

Niskayuna Athletics Booster Club, Inc. Board of Directors
Meeting Date: October, 9th at 7:00 pm
Meeting Location: Virtual

1. Call to Order, 7:00

2. Roll Call of Officers and Directors to ensure quorum (Currently 10 directors so 6 directors are needed to be present for a quorum per Article VI(I))

Andrew Katz	Present
Corey Ausfeld	Present
Therese Assalian	Excused
Frank Ferrucci	Present
Terri Dutcher	Present
Sarah Ciesinski	Present
Lori Birmingham	Present
Sarah Johnson	Excused
Danielle Marquis	Present
Larry Gillooley	Present

Also present: Bill Vacca, Judith Fenlon

3. Minutes: Motion to waive the reading and approve the minutes from our May meeting

All in Favor: ___9_ Opposed ___0_ Abstain _____

4. Officers' Reports

i. Co-President's Report Corey Ausfeld

- a. Stadium Entryway matches are up to \$8025 so far. Bricks are being sold until October 12. Tommy will do another post through Broken Inn and the District will share on Parent Square.
- b. Checks have come in from a few organizations.
- c. Thank you to Lori and all who have worked Concessions.
- d. Meat & Co made about \$1100, of which we get 20%.
- e. Consider additional vendors for future events?

ii. Co-President's Report Andy Katz

- a. Boys' Volleyball raised \$350 at their Cancer fundraiser.
- b. We need to adapt to the changing publication of Parent Square announcements, which we have relied upon.
- c. Homestyle will provide food for Nisky-Shen football game on Oct 18

iii. Vice President's Report, Therese Assalian excused, no report this evening

iv. Treasurer's Report Frank Ferrucci

- a. Financial documents have been emailed to us and will be posted on the website.
- b. Many transactions vis email and text since last meeting.
- c. Most expenditures have come from Concession set up for the fall seasons; Sponsorships; individual fees.

v. Secretary's Report Terri Dutcher

- a. Minutes from September sent out for approval.
- b. Texts & emails since the September meeting will be summarized and sent out this week.

5. Committee Reports

i. Banquet Committee Sarah Ciesinski

- a. No calls or emails about fall banquets so far.
- b. Some teams have moved forward through contacts with Board members, who will follow up with Sarah.
- c. Remember to coordinate through Frank, to make proper use of tax-exempt form.

ii. Concession Committee Lori Birmingham

- a. Rough start for indoor concessions.
- b. A new Keurig is needed for indoor concessions..
- c. Vendors are doing well outside and seem happy. They will donate our share at the end of the Fall season.
- d. Storage in the off-season is an issue as far as material upkeep.
- e. 20 more hats ordered for sale.
- f. High volume expected at Shen game.
- g. We will be hosting some Girls' Soccer Sectional games.

iii. Membership Committee Danielle Marquis

- a. Butterfly Visions added as sponsors (in kind).
- b. Meat & Co added as sponsors
- c. Football bulletin board created outside their locker room; it can be used for Baseball in the spring. This gives booster club visibility.
- d. 39 members, 11 sponsors currently, fewer than in the past. Note that sign up period covered 16 months or so; we're only at 3 months in the new membership window.
- e. Followup with past members and sponsors for renewal will happen personally after the Stadium Entryway push.

- iv. Fundraising Committee Sarah Johnson excused, no report this evening.
- v. Budget Committee Frank Ferucci
 - a. The 1st Quarter saw the budget stretched.
 - b. Concessions are on target, though there was a larger outlay of money including with Pepsi contract
 - c. Memberships are below anticipated, but it's early still.
 - d. The Point of Sale system should be in place before the next home football game.

6. Athletic Director's Report

Larry Gillooley

- a. Higher participation in Fall sports this year than last.
- b. Most teams are doing well in one of the most competitive leagues in the state (Suburban Council).
- c. Sectionals will be starting soon in varsity sports; JV and Modified teams are still in play.
- d. Thank you to the Concession committee for a great season so far. We have 2 more football games, possibly a sectional or crossover game for them.
- e. Boys' and Girls' soccer have upcoming Senior Night games (Oct 15 and Oct 17). Football is having theirs on November 1.
- f. Niskayuna will be hosting Girls' Sectional Soccer semifinals and/or finals for AA, B, C, D (*All but the one our team plays in). Dates are still to be determined.
- g. Suburban Council Athletic Directors are having their monthly meeting tomorrow—a main topic will be security concerns and student behavior at games. Any rule changes will be announced ahead. This isn't as big an issue here as far as fights, but there have been incidents—particularly among some unsupervised MS students.
- h. Spectator rules and locations will be enforced.
- i. Building: the Entryway building exterior work is on target to be completed by Dec 1, which will allow the District to begin interior work. Ideally, there will be storage and bathrooms for the spring sports.
- j. Larry mentioned a future need for EZ-Up tents for outdoor sports teams and events to share. The District currently has 4, of varying ages.
- k. As ever, if there are any questions or concerns between meetings, feel free to reach out to Larry.

