

BILLERICA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

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A meeting of the Billerica Scholarship Foundation was held on January 7, 2026, in the Evelyn Haines Room at Billerica Town Hall.

TOWN CLERK  
BILLERICA

Jim Gately called the meeting to order at 7:01PM.

Members present who constituted a quorum: Sharon Ferris, Tracy DeJoy, Patty Membrino, Denise Salemme, Mike Rosa, Jim Gately, Brenda MacDonald, Larry Norman, and Dana Reardon. Those attending by zoom: Alyssa Bartlett, Al Tassone, and Jim Spinale. Those who were absent: Mary Anne Durand. Guest in attendance: Darlene Torre.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the December meeting by Mike Rosa, seconded by Dana Reardon. Jim Gately abstained; the rest in attendance voted in favor of accepting the minutes.

Corresponding Secretary's Report – Sharon Ferris said that she is up to date except for items that just came in.

Treasurer's report – Sharon Ferris reported that anything needing to be reported will be covered in other topics.

Gift Card/Scrip Sales, Lottery Ticket Sales, Bruins Raffle Update – Sharon Ferris reported that \$288.41 was generated from the gift card sales. Brenda MacDonald asked if there were any new customers for this. Sharon said yes. We received \$1000 from the Lottery Raffle. Sharon had been a little nervous about what Jim Spinale usually sells, but we did fine. For the Bruins tickets, we raised \$840. Thank you to John LaFauci for donating tickets. He was pleased with the results.

Savers Drive – Sharon Ferris reported that for the whole year, March 2025 up until now, we have raised \$1819.16. Some of this money will go into the general fund, some to the Class of 2026 as the Giroux family helped run drives for the class of fundraiser. (\$604 in September.) The storage unit is full right now. We may need to get a van. Darlene Torre offered to cover the cost of the van. Sharon said we will be doing another drive in April -pending approval, April 25. If we cannot get a van, we can save the overflow of items for the April drive. Mike Rosa mentioned Mary Anne Durand trying to get information from the Council on Aging regarding hoarder program. Mike said he brought this up to the COA board. A woman who is connected to St. Anne's thrift store said they get a lot of things that they have no use for, so we could pick them up. Brenda MacDonald congratulated Sharon for building this particular fundraiser from when it started, despite not getting student help, which she had hoped for.

Autographed Football Update – Sharon Ferris said we have 54 tickets sold, earning \$1080. We plan to draw the winner after the Super Bowl or during half-time. There are 46 squares left.

Trivia Night – Brenda MacDonald reported that things are going as they usually do at this time. We currently have 23 teams registered with a lot of interest still out there. Last year we had 48 teams. If we can get the maximum number of teams – 55- we would get \$8800. We currently have \$3370 in ads, with more promised which would be \$5670. Brenda has reached out to all kinds of places-at least 250 requests out there. She has had no luck with Turnpike Market. Alyssa Bartlett knows some one there that she can reach out to. Brenda has 22 raffles in hand, with more promised. We have three silent auction items. Reid

Cooper donated Celtics tickets and Bruins tickets. The third is a house on the beach in Dennis for an off-season weekend. Last year Trivia earned \$17,392. She is hoping we can hit the \$20,000 mark this year. We are anticipating more ads and really want to get the books to the donors in hopes they may update their ad next year. O'Connor's is updating their ad this year, including their winning team from last year. The positions for the round sponsors have been randomly drawn: round one-Mike Rosa; round two-Rooterman; and round 3-John LaFauci Tile & Marble. Brenda will have a sheet of announcements for the emcee to read that night. Alyssa will do the Spirit award that night. 50/50 raffle tickets will be 3/\$10 or 6/\$20. Raffle ticket sheet will be \$10. Team price is \$160. \$5 for a This or That which is 1 per team per round. Buy an answer will be \$10. Brenda will be sending out an email to the team captains with info about the evening, times, and raffles. Larry Norman and Darlene Torre will be at the door with the packets and will watch out for people bringing in drinks. That is mentioned in the email to the captains-in red. She asked the principals to share the flyer with parents. Information is on facebook and next door. Brenda will be at the Elks at 2pm. Dana and Denise will pick up the donations from the Tech. Jim Gately asked if we need a meeting before the next meeting. Should be ok. Brenda and Alyssa will put together the team packets. Jim Spinale will go to the liquor store for donations-the rest of us can bring snacks and alcohol the night of the event. Jim Gately suggested we see how much is being donated by the liquor store and then add-last year we had too much, and it created a problem with the Elks. Sharon will start the social media thank yous tomorrow. Brenda will get Sharon and Jim G updates of sponsors. Sharon is working on the questions and will get Jim G the 4 answers that will be posted in the ad book. Denise Salemme will proofread the questions. Brenda went over guidelines-no two-part answers. 60% of the questions will be theme, 25-30% general and 10-15% local trivia. With this theme of "food," it is so broad so questions could pertain to multiple categories. Back to the football, Jim Spinale asked if anyone contacted John LaFauci about selling tickets. John bought some himself. Jim will ask John about trying to sell some more.

Website Updating – Sharon said that Reid Cooper is updating the site but needs someone from the committee to tell him what needs to be updated. Tracy DeJoy said she will help him and work toward taking that over. Alyssa Bartlett asked what system is it on. Sharon said she does not know but it is a Dollars for Scholars site and there are certain things we cannot change. Tracy said the town's website is confusing for our page. Mike Rosa said a lot of information did not get transferred over to the new website. From a donor's perspective it will not look good that our site is out of date. Alyssa said she will help with this also.

Misc. other business – Alyssa Bartlett told us Turnpike Market will give a \$50 gift card for trivia. Brenda said she is resubmitting the ad in Community Values-when and where to apply for scholarships. Brenda said the deal to donate the first and second prizes for the class of raffle expires this year. Mike Rosa had received oral commitments from O'Connor's and Marshall's for the prizes for three years. Brenda was able to receive another three-year commitment from O'Connor's but has been unable to reach Greg at Marshall's about their donated prize. She needs to print 10,000 tickets for the kindergarten class, so what should she do? Sharon suggested spotlighting the prize from O'Connor's and say plus other exciting prizes, including cash. The exact prize being given by O'Connor's is a Webber Spirit E-210 grill. Model number 8108718, retail value of \$499. Brenda said she spoke with past member Sean Simonini and he is doing well. He is going back and forth to California and is working on his masters. Sharon said she has started funding requests for the scholarships. Is trying to get a robotics scholarship. In the survey of last year's recipients, they suggested DECA and robotics scholarships. The applications close on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. At our June meeting is the out of district awards, so we need to schedule BATV for that night. April 25 will be the

next Savers drive, for the class of 2027. Feb. 11 is the Scholarship information night at the High School. Sharon will be attending. If people want to go to listen and learn, that would be welcome. She will give the power point to the Tech to give to Billerica students. The UMass system just started their billing today, so a lot of checks have not been mailed out yet. This is the first year we have had to verify tuition. Tracy DeJoy mentioned the shell ornaments that she showed us last meeting. Her friend will make up order forms for us that we could bring to events, such as back-to-school nights. We could buy some samples to bring with us. Style choices: "Entering Billerica," Indian head, Ram head, winter gazebo scene. Do a test market for the 4 designs first, and then possibly expand. Still have more to discuss on this. Should probably move on this by May.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting by Larry Norman, seconded by Mike Rosa; all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:30PM.

The next regular meeting will be held on February 4, 2026, at 7:00PM in the Evelyn Haines Room in the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Membrino, Secretary