

**Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Association
Annual Meeting – Official Minutes - Final**



Date: March 9, 2015

Starting Time: 5:35 pm Ending Time: 7:30pm

Benson Tech Library

ATTENDEES:

Mike Landstrom (ML), Neal Galash (NG), Dale Bajema (DB), Roger Edwards (RE), Ken Bakke (KB), Max Baker (MB), Rob Johns (RJ), Annika Johnson (AJ), Dick Spies (DS), Josh Piper (JP)

Guests: Paul Anthony; Dan Hutchins (Class of '77 and proprietor of Hutchins Performance Automotive Machine and Welding)

MINUTES:

- Chairman Rob Johns began the session.
- In the absence of Secretary Max Baker, RE volunteered to record minutes.
- Tech Show Review:
 - RE suggested placing a sign identifying the Alumni Room outside of the single door into the Old Gym to alleviate the crowding at the registration tables from people just stepping in to see what was displayed there.
 - Signs at the school's front entrance and on school maps for attendees might also help draw alumni to the Old Gym.
 - PA stated he was pleased with the diversity and numbers of attendees. Students, parents, alumni, and middle school students were all well represented.
 - The "save the date" cards available at the front office were a great help in notifying people of this year's Tech Show.
- Health and Wellness Center:
 - RJ said he had met with Amy Henry from Counseling and Architect Doreen Rusi on the Center's design in the Community Room/Supply Room space.
 - Kaiser Permanente has provided a \$40,000 grant for the project and OSHU has agreed to serve as a community sponsor, but the actual cost needed for the Center is uncertain.
 - It is acknowledged that additional funds will be needed.
- Entrepreneurship Club:
 - RJ will meet with Curtis Wilson and Tim Hryciw about this idea to offer instruction and guidance to students about marketing a product or service.
 - AP has contacted John Hope Bryant, www.johnhopebryant.com, who runs a program for youths with business interests, about a presentation at Benson.
- Treasurer's Report:
 - ML reported a balance of \$2817.75

- JP stated there was \$76.40 to be deposited from PayPal, and gave ML the \$94 proceeds from shirt sales at the Tech Show.
- ML, RJ, Max Baker, Joanne Stainbrook, and Ken Bakke have updated the checking account signature cards at OnPoint Community CU to reflect the transfer of Treasurer duties from KB to ML.
- RJ asked the Board to consider transferring our checking account from OnPoint Community CU to Points West CU, citing the convenience of the Points West location across Irving Street from Benson, and their enthusiasm for being a part of the Benson community. The Benson Alumni Foundation has their account there and they have willingly shared their facilities with the BPHSAA.
- NG recalled that OnPoint Community CU had come from the former Teacher's CU, which had attracted a Benson account back when Paul Benninghoff was Principal.
- JP stated that a change in financial institutions must be clearly documented in the meeting minutes.
- A motion and second were made and the change was approved.
- Site Council Report: DB
 - The decision not to field a varsity football team next year was described as a logical conclusion. The 57 students who turned out at the start of the season had dwindled to 39 by season's end, and they faced heavier and more experienced competition in all of their games. The announcement of the change was purposely delayed until after the application closing date for next year's freshman class. A panel discussion is planned to consider the details of next year's program, which will be under a new coaching staff.
 - The PTSA hopes to have a post-graduation party for seniors. They anticipate a \$50-60 cost per student and there are 183 in the class. Regardless of the validity for this cost estimate, fundraisers are planned and the BPHSAA should consider a donation as the time draws closer. It is especially appropriate for Benson grads to have a last chance for farewells.
 - The Site Council is in the process of updating their Five Year Plan and seeks a BPHSAA review of the revision. DB moved and AJ seconded to conduct this review. DB will make the Plan available to all in e-mail, and RE, DS, and DB will consider it in detail.
- School Bond Measure: DS
 - March 2015 is scheduled as a milepost in the campaign to pass the measure, but there has been no communication on the matter from the PPS as yet. The effort underway at Lincoln HS is said to be well ahead of the planning at PPS.
- Architecture Design Advisory Group:
 - DS reported that a meeting had taken place but there was little agreement about the direction of the planning. Resistance to change and turf protection became apparent as unanticipated issues.

- RJ suggested it could be productive to expand the scope of the committee to include considerations pertinent to Benson Tech's redesign should the bond measure pass.
- Benson Community Involvement in Redesign:
 - RJ observed that there are numerous overlaps for Benson community members in both the conduct of their businesses and their interest in the CTE training that Benson could provide. Heralding this level of interest to PPS could result in the actual consideration of business ideas rather than just noting the reception of community input.
 - RJ announced that PPS is firm that special needs or focused high school programs will continue to be housed at Benson Tech. While it could be argued that this use is not the best allocation of limited space, it must be conceded that the location that makes Benson Tech an ideal magnet school is also true for students required to have enhanced supervision. There will be seven such groups next year. The newest will be "Pioneers", special needs students at risk of abusive behavior, who will have the vacant area in the KBPS building.
- Officer Positions:
 - NG reminded the Board that the meeting after the annual election is when officer designations are to be made. BPHSAA offices are Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. The terms are for two years and there is a two term limit for each office. In accordance to these rules, it was moved, seconded, and approved in quick succession that RJ shall serve as Chair, DB as Vice Chair, Max Baker as Secretary, and ML as Treasurer.
 - The By-Laws have a provision for an Executive Committee to move on matters expeditiously as the need arises. The Committee is made up of the officers and two Directors. Monthly meetings of the Board have limited the need for Executive Committee action, but there was no objection to having the Committee in place. Therefore it was moved, seconded, and approved that NG and AJ would serve as the Directors on the Executive Committee.
- Benson Community Database:
 - RJ expressed a need for a place to record the contacts and advocates that he and other Board members meet or work with. JP was able to point out that such a device has been set up previously and is available at <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/cc?key=0AjlopHeVgw77dGHSmdTdXdlSTRKX0xuSVBrZDVkNgc&usp=sharing>. Adding to or editing this spreadsheet requires a Google login.
- Other Business:
 - RE asked that Board members begin thinking of classes that could benefit the Benson curriculum in light of the PPS decision to use an 8 period school day next year. RJ immediately suggested a Work 101 type class emphasizing basic work skills such as reporting to the jobsite promptly, dressed appropriately, and ready for work. DB added that change in curriculum is reviewed by the Site Council so there should be ample opportunities for suggestions.

- The next meeting will be 4/13 in the Benson Tech Library.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roger Edwards
Secretary Pro Tem
BPHS Alumni Association