

ULLL Board of Directors
Monday, 6 February 2017

Purcellville Library meeting begins 7:00 pm

Board Members present: Kerry Rice, Mario Valenti, Cindy Courchaine, Randy Nixon, Spencer Neillson, Anthony Cusat, Josh Cooper, Amanda Rohs, Chris Kerley, Francine Reed, Mark Rodabaugh, Don Fletcher, Mike Hughes, Carri Michon

Absent: Bill McCleary

Public present: Darrin Klinge, Jamie Marsh

Area Representative and Committee Reports (as of Sunday, 05 February 2017 at 12 PM)

1. Secretary's Report / Minutes from Last Meeting (Francine)

Draft minutes distributed 30 January 2017 Marion motion and Randy second All approved

2. Treasurer's Report (Carri)

Our bills are paid current. Our ULLL Tax Exempt paperwork is currently already at the following businesses should you be doing any ULLL purchases at these establishments: Mr. Print, Purcellville Copy, Brunswick Hardware, and I have mailed one to Annandale Sports, Loudoun Lumber and Lowes (in Leesburg – under Upper Loudoun Little – not sure why but they haven't fixed the name so for now if you go in, go to the customer service desk and have them look it up via Upper Loudoun Little, my cell number or Carri Michon).

Also, if a prospective Eagle Scout approaches you about an Eagle Project, please direct them to Carri. I have been involved with over 12 Eagle projects and I became a District Commissioner with the Goose Creek District of the NCAC of BSA in January 2016. I know the correct process that must go forward in order for an Eagle Project to be approved. After someone approaches an Area Representative, have them contact me so that I can guide the paperwork process and insure that the correct protocol is followed with the appropriate people being involved for signatures and approval. This will alleviate the situation which arose in Lovettsville in the early fall of 2016.

3. Player Agent's Report (Cindy)

Reached out to each of the returning Majors players that I did not see registered. More to come. Update on returning players names not registered-anyone not heard from Kerry would like to have in writing so he can release from the team. (Majors)

4. Vice President's Report (Mario)

Spring Baseball Order (Brunswick Hardware) is in; awaiting the last of the catchers equipment – should be in shortly. As of 1 February 2017, we have 44 LL Volunteer forms submitted and going through processing with First Advantage. Please ask people to get their LL Volunteer forms soonest to ensure that they are reviewed and processed in a timely matter. Latest numbers will be sent out Sunday (5 February 2017). Lastly, if there are maintenance requests for fields, please submit them to Kerry and I so we can get them submitted to the county by mid-February. Mario sending out maintenance request forms to area rep-work needed to be completed need to be filled out and sent

to Mario by the next board meeting. (work county does-infield mix, repairs, etc not building and things we are modifying)

5. Committees Reports

a. Safety (Amanda)

Date for Managers/Coach's Training - Monday, March 13th - Harmony Middle School - 7:00-8:30 PM; Presenters Confirmed – Dr. Tim Johnson, National Sports Medicine Institute, LeeAnn Skinner, National Sports Medicine Institute, and Anne Blackstone, INOVA Head-to-Head Concussion Clinic. Review of Lucketts Community Center Field – Good for T-ball and Coach Pitch (no cage or soft toss nets at this field). Lucketts Elementary Field – Fenced in – good for all levels of play (no soft toss nets, bull pens or cages). We could add these fields for emergency use, but with no cages or equipment to prepare fields this would be logistically tough for our use.) Lucketts Community Park Field (big field) – may use once/if we implement a big field program. Safety Plan is being updated – draft to Mario and Cindy week of Feb 6th for review (I plan to add Dr. Johnson's hand out into our formal safety plan this year). Need approx. number of teams so first aid kits can be ordered. Kerry estimated 64 teams.

b. Umpires (Chris)

Recruited several new umpires, mainly 13/14 year olds. I am in the process of scheduling the umpire clinics for the spring. More than likely the last week in February and then second week in March. Plan is to have new(er) umpires work a scrimmage or two as well once they begin.

c. Coaches (Spencer)

Coaches Clinic at Fielder's Choice: March 19 - 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM; \$25 / per person – Cap at \$1500 (Minimum at \$1000). That should not be an issue as last year we had well over 70 people and the previous year was 60+.Mario motion to approve allocated money for funding Coaches clinic, Randy second. All Approved

d. Information Officer (Donald)

Registrations through midnight on 1/31: We were at 690 registrants which is a little less than the 714 players that we had for 2016. The wait list registration program is now available on the web site.

e. Sponsorship (Randy)

Working on sponsorships – I'll bring in a list of sponsors that I know are in to the board meeting.

