

WESTWOOD LITTLE LEAGUE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 8, 2014

Attendees:

Rob Gotti • John Loughnane • Chris Pfaff • Wendy Fahey • Tom Bean • Jason Kissell • Pete Diomede • Gary Cappuccino • Mike Curtin • Kathleen Holland • Marc Pezzuto • Mitch Katzman • Mike Curtin • Mike D'Entremont • Peter Cahill • Mark Jessup • Brian Hunt (guest) • Neal Roper (guest)

Agenda:

Secretary's Report – meeting minutes were circulated from the August meeting & action items reviewed.

BOARD ACTION: Motion to accept the Secretary's report was unanimously approved

Treasurer's Report – Marc Pezzuto presented the status of finances for the league reporting current account balances for the general fund, Morrison, & the snack shack as well as inflows & outflows since last meeting. Only material change in account status was initial payment to the mason for commencement of building scorer's booth.

Only remaining significant operational expense anticipated is the charge for light usage from the Town.

BOARD ACTION: Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was unanimously approved

Operations update

Morrison project manager Chris Pfaff provided an in-depth update to score's booth construction progress. We have two carpenters evaluating making a bid based on the full sized plans provided. *We need additional suggestions for carpenters who can (and are willing to) do the work.*

President Rob Gotti opened a discussion of how we might reduce the number of foul balls crossing East Street. Some remediation effort was requested by one of the neighbors across from the field. Initial ideas were discussed and further evaluation was recommended to determine best course of action.

Action Item - Tom Bean to discuss request & options with DPW. If WLL paid for netting, for example, would the town install given public park?

Babe Ruth Coordinator Gary Cappuccino provided the group an update on Westwood's participation in the Norwood Diamond Club's Fall League. Gary reported that rosters for the fall teams have been uploaded to BR International website thus making any rising 13's part of the covered group under BR Insurance. A slate of coaches was presented to the board, all of whom were sourced from Spring/Summer coaching ranks.

BOARD ACTION: Motion to accept the recommended slate of coaches was unanimously approved

Summer/Fall Ball Coordinator Chris Pfaff provided an update on both the SYBL Fall League and the 50'/70' League. Both have healthy enrollments, with SYBL participation underway and 50/70 scheduled to begin next week. Chris presented a slate of coaches for these teams, again all of whom were spring/summer coaches.

BOARD ACTION: Motion to accept the recommended slate of coaches was unanimously approved

Spring/Summer experience surveys are being prepared for dissemination this week to respective participant families. Summer/Fall Coordinator Pfaff and Player Development Coordinator Mitch Katzman will oversee this process.

Action Item - Chris to set up surveys on SurveyMonkey and send links to Rob.

Action Item - Chris and Mitch to analyze results, develop a topline summary for presentation to full board with any recommendations for further Coach Development initiatives. Responses by division to be shared with Division Coordinators to help inform selection of coaches for subsequent years.

Player Development update – Mitch Katzman reviewed plans for Fall Clinic for ages 7-10.

Action Item – Mitch to contact selected trainer to ensure availability during a later window on the Sunday's of the clinics to minimize conflicts with the target group of kids. Agreed on price point of \$45.

WLL participation in Westwood Day:

Kathleen Holland will take point on organizing an activity and volunteers for WLL participation in Westwood Day on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Ideas for activities were discussed. Kathleen to make final recommendation and organize volunteers

ACTION ITEMS: Rob to drop note to Taryn at Town Hall (cc to Kathleen) confirming our participation and that we would prefer a tent/stall for some type of activity. Kathleen to work with John Loughnane to choose activity. Rob to establish a Google Sheets Volunteer list so we can cover the event appropriately.

Hosting of 2016 State Championship

Rob opened a discussion to ultimately result in a vote on whether or not to bid on hosting the 2016 State Championship. Discussion ensued on any pros/cons of hosting such.

BOARD ACTION: Motion to proceed with bid to host was unanimously approved

Fields Coordinator Tom Bean discussed annual and on-going maintenance needs for Morrison Park in order to keep it in the prime condition it is following the significant investment of time, money and effort that went into the revitalization effort. Tom recommended that WLL earmark a specific \$ amount to the annual up keep. Recommended getting outsourced bids for such work as volunteer ranks are insufficient and shrinking.

ACTION ITEMS: Tom to provide quote for immediate needs (to be done in Oct.). Tom to provide scope of work for bidding of annual maintenance and in-season weekly up-keep. Rob to recommend a committee to evaluate bids and methods for off-setting costs. Will ultimately be taken up by the next Board at the November meeting.

Tom & Chris also discussed proposal to get the inscribed bricks as well as blank bricks and lay a 40' walkway down the right field line so as to fulfill our brick fundraising. Cost of bricks was est. at \$6k-\$7k. Tom offered to install the bricks for discounted price of \$2,500. Discussion ensued regarding additional bids to maintain audit transparency.

BOARD ACTION: Motion authorizing \$2,500 for the laying of the bricks to final bid winner

ACTION ITEMS: Tom to provide scope of work & dimensions for rapidly securing add'l bids. Chris Pfaff to oversee bid process & discussions.

Succession planning:

Rob reviewed dates for upcoming elections - noted below. Encouraged inclusion of new volunteers to be recruited to help shape the future of baseball in Westwood.

Planning Calendar

Upcoming events include:

- Deadline for 2015 Board Ballot 10/2/14
- State DA meeting 9/17/14
- October elections 10/20/14

Next meeting is Annual Meeting on Oct. 20 – location TBA

Meeting Adjourned