

October 3, 2017 QB Club meeting minutes

SHS Field House

#### Call to order

QB Club President Sonny Burch called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

#### Coach's Report

Head Coach Laron White said that the team will travel to Hewitt-Trussville in charter buses. The team will eat before and after the game. If any parents or guardians would like for their player to ride home with them rather than with the team, the parent or guardian must send a note to Coach White beforehand.

Coach White also said that our program is starting to be successful and the players are having a good time. In addition, the players are starting to get beat up and tired of practicing. Please encourage the players. Sparkman has the chance to do something that hasn't been done in a while; the coaches are starting to use the word "playoffs" to encourage them.

Coach White would like to thank the Board and everybody who's making the coaching staff's jobs easier. He appreciates everything the parents do for the players.

#### Secretary's Report

There were no corrections to the September minutes, which are posted to the sparkmanfootball.com web site.

Secretary Bev Perry stated that programs will be available for pickup or purchase at Friday's night's home game vs. Huntsville. Also, Hunter Gibson is up for Player of the Week on two web sites: Al.com and alabama7Afootball.com; please vote for Hunter!

The coaching staff is choosing offensive and defensive players of the week, sponsored by Priority Medical Training. Please look for those players to be recognized via email and on the Facebook page.

Secretary Perry requested that any senior parent/guardian who has not paid for their player's senior banner, please do so. You can pay online using myschoolfees.

Game pictures are posted on Shuttlemanphotography.com each week and are available for purchase.

No volunteers for the nominating committee came forward so outgoing officers Kim Gibson, Jennifer Ickes and Bev Perry will comprise the nominating committee. They will canvas the membership for officers for next year during the month of October and present the officer candidates for voting at the November meeting.

#### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Kim Gibson reported that the Club has an unencumbered balance of \$25,840.94. She noted that purchase orders (POs) for items such as meals and laundry will now be submitted following the school bookkeeper's closing of the books for fiscal year 2017, which ended September 30. So, more bills

will need to be paid. In addition, if the team makes the playoffs there will be extra meals and laundry to pay for.

Another item the Club is looking at purchasing are office chairs for conference room in the field house. The coaching staff reviews film for about six hours each Sunday and they need comfortable seating. Ms. Gibson has priced office chairs and some will need to be able to accommodate about 340 pounds. Not all chairs will need to be that sturdy, but those that are will cost more than standard chairs, which are made to accommodate about 250 pounds. The Club is looking at purchasing about 15 chairs and the total cost is not expected to exceed \$5,000.

Ms. Gibson also noted that \$5,000 has to stay in the account for next year and that many things accomplished this year were paid for with funds left over from last year. However, if there's a need for something that will benefit the program now, we will spend the money this year.

#### Vice President of Fundraising Report

Vice President of Fundraising Jennifer Ickes reported that the Club is offering an ACT Prep workshop to players. During Fall Break, the workshop, which consists of an online video tutorial and some practice tests, will be held from 1:30-2:30 Monday through Friday. She reported that the first day of the workshop about 35 players attended and the second day about 23 attended. They range from freshman through senior. During the first two sessions, the players were supposed to practice using a practice test with 75 questions to be answered in 45 minutes. They also discussed time management; in general test takers have about 36 seconds to answer each question. She noted that getting the questions in front of the players is the biggest help. The schedule will switch to Mondays and Thursdays from 5:30-6:30 after Fall Break and wrap up on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October, in time for the October 28<sup>th</sup> test.

A parent noted that players on the freshmen and JV teams will not be able to make the Monday sessions and Ms. Ickes said she would check on changing the schedule. The workshop was Coach White's idea. Originally he tried to employ a teacher to teach a live class, but she was only available during the boys' practice time.

Ms. Ickes also reported that she ordered t-shirts for the freshmen and for the players of the week, after Coach White asked if the Club could purchase shirts for the freshmen since they had a game cancelled. One parent expressed dissatisfaction with the idea that players of the week receive the same t-shirts that freshmen receive. One suggestion was to have a Player of the Week decal added to those shirts to distinguish them from the freshmen t-shirts. The Board agreed to re-evaluate the t-shirt distribution plan in light of the objection.

