steps:** Review all inventory and update the online merchandise numbers. We will offer a 50% off sale. Goal is to liquidate older merchandise before ordering anything new.

Additional Business

- 1. Snack Shack**--No updates. We are not selling any concessions this fall because of restrictions/regulations selling food. In addition, with only two spectators allowed per athlete and no football games, it doesn't make sense to open the Snack Shack at this time.

Meeting Minutes submitted by Karen Stelley.

**Next Meeting: Monday, November 2, 2020
7 pm (via ZOOM)**