

Benson Polytechnic High School Alumni Association  
Board of Directors Meeting – Official Minutes

Date: Wednesday, August 31, 2011

Starting Time: 5:30 pm Ending Time: 7:40 pm

Location: Group Mackenzie

ATTENDEES:

Dale Bajema (DB), Dick Spies (DS), Josh Piper (JP), Ray Simila (RS), Rob Johns (RJ), Joanne Stainbrook (JS), Wayne Devore (WD), Maj Britt (Max) Baker (MB), Neal Galash (NB)

MINUTES:

- Introduction of new BPHSAA Directors – Rob Johns, Ray Simila
- Minutes of last BOD meeting and the July 14, 2011 Annual Meeting were voted upon and passed.
- Finance – JP commented that there was nothing new to report; however there was approximately \$200 generated from the picnic.
- Membership – currently there are 147 paid members, with 6 new members were from the picnic.
- Selection of a new Secretary – Max Baker volunteered to be Secretary, a two year term. Meeting minutes are targeted to be distributed within a week of the meeting.
- Fall Meeting Schedule – meetings will not be every month, but will be on 2nd Wednesdays. [Subsequent email discussions moved this to 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays.] Fall meetings will be October 12th [moved to Thursday Oct 13<sup>th</sup>] and November 9<sup>th</sup>. Then Jan 11th. Executive Committee will meet as needed.
- Review of Executive Committee membership and representation on Benson's Site Council- committee is formed with 2 officers and 2 Board Members. Meetings are once to two times per year based on need. It was agreed that the Executive committee would be 6 as follows: DB, KB, MB (Secretary) , DS, NG (Vice Chairman), RJ. DB will remain at Site Council.
- Committee Assignments:
  - Events – Tech Show, Picnic, and Social Meeting for Alums at Benson perhaps in December to be headed by MB (chair).
  - Membership – RJ (chair) and RS, and it was suggested to discuss with JP for background/history on what has worked. Reach out to classmates to

seek out fellow committee members who can develop growth in Alum leadership.

- Long term Development – DS (chair), JS, CH, Kyle, and RS.
- Scholarship- JP (chair) and JS.
- Communication – JP(chair), MB, DB
- Pep Band – WD
- Connections with other Support Groups-
  1. PTSA – CH to liaison
  2. Boosters Club – support of Baseball, Brian Flanagan leads Boosters, DB encouraged building bridges as a mutual growth opportunity.
  3. Hall of Fame – Bill Ranta formerly led but no current connection with Alum Assn.
  4. Norse Hall (NW 8<sup>th</sup> & Couch) – noted that Simon Benson was member and a hero for their group. Norse Hall contributed in the past and they want to sponsor the Benson Band in the Norwegian Independence Day Parade May 14, 2012. Mr. Champion is their contact and WD will seek contact.
  5. Simon Benson Family- over the years has provided scholarships through the Family Trust. Suggestion to reach out to Simon Benson Foundation. MB agreed to be liaison.
- Events:
  1. Post Mortem of Picnic – the grill was a positive addition, adjacent car show. There was discussion of matching the 2012 picnic with the Benson wide school clean up, August 25, 2012, but that requires substantial advance coordination and planning. MB will check on Buckman.
  2. Fall “Social Gathering” at Benson- mingle/mix/recruit as an “off season” event. Introduce the new principal as in “Meet the Principal and the 2011 Benson Pep Band”, targeting November 2011. Offer basic refreshments and have an open invitation to students, parents, alums. MB to follow up on possible mid-week dates for this event.
  3. Kenton Station Gatherings – discussion of alum alternative locations such as Lucky Lab. MB to follow up also on possible alum connection to Voodoo Donuts or other Benson Alum owned restaurants could be suggested.
  4. Benson House Completion Celebration – DS commented that cabinets are installed now with trim. Planning a Completion Celebration was discussed and how this can be expanded into sustainable LEED housing in the future. Use Completion Celebration as way to gain media attention at local government, schools and industry levels through press release, for example.
- Alumni-student Pep Band update – WD provided a comprehensive overview with his planning to involve students who have been in band the past 2 years and Alums and new students with a wide accepted talent range. Benson has a room available with a rehearsal frequency of once a week. For expenses, there are

miscellaneous items such as equipment oil, music stands, stand lights and transportation to be considered as well as possible student financial needs. WD will need a contact/liaison at the school for participating at sports events, DB agreed to help with school contact coordination. JP agreed to help with access to Benson premises for use by Alums, completing necessary forms.

- Mentoring/Tutoring – DB supports building bonds among Alum and kids at School. School has not been organized well to introduce Alums to this process, perhaps mid year, mentor team(s) could be created. ACE mentoring program is an example raised by DS to encourage kids in Architecture, Construction and Engineering. JS suggested a Personal Finance class, which was discontinued by the Schools several years back. DB commented that CTE programs have advisory committees – including faculty members- to connect to Alums to come to school to talk, help, teach.
- Scholarship Fundraising – JP and JS to address with a Fall mailing.
- Possible By-law amendment –it was agreed to review the By-Laws to allow for an amendment to fill unfilled Director positions with Association members until the next Annual Board meeting, as needed. NG and DB.
- Budgeting for future activities- DB brought up for consideration of a budget and process to determine how mid-year activities/events/needs could be funded and reviewed at BOD meetings in the future, JS and JP mentioned the use of a Google Spreadsheet.
- Other Business- Need to know the date of the Tech Show. If we want a car show, MB needs to coordinate with Brett in automotive about accommodations and to communicate prior to Jan 2012 with Car Clubs for timing on their calendars to participate and send letters in December to identify potential participation at Tech Show.