Ms. Ickes also reported that she is in the beginning stages of planning the 2017 football banquet. She is working with the administration on establishing a date for the banquet, and evaluating locations, catering, etc. The Board will need help with set up and clean up. The final banquet date is dependent on when the season ends – it's possible it could be pushed all the way to January.

Another item Ms. Ickes discussed was building a fence to hold the senior banners. A proposal had been put forth to build a 10-foot fence to replace the current fence near the electrical boxes to hang senior banners on. The Board received a quote of \$2,750 to enclose the entire area, including the football trailer, two outbuildings and the electrical boxes, because it's a safety issue. Mrs. Daye is working with Mr. Watts to possibly split the cost three ways or have the school pay for the fence.

There are two shield t-shirts left for sale with the shield: both black size small. One parent asked if the Club could do a t-shirt for the playoffs. It should be known by the second-to-last home game if we will be in the playoffs.

The Board is considering providing a special dinner for seniors, trainers and coaches on Thursday, November 2, the night before the senior game. The Board is discussing grilling steaks and providing a baked potato, vegetable, roll, dessert and tea, possibly in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade cafeteria. Senior night is November 3 vs. Decatur at home. Last year, the seniors had a special table for the pregame meal on Senior Night, and the Board will probably do that again.

Ms. Ickes said that the Huntsville High seniors go on a weekend canoeing trip and stay in a cabin and participating in other bonding activities. Perhaps this dinner could become a regular activity in the years to come and new traditions can be started. Mr. Gunn noted that he thought it would set a good example for the younger players and build camaraderie and a positive culture, which might help with the talent retention issue Sparkman has faced.

#### Vice President of Volunteers Report

Co-VP of Volunteers Charity Mathis wanted to thank all the parents who have volunteered for games and any other activity this year.

Co-VP of Volunteers Marty Conner noted he will continue to send email with volunteer needs. For Monday games, we have had to use varsity players occasionally, but that is not a problem. For the rest of the season, we are set if all volunteers show up.

👉 To volunteer: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d49a5a929a4fd0-sparkman4>

#### Vice President of Meals Report

Ms. Sharon Caselberry reported that the chef who had been catering meals has taken a job out of the country, although it's possible he'll be back when we start playoffs. She has to set up new meals for the rest of the season. Before the chef left, Ms. Caselberry got information on macronutrient breakdown and will be trying to keep things the same as much as possible. The boys enjoyed his cooking and the meals were healthy. His last meal was this past Friday (September 29).

This Friday (October 6), the players are going to have Firehouse Subs. For homecoming and senior night, the Board is planning to provide chicken biscuits from Jacks instead of the usual sausage biscuits.

For the Hewitt-Trussville game, the players and coaches are going to stop at a Golden Corral in Center Point on the way to Trussville for the pregame meal. After the game, the players will get McDonalds. The plan is for each player to get two McDoubles to streamline the post-game meal. Someone will be going to McDonald's to get the post-game hamburgers and bring them back to the buses. The team plans to leave Harvest about 1 p.m. for the Hewitt-Trussville game.

For Homecoming, Shababy's is bringing a grill and smoking wings. We will also have green beans and a baked potato.

#### President's Report

President Sonny Burch reported that Coach Watson has been asking players to drink Pedialyte on Thursday nights before games to help with cramping. The QB Club Board has been checking into hydration drink mixes because it is less expensive and they taste better. Last week, Board purchased some drink mixes and the coaching staff sent the mixes home with about 30 players; results were positive. The Board will be ordering these hydration mixes in bulk and providing them to the coaches to provide to the players.

Mr. Burch also said this Friday night is “youth night” and the administration is expecting a large crowd. The question was raised about whether future clubs should look at purchasing bleachers and splitting the costs with other sports.

After some discussion on recruiting, the meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Perry  
2017 QB Club Secretary

