



Board Meeting June 11, 2020

*Note: This meeting was held virtually via Zoom in compliance with Governor Jay Inslee's Stay Home, Stay Healthy order.*

**Meeting Start time:** 7:00 pm

**Meeting End time:** 8:09

**Board Members Present:** Lucy Campbell, Kurt Fluegge, Cesar Garcia, Larry Holden, Fred Clarke, Erika Satterlund, Soren Llanes, Rob Freytag, Alan Wittman, Elisabeth Carroll

### **Financial**

The refunds requested by our families have been processed. We are currently "in the red" for \$223. Money has been transferred from our reserves, but we still have \$30,000 that needs to be paid out for storage fees, fields, and uniforms. We will save the equipment and uniforms to use next year. Considering those expenses won't be duplicated, we should break even. Fred confirmed that all fields are cancelled through the end of June.

### **Pandemic Implications on Play**

Six leagues in District Nine have pulled out and won't put together any baseball/softball programming. There is an agreement in place that kids can register to play with any league for this summer, regardless of residency. We have 92 kids registered for a summer program.

To move to phase 2 (where a summer program could be offered), the state/county would have to decrease the number of CoVid-19. Unfortunately, the number of cases is trending in the WRONG direction.

Discussion about logistics and planning our summer season:

- Guidelines to keep everyone safe and healthy (Unknown)
- Volunteer Umpires (Cesar thinks we could have enough)
- Coaches (Unknown)
- Teams (We had 88 players previously ranging in age from 4-16 years old. This would make it very challenging to group kids with others the same age/level.)
- Games (Unknown. Who would we play against?)
- Volunteers (Unknown. The pandemic has changed everything.)
- Insurance (Unknown. We must have protection in case someone is hurt/sick. It makes sense to follow guidelines from Little League International when they are released.)

A motion was made and approved to cancel the summer season. Unfortunately, there are too many moving parts and not much clarity about important details.

A motion was made and approved to reopen a season and build teams when the district pulls together infrastructure/guidelines.

## **Future Planning**

Lucy will continue to have an ongoing conversation with other board presidents. In addition, she will seek information from other leagues around the country about building a safe program.

Since District Nine has given players permission to join any team, we will help our players connect with others leagues as needed.

Erika notes that our Republican sponsor keeps asking about how our kids are doing because they are kind and concerned. Elisabeth will thank them publicly on Facebook with a link to their business page. They made it possible to refund registration fees to those in need. We are very grateful.

Lucy will send out a message to families letting them know we are canceling the season. Soren has the e-mail addresses to contact families who donated their registration fees. (Forty nine families donated 100% of the fee, forty five donated 50%) Lucy will acknowledge our appreciation by mailing them a note. "Thanks to the generous donors who donated their registration fees to the league, along with Republic Services, we were able to return needed funds to our community."

If things unexpectedly improve, we will scramble and try to put something together. If an All-Star program could happen later, we could appoint coaches, distribute patches, and sign affidavits.

We will start talking to our twelve year old players to encourage them to sign up for next year at the intermediate level. They are a strong group.

No fields have been reserved through the end of June. We have a few 60x46 fields that could potentially be used by younger kids or softball that we will hold for now. If we open for All-Stars, then we would need to use those fields and charge players a nominal fee for fields, baseballs, patches. These don't need to be cancelled until 2 weeks prior.

## **Board Planning**

This will be our last board meeting of the year.

Derek continues to be excited about marketing and thinks a schedule with a two month break in November/December would be more effective than the regular board schedule. His team (more people needed) will work together through the summer (when the board typically breaks). He wants to do research to find out how to better target people, use small slices of the budget, measure impact, and foster growth. His goal is to add 200 new young players. He will experiment, but needs people who are experienced in social media marketing. He put together a new structure and way to think about it. Manpower is needed to focus on the different areas.

Jennifer is resigning from the board, but interested in volunteering as a coach. Lucy Reagen is leaving board, but most likely available to support incoming player agents. Erika is resigning from the board, but will help someone fill her role. Soren will be resigning from the board, but will stay on to mentor new people. Chris Freer is willing to help mentor someone with Opening Day. Steve's status is unknown. It was nice that we had the chance to have exiting board members mentor shadows.

Who will be left on the board? Lucy, Fred, Cesar, Kurt, Rob, Larry, Darcey, Doug, and Elisabeth

Larry suggests that we ask other potential members personally. Maybe each board member thinks hard about direct contacts/parents we know, then asks TWO people to join. We know what the openings are.

Soren suggests we consider roles, time commitment, and what would be expected in each. We could provide interested candidates with a clear job description. Lucy has an e-mail from last year with job descriptions. She will add time commitments after doing some research about what is needed – ex: field

scheduling is crazy Feb – March. Larry has a folder of job descriptions in the OneNote. We could write out the flow of each position and what happens month by month.

Fall Ball could be really fun in September, October. We will be competing for field times with soccer programs, but this could be doable. Maybe we change the format away from Mark Linden into creating teams that could play against each other? Everything is dependent on the virus and reaching phase 3. Fingers crossed.