



Board Meeting

December 6, 2017

Board Members Present: Fred Clarke, Larry Holden, Paul Santulli, Tim Chin, Lu Zhang, Michael Edwards, Mike Garrett, Kevin Regan, Eric Lee, Kurt Fluegge, Jack Chao, Elisabeth Carroll

Meeting Start Time: 8:01 pm Meeting End Time: 9:00 pm

- **Financial Report**

Michael reported that we picked up an additional \$7400 from volunteer hours/corporate matching. We are only \$300 in the red. This is unexpected good news. We have budgeted, but not yet paid for the softball/juniors World Series. After we pay the outstanding invoice our balance will decrease.

We would like to set aside funds in the budget for a softball pitching program. Pitching is a critical skill for softball players. It would be fair to match the budgeted amount spent for baseball training, but we may not need to spend as much since there are fewer softball players. Eric has a contact who would be a good coach for a multi-day, multi-weekend clinic. She is experienced with girls age 9-18. We will budget \$1200 as a net amount since this is the amount budgeted for Mark Linden.

- **Board of Directors – open positions (ideally candidates will be parents of a player at level AA)**

- Sponsorships: we need someone who can work with the sponsors
- VP Majors
- Training and evaluations

- **Updates**

- Registration: 48 players and 18 adult volunteers have signed up. 10-11 year olds are being bucketed and 12 year olds are registering for majors. (Reminder: All board members are required to be registered as volunteers.) Donations for winter training are trickling in too. We added an optional open-ended box on the registration form and are seeing varying dollar amounts. Little League is coming in with a waiver for 12 year olds to allow more than 8 per team. They also waived the maximum of 10 teams at the major level, just for the upcoming year. The August 31 cutoff date will also impact the 14 year olds bracket. An increase is expected because because the 13 year old bracket only includes birthdays within 8 months of that year. Larry will double check our roster to make sure players are being placed at the correct level.
- Recruiting: Signs, Flyers, etc. Fred will get signs out of storage to distribute for the next meeting (or sooner). If we want to put advertising on fences, we should look at the break-even point and whether or not it is worth it. Ideally

we need a board member to fill our sponsorship vacancy and facilitate this. We need to look into moving our sheds at Puesta.

- Marketing: We need to post on FaceBook weekly and use our budget to boost our posts. Elisabeth can create the posts and let Michael know. He will boost them and target the Newcastle area. We have two specific zip codes that we want to interact with.
- Sponsorships: Nothing to report.
- Winter training - will be held on Sundays from 5:00 – 9:00 pm at Stods (January 7, 14, 21, February 11, and 25th). Mark Linden offered to help us on January 7th to kick off the first training night and set up stations. We need to contact coaches from last year to get them to sign up. Since we don't have someone in charge of training, maybe we could each be in charge of a night. We will set up a station to train 12 year olds for umping.
- Evaluations – This event will be held Sunday, January 28, 2018 from 8am to noon. We will need 8-10 kids to help. (There is a Centralia tournament that weekend that will be a conflict for some players, however they may attend the make-up event the following Saturday, February 3rd.) Instead of having a pitching station, there will be “close eyes” on the throwing station to see how AAA players do hitting a target. All kids at that level should have turns pitching in games.
- Equipment: All players need new bats. Discussion about inviting a vendor to attend winter training to sell bats. Maybe we could have a bat trial day? Chris has a list of vendors from opening day. Jack has information about discounts from a variety of brands. We should advise families to buy cheap wood bats? They must be used beginning in January 2018.
- Fields: Lu reports that the city is raising rates on Hidden Valley. Somerset Fields are now going up to \$35/hour. Tyee is \$55/hour. T-ball is usually held at Somerset, but it has already been allocated for soccer games on Saturdays. Somerset still doesn't have holes drilled for bases. Field space is scarce and we need fields for softball too. There is a hornet's nest in the green box at Newport High School.
Brainstorming ideas... Maybe we could get four t-ball games going simultaneously on the Tyee multi-purpose field. The Hidden Valley fields are great, but we don't have a green box there and traffic makes it extremely hard to get there during the week. If we reserve Hidden Valley, we would have to have a pitching mound there, in addition to a green box. Robinswood and Big Picture fields are more convenient, maybe we could play there?
- Constitution: We approved proposed Thunderbird constitution changes to be sent to membership:

1. In Article II – Objective, Section 1:

The objective of the Local League shall be to implant firmly in the children of the community the qualities of citizenship, discipline, character and teamwork, and to develop the values of sportsmanship, empathy, competitiveness, and fair play, so that they may be adjusted, strong, kind, and happy children and who will grow to be good, decent, healthy, and trustworthy citizens.

In Article II – Objective, Section 2:

The Local League shall promote the learning and development of baseball and softball skills, challenge players to attain personal goals, encourage fun positive behaviors and help foster a love of the game.

Section 4:

(e) Keep the minutes of the meetings of the Members, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee and ~~cause them to be recorded in a book~~ maintain an electronic archive for that purpose.

2. Change general meeting date to the end of the year.

- **2017-2018 Calendar**

- Board Meetings – first Wednesday each month (Room 1113, NHS, 8pm)