**Guilford Basketball League Membership Meeting**

**Thursday, March 30, 2017, Guilford Community Center, 8:00pm-9:30pm**

Officers in Attendance: Bruce Freeman, Enrique Rivera, Phil Goldberg, Bernadette LaFrance, Christian Appleman

President Bruce Freeman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to provide a summary and recap of the 2016-2017 Rec and Travel basketball seasons. GBL received overall good feedback from players, coaches and parents at the conclusion of the Minihoops and Rec leagues. One of the divisions in the rec league had too few players on a team and that division struggled a little bit. In addition, that particular division had some officiating issues but overall a learning experience for the Board and the league will make adjustments next year.

Travel Coordinator Enrique Rivera stated that the travel seasons for almost every team went well. He and Bruce will meet with some selected board members regarding last year’s travel season later in April, but the GBL decision to play in the Fairfield County Basketball League overall was a good one. There was a noticeable increased level of competition across all age groups and the feedback from our parents and coaches was great. Three teams made it to finals in the playoff/championship bracket in March and the fifth grade girls won their division. Issues were few and will be addressed with the Board officers, particularly the annual spring issue regarding travel/rec participation requirement, which is always brought up this time of year. New uniforms will be needed for next year and, with Bernadette’s assistance, will get some samples to look at for next season. We will also look to provide more practice opportunities for the travel teams. One idea was to have two one hour practices rather than one ninety-minute practice per week currently in place as a way to “catch up” to some of our competitors who practice three and four times per week.

Bruce also suggested that the cost will be higher next year for travel players to play but the player registration fee at the beginning of the year will include three tournaments for the year. Bruce also restated the mission of GBL in that we are a Rec League first and try to provide the opportunity for every player to participate and practice and play in a recreational basketball format – the travel part of the league is an added bonus but not the emphasis nor is it the primary beneficiary of our decision-making as a board.

There was also some discussion about starting the actual tryout date for travel selection to be moved until later in October. No decision will be made until later.

The GBL online store is looking to do business with some other companies who can accommodate the needs of each individual customer rather than have Bernadette serve as the “middle” and/or “delivery” person.

GBL will continue its relationship with offering web space to advertising the Skillz and Drillz summer camps – there will be three or four weeks of camp starting mid-July for boys and girls in grades 5-8.

GBL will continue to donate a scholarship award to Guilford High School -- $500 each for a boy and girl graduate who wrote the best essay to GBL about what playing recreational basketball in town as a youngster did for them.

A few board positions will be open for next year. Phil Goldberg will take over as secretary and the motion was passed without objection. Phil also stated he would like to identify a new person to take over 3-on-3, which has grown exponentially in popularity. Third Grade players were also discussed separately here as perhaps having that group play 3-on-3 during the first few weeks of the GBL season. Nate Jacobson will remain in place as MiniHoops coordinator, he was commended for the excellent job he did this past year. Shawn Love will help out with Minihoops as well. Nate was asked for his feedback later about the possible third grade three-on-three idea and this idea will be discussed at a later meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40pm.