6. Area Representative Reports

a. Hamilton Area (Mark)

Equipment at HE stored for winter. Picked up and he is storing new equipment supplies until ready to disperse to managers for Spring 2017 (including new equipment bags, baseballs, catchers equipment). Solicited various sponsors in the Hamilton area for support. The Concession Stand Eagle Project is moving forward nicely. The power is live. This past week the interior was drywalled and the drywall finishing was completed on Saturday. Painting the primer on the walls will begin

this week. The needed repairs to the Hamilton equipment shed will be done in the next couple of weeks by a local contractor. The side door that is disintegrating will be replaced with a new one. Met with Abbie (from Brunswick Hardware) – decided upon uniform styles / types for this spring.

b. Lovettsville Area (Josh)

I'm working with the Town of Lovettsville and Loudoun County Sheriff's Office to completed the necessary permits and paperwork for our opening day ceremonies. Opening Day in Lovettsville is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 22, 2017. As in years past, the day will kick-off with a parade from the Community Center to the Elementary School, on field ceremonies and a full slate of games. The tentative time of events is parade line-up 8:30 AM, parade starts at 9:00 AM, on field ceremonies begin at 9:30 AM and first game(s) begin at 10:30 AM. Over the next month I will be confirming dignitaries/VIP attendance. Working to schedule a meeting with Abbie at Brunswick Hardware in the next couple weeks to discuss the Lovettsville Spring uniform order. Ordered baseballs and looking at the need to order/replace the batting cage net. I spent some time down at the LE1 shed cleaning up and reorganizing.

Several Spring field improvement projects have been identified. At the Game Club, we need to correct the base path measurement and reinstall the base posts so the field can be utilized for Coach Pitch games this Spring. At LE1, looking to rebuild both bullpens and would like to look replace the current batting cage design with a fenced cage. The idea would be to extend it length wise and have it divided in half so that two teams can access the batting cage at the same time. I would be seeking preliminary approval from the Board to move forward in obtaining quotes and any recommendations for potential vendors/contractors that could complete the work. Additionally, at LE1 I need to purchase/install some type of backstop material behind home plate. The fence continues to curl up at the bottom and wild pitches and/or passed balls are getting through or lodged under the fence.

Everyone is aware the dugouts at LE1 were enclosed over the summer/Fall. This project was completed through a local Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout contacted me in July/August with his plans which I informed him would need to be vetted and approved through the School and the League. The plans were forwarded to Kerry and I'm unaware if there was any communication between him and the Eagle Scout. In the meantime the Eagle Scout made contact with the new Principal at Lovettsville Elementary and advised the Eagle Scout that the he had the authority to approve the plans since the field was school property. The Eagle Scout was halfway through constructing the dugouts before I was even aware that the work had been done. I asked if he received approval through Kerry and the Principal to which he indicated that he only needed the Principal's approval which he did receive. Long story short, I have received a lot of feedback and comments about the dugouts, some positive but the majority have been negative. While I fully support the Eagle Scout program and know that the effort was genuine I'm not completely happy with how the dugouts turned out and will be looking for ways to improve the fit and finish while preserving intent of the project.

c. Purcellville North (Mike)

Fencing and field improvements to Mountain View – including cage project on the first base-right field area of the field – are proceeding. Working on ideas for the NB scoreboard installation.

d. Purcellville South (Bill)

Contacted Long Fence to assess Haske fence pole and batting cage repairs. Expect to have an assessment with estimate by Feb 13 ULLL Board meeting. Contacted locksmith to assist with Haske kitchen access. Kitchen clean up to occur in February in preparation for health inspection in March. Expect to have Haske tractor replacement estimate by Feb 13 ULLL Board meeting. Initiated effort to secure sponsors for 2017. Of the 10 sponsors from 2016 contacted so far, all are planning to support this year. Pre-Spring clean up of Haske fields planned for Feb 11.

e. Round Hill (Anthony)

Someone broke into concession stand/shed at Round Hill 1 -- working to fix/secure it. Dugout roofs on at Round Hill 1 are complete. Concession stand/storage building roof repairs and structure changes coming soon.