7. School Board Member's Report

Elisabeth Cococcia

- a. Cell Phone usage ban: A Resolution has been passed and sent on to the Superintendent.
- b. Safety updates and studies are in progress
 - i. Schools were assessed and items of various recommendations were made for out buildings.
 - ii. A Districtwide survey was sent out this week.

c. School Resource Officers

- i. The topic of School Resource Officers has been discussed frequently recently. That is the most expensive solution and will take the longest to implement. The District last had those in 2008, as a shared expense with the Town of Niskayuna. When the town cut their budget for it, the District could not fund the program on their own.
- ii. Event Safety came up, with questions about the level needed and how it is provided. This will be discussed at our next meeting.

d. Team Names

- i. State Mandate had two milestone dates
 - 1. June 2023: Commit to change name—we did this.
 - 2. June 2025: Remove name from property, signage, uniforms
- ii. A recent Times Union article was not fully accurate in regard to the lack of a new name yet. Niskayuna Board and administration decided to take a “Wait and see” attitude since Shenendehowa was in a similar position and had not indicated they were changing their name.
- iii. Shen is now changing; the Niskayuna attorney met with the Board and said a lawsuit against the state would be costly and not likely to succeed since Niskayuna might be used as an example; others have failed already.

**Comments from Booster Club members about the process followed.

One member was on the Committee, at this Board’s request. The Committee only met 1-2 times and didn’t go forward with recommendations that had come from crowd-sourcing of HS students and community members. There was no follow up or resolution, and the administration went in a different direction.

The potential cost of changing signage was put in the budget last year. It was surprising to some in the Booster Club that Silver Warriors was such a large part of the new turf, since it was put on AFTER the June 2023 part of the mandate.

8. Team Director Reports, no reports this evening.

i. Alpine Ski Boys	Vacant
ii. Alpine Ski Girls	Vacant
iii. Baseball	Vacant
iv. Basketball Boys	Vacant
v. Basketball Girls	Vacant
vi. Bowling Boys	Vacant
vii. Bowling Girls	Vacant
viii. Cheerleading	Vacant
ix. Crew Boys	Vacant
x. Crew Girls	Vacant
xi. Cross Country Boys	Vacant
xii. Cross Country Girls	Vacant
xiii. Field Hockey	Vacant

xiv. Football	Vacant
xv. Golf Boys	Erin Massaroni
xvi. Golf Girls	Michael Barberick
xvii. Ice Hockey	Vacant
xviii. Indoor Track Boys	Vacant
xix. Indoor Track Girls	Vacant
xx. Lacrosse Boys	Christina Calabrese
xxi. Lacrosse Girls	Sarah Ciesinski
xxii. Outdoor Track Boys	Vacant
xxiii. Outdoor Track Girls	Vacant
xxiv. Soccer Boys	Vacant
xxv. Soccer Girls	Jean Foti
xxvi. Softball	Jason Isabelle
xxvii. Swimming/Diving Girls	Karen Splendido
xxviii. Swimming/Diving Boys	Vacant
xxix. Tennis Boys	Vacant
xxx. Tennis Girls	Vacant
xxxi. Volleyball Boys	Matt Petrangelo
xxxii. Volleyball Girls	Amanda Jeffs
xxxiii. Wrestling Boys	Vacant
xxxiv. Wrestling Girls	Jocelyn Rockower

9. Unfinished (old) Business, None

10. Privilege of the Members (Any member may raise issues, concerns, or ask questions for a maximum of 3 minutes per member and for a cumulative maximum of 30 minutes for all members.) NONE

11. New Business

- i. Approvals needed since September Board Meeting:
 - a. Vote to add the position of Social Media Chair to our By-Laws and add as a Director. Unanimously approved.
 - b. Vote to Approve Bill Vacca “Social Media Chair”.
Unanimously approved. Bill will begin immediately and have access to the Booster Club’s Instagram and Facebook accounts as well as the Canva account for non-profits.
 - c. Vote to Approve Beth Vaccaro & Judith Fenlon as Rowing Team Directors. Unanimously approved.
- ii. Topics from the floor, None

12. Executive Session None

13. Announcements from the President, none

14. Adjournment, 8:43

Respectfully submitted,
Terri Dutcher