

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



Date: Feb 8, 2016

Starting Time: 5:40 pm Ending Time: 7:22pm

Benson Library

ATTENDEES:

Josh Piper (JP), Neal Galash (NG), Ken Bakke (KB), Roger Edwards (RE), Max Baker (MB), Rob Johns (RJ), Dale Bajema (DB), Dick Spies (DS) Guests: Tammy Hite (Architect teacher and alum), Don Wear (alum)

MINUTES:

- Tammy talked before the meeting officially started.
 - She is busy preparing for tech show
 - JP will talk to ML about getting her a check for money owed
 - She will print some posters for the alumni room.
- RJ: welcome
- Treasurer's report: RJ on behalf of ML:
 - 10 or 11 memberships over PayPal since last meeting
 - Approximately \$2800 in the bank, + PayPal
 - We Tammy \$400 for yearbooks.
- Membership:
 - 18 paid members: Max, Neal, Rob in this room are paid.
 - Membership is down. RJ suggested an online message/emailing.
 - JP and MB talked about the Alumni Association to get their own square.
 - For tech show, Josh will bring his own square and use his own phone. We'll then see if it is helpful and consider getting our own.
 - DB suggested we discuss at the next meeting what the people that sign up will get for their money.
 - RJ: we've approached Curtis about asking the clubs to contact alumni in the orange book, like a phone bank. But we can't get approval for kids to call adults. Plan B is to get the kids to do data entry, then we donate to the club. This would be a way to make contact with the kids, they remember that alumni gave to their club, and they might be more likely to join the alumni association when they are done.
 - RJ and DB will talk to Curtis about the framework for approaching the clubs about this idea.
 - We'll then need to decide how many names we expect the club to enter for a certain amount of money.
- Site Council – DB
 - In March we'll review the 5 year plan and see how we're doing
 - We will discuss new classes, new majors.
 - The school board endorsed the idea of next year's enrollment going up to 365.

- This year's rotations are a little stretched with 300 students. We may be able to add another elective, so they are thinking electrical engineering, which would lead over time to restoring the major.
- Brian Gerber in machinery taught engineering before and is interested in teaching it here.
- Design Committee: RJ
 - DB, DS, RJ, Tammy Hite, and others are on the master planning committee.
 - They've had 2 meetings. Jim Piro is on the committee. There are some parents, teachers, alumni, and students on there. Four architects, and PPS people. RJ was very impressed with the students. Some small groups work. It's a testament to the fact that if you go to Benson you have to get yourself to the school, it's not just down the street.
 - There is a sense of concern that PPS has its agenda, and we go through all these meetings but then the agenda is rubber stamped that they wanted all along. 1750 kids planned here. They have not stated where DART and other programs are going.
 - There are concerns about how much money can be spent.
 - When you get done with all that, you are talking about what can be done with the back of the school, but if you are looking at 100 million, you may not get any of your dream building realized.
 - The good thing is that we get to participate. We need to determine just what that means, since they spend so much time talking to us and not with us.
 - Meeting: 9 to noon, breakfast included. March 5th, at Benson.
 - There was discussion about getting alums and their opinions to this meeting.
 - MB: we could solicit ideas at Tech Show using the postcard idea where we provide some context about soliciting ideas for the new Benson.
 - RJ will create content and see if Mike L's contact can print some up.
 - NB: we need to be careful that we don't get tons of ideas so that the final plan becomes diluted.
 - MB: I think it would be helpful to identify things we need to build up or things nobody cares about, then when a plan comes out we look at it again to make sure it makes sense.
 - RJ: It does seem that sometimes they want to take giant spaces and break them up into smaller ones. That doesn't work well for CTE.
- DS arrived.
- Tech Show
 - There was discussion about how to get people to sign in, instead of just walking in. Various ideas were discussed, including:
 - Erecting ropes and creating a line. There was concern however, that alumni would see a line to get in and decide not to wait, but to go somewhere else in the building.
 - Having someone with a clipboard walking around getting people to sign in. There was concern that those names then don't get on the

- Picnic will be August 20th. They start school Aug 29th.
- August 27th is the school cleanup.
- Next meeting March 14th at the Benson Tech library.

OLD BUSINESS – things to keep in mind

- Plan for merchandise?
- Archiving location and cataloguing

Respectfully Submitted,

Maj Britt (Max) Baker
Secretary
BPHS Alumni Association