7. Old Business

- a. 2017 Calendar of Events –Skills March 4-5th, Coaches clinic March 13th, and March 20th parents meeting both at harmony 7pm. Starting season week before spring break will not play during spring break. Opening april 22 april 29 picture day. Tournaments after Memorial day. Probably will not meet March the 6th. April 3rd May 1st and early June.
- b. Spring 2017 Managers Applications-online; anyone said they were interested we can send them an email saying they can go online & Volunteer Forms
- c. On-line Registration, Waitlist through Feb. 28th.
- d. 2017 Youth Sports League Request-Parks committee. meeting tonight-Kerry has interview at 9:10 tonight they had 11 applicants. 2 primary for us 1-help off set cost of train station 2-to help fund scholarships for our league.
- e. Middle –School/Big Field-spoke with Mike Demelio meeting in April and May he can give us an update as to whether we pursue this issue.
- f. Adoption of 2017 House Rules –board has to adopt on an annual basis. T-ball rules edited based on fall and previous spring season. T-ball Spencer against the first base rule, If you are a pitcher you can't play first base. Josh recommends rewording it. Mario motion to approve local rules as amended and Randy second motion. All approved. This comes from parent survey last Spring Kerry emailed a summary last night-a lot of people don't like doing the survey-189 out of 70 completed. Most people happy with managers and what we are doing but there is about 10-20% dissatisfied the way managers implemented their team in the spring. Few things stand out 1-don't like multiple position play not happening, 2-kids not getting as much playing time. Feedback about coaches comes close to mirroring managers. Spencer feels at minor levels would like to see no kid that sits out an inning until everyone has played 2 innings. Mario would like to see no kid sit out more than two innings, challenge getting all kids in before 6th inning. Spencer propose we adopt language states everyone in 6 inning game must sit out 1 inning but no more than 2, with in 5 innings. Spencer would like to see it worded they play at least 1 inning in the infield. Spencer's Proposal- 1-playing time in the first 5 inning every kid must sit out at least 1 inning, no more than 2 innings. 2-minors everyone in a 6 inning game everyone must play 2 innings in the infield Carri seconds. Amanda recommends if player opposed to playing in the infield then you let the opposing manager aware of that before the game. May include AAA, some discussion on that. All in favor of adopting proposal#1- All Approve. All in Favor? of 2nd proposal motion carries 8-3 .

Back to survey majority go to the practices and games, they are engaged. Vast majority of people have no interest in serving as manager or coach. Mark asked if 47 responded they would be interested in coaching or managing is there a way we can email them. Mario states the survey monkey is set up so we can't get the personal information, but there is a place on survey where they can put their contact information. Darrin- asks do you know what coach? Kerry hasn't drilled down to that level yet.

8. Business

- a. Skills Assessment, March 4-5@Fieldser's Choice
- b. Spring number 704 /projected teams- how many majors teams-Al 21 registered 12yo. 3 majors teams poss 4. NL 38 12yo registered 5 planning on opting out and 1 poss another- 5 majors teams Kerry thinks if we do leg work poss get to 4 majors in NL.
AAA- approx. may fall similar to Majors- American League 4teams poss 2 RH and 3 Purcellville South National League- 5 teams (2-hamilton, 2 lovettsville, 1 purcellvile north)
AA- AL-4 teams probably 2 in each in area; National League-4 teams
Rookie higher- combo of 9 and more 8yo American League-3-4 teams ; National League-5 teams (pn -2 lv -1 h-2)
Coach pitch American league 5 could be 6 . National League-9 teams poss 3 in all areas
T-ball high numbers American league-poss 7; National League-poss 7 teams2 ham 2 pn 2-3 lv
Team names- Purcellville North same Purcellville South same please send Kerry, Cindy Mario and Francine team names.
Lovettsville:1. Reds2. Mets3. Marlins4. Rockies
Round Hill requests the following teams:Red Sox, Royals, Angels, Astros, Tigers, Twins
- c. Other-Spencer- rookie rule to stand at base of mound when pitching, not a must but they can. Food for thought . Mario feels reason rookie was created was fo r them to learn how to pitch and secondly catchers fielding. Reaction time discussed being an issue with the pitcher being 4-5 feet closer. Don-hasn't sent form out for scholarship will get it on website. Spencer-changing league from keeper league to drafting league, feels will have some overmatched teams in American League, feels in community better. Kerry as a former player agent redraft does make it easier but also feel there is a drive for manager/coaches for unity to bring returning player back to the same team. Darrin thought we already required returning majors to come to assessments. Will address this before next meeting.
- d. Need for Managers