

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



Date: November 10, 2011

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

**ATTENDEES:**

Josh Piper (JP), Ray Simila (RS), Rob Johns (RJ), Joanne Stainbrook (JS), Wayne Devore (WD), Max Baker (MB), Neal Galash (NG), Chuck Heil (CH), Ken Bakke (KB), Tammy Hite (TH), Dale Bajema (DB)

**MI NUTES:**

- Meeting Minutes from October 13, 2011 meeting were approved.
- No new members, remain at 151 paid members (KB and JP)
- Treasurer reported (KB) \$3262.34 including \$124.85 from PayPal account.
- Next week's Meet the Principal Meeting (Nov 17<sup>th</sup> 5PM setup). It was moved, seconded and approved to spend up to \$100 on refreshments (NG to coordinate). Discussion led by DB centered on the number of students as Freshmen and total student body. There were 250 allotted Freshmen slots, and 240 actually showed up and enrolled. Approximately 1000-1100 students in total Benson student body. The district target for future enrollment is 850. Questions that we may ask or seek answers from the Principal next week would include what her plan is for Benson and will she ask for more allotted students. Dale indicated that she was willing and eager to ask for upping enrollment as well as revisiting accepting sophomores and junior and using free periods to do Freshman rotation classes. We must be innovative in our thinking about building support. We should find a balance between enthusiasm, innovation and retrying things, without re-inventing the wheel. We should review our minutes, archives and newsletters to see what has worked and not worked. We need background on Benson – how it got here – and then we can focus on where it's going.
- **MB will send a complete list of emails to Josh, who will create a distribution list.**
- The signers on the Benson Alumni Association checking account need to change. The board voted unanimously to remove Tammy Hite, who now lives in Bend, and Paul Benninghoff who is no longer on the board. It was moved, seconded, and approved that Dale Bajema, Ken Bakke and Joanne Stainbrook be the current signers. **Tammy and Paul will print out the minutes and take them to their banks.**
- JP discussed that there are about 129 members about to expire, 22 are good through 2012.
- RJ asked JP the metrics on members having not renewed in the past (116 members), and then to email those and consider a January mailing as well, prior to the Tech Show, Feb 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. All previous members will be notified they should renew their membership.

- We paid \$117 for contact information and went from 1456 to 3581 mailing addresses, and from 1140 to 2047 email addresses, targeting Metro counteis 503, 360, 971. We recorded a 60 second phone message asking people to go to our webiste. JP talked about mailchimp, which is what we use to do our mass emailing. It allows for up to 2000 contacts and you can send 14,000 emails a month for free. After 2000 contacts it's approximately\$25 a month. **JP will investigate whether he can set up a second account.** It was decided to put off the selected mailing until January.
- Work on the annual budget continues. In 2010 we took in \$2435.00 and spent \$1574.00. For 2012, the projection is \$2600.00 in and \$1625.00 out for a projected gain of \$975.00.
- DB commented that a recent PTSA meeting there are two Benson teachers – Amy Slaughter and Brett Anderson assigned to Tech Show liaison with Alums. The Old Gym will be available to the Alum Association. Ideas for this were openly discussed including inviting retired Benson Teachers to Tech Show to help talk with parents and kids considering Benson. **DB will meet with Amy and Brett to discuss their ideas about changes in the Alumni Room.** TH emailed the forms she uses to help organize the room and those were received. JP has the supplies.
- DB brought up recruiting prospective students. Ginger Taylor at Benson coordinates the recruiting effort.
- DB raised the issue of where and when to plan the annual picnic. NG asked to consider 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in August on a Sunday. Still concerns regarding available public restrooms and also arranging for table if picnic is held at Benson. Ideas to hold the picnic in conjunction with a cleanup effort were discussed. Also a Facebook poll on what weekend would work the best for the picnic for supports/alumni. **DB and RJ will contact Carol about front of building use.** It was suggested to include the PTA in our picnic/cleanup plans and to coordinate PR.
- WD and CH attended the PTSA session with Carol and were impressed that she was open and responsive, frank and honest. DB commented that Carol Campbell writes a note to parents every week. Students have name badges now and all visitors sign in at the office. The kids seem enthusiastic and feel Benson is worthwhile.
- We have been asked to provide refreshments for the parent/teacher conferences on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. It was moved, seconded and approved to donate \$100 for refreshments to the PTSA, subject to their acceptance.
- DB suggested a complete list of all Board Minute Meetings be posed to the website.
- DB proposed that RS and RJ participate at the next Long Term Planning committee meeting along with JS and CH and Dick Spies.
- DB suggested we seek local industrial supporters and invite them to the school for tours.

- WD was elected to the Board. His focus is helping the pep band get started. He submitted a CUB application to meet at the school in the old band room, and has called the secretary and the principal a few times to find out the status but has heard nothing so far. Dale also tried 3 times with no success. They will bring this up at the meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Meeting Tuesday November 15<sup>th</sup> at Max's house at 7:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker  
Secretary  
BPHS Alumni Association

Post Meeting notes:

- Emails of current active board:

|        |                           |
|--------|---------------------------|
| Joanne | jstainbrook2004@yahoo.com |
| Max    | bakers1family@hotmail.com |
| Ray    | similar@qwest.net         |
| Ken    | kenbakke@live.com         |
| Josh   | josh@paradimes.com        |
| Neal   | nealgalash@msn.com        |
| Wayne  | devoreshe@aol.com         |
| Dale   | dalebajema@comcast.net    |
| Rob    | robjohns@comcast.net      |
| Chuck  | cpheil@msn.com            |
| Tammy  | tammy.hite@gmail.com      |
| Dick   | rspies@grpmack.com        |
- Emails of non-active board:

Nhi.le88@gmail.com Nhi Le--BOD member from Class of 06. She works and goes to school full-time. Generally helps with Tech Show and the picnic.

christopher@locatell.com Christopher Locatell--BOD member who came to a couple of meetings, then personal issues got in the way.

kyle@gbdarchitects.com Kyle Anderson--BOD member from Class of 86. He has been busy on a work-related projects for the past year.