

June 26, 2017 – Year End SLA Meeting

Called to order 7:05 pm

1. Roll- Call / Attendance
2. Motion to waive reading of previous minutes- approved
3. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Overall good year financially as we had to cover bills that were unpaid from last year, lost revenue on girls jamboree and some new one-time expenses
 - b. We need our CPA to continue to file non-profit status and do league taxes as this was not done by the previous treasurer as she claimed it was
 - c. Our previous efforts to get taxes in order were derailed for obvious reasons given the fraud that was discovered during the reconciliation – which has now been made public
4. Directors and Officers Report
 - a. Secretary
 - i. Tony M and Shawn M met with BOE maintenance leadership on costs of lining fields. Due to union regulations they must do the fields and they must be done outside of their regular duties – so we have to pay them overtime rate.
 1. Apparent inconsistencies in invoicing were brought up and they responded that the line items were not necessarily called out if they did multiple locations and that also we were paying for everything from loading the truck to cleaning equipment regardless if it was one or more locations.
 2. TM and SM expressed concern over how it looked that the league was dependent on these fields, yet had seemingly no levers to control cost during a season – and how this could appear to membership that our hands were tied in a manner that may not play well as we are a community organization.
 3. The maintenance dept stated the biggest factor and variance in cost is the weather. To date SLA schedules a start and end date for lining the fields and the dept visually assesses the lines and makes the decision, without SLA input or oversight to line the fields.
 4. Dept stated that they are willing to leave lining at the discretion of SLA board, and take a more ad-hoc approach to lining fields with a couple of days notice.
 5. Board discussion on the topic resulted in the decision to take this approach where SLA will monitor the fields and request lining for Southington BOE with the possible exception of DePaolo and JFK which are sometimes used for games.
 6. SM will work on budget for next year with these assumptions and the league will vote in the fall.
 - ii. TM discussed using CLOA/Arbiter this past season. Overall it was a success, although there are definite opportunities for improvement on CLOA side with setup and scheduling. Now, that we have been through the process TM is going

to work directly with CLOA to address our concerns and improve the process for next season.

- iii. Sean Missal also reiterated that we need to plan for youth refs to handle U10 games for next season so we're not dependent on other towns for kids. We should be certifying HS kids in-town.

5. Old & Outstanding Business

- a. We have days that were paid for 3D we have a couple options – we can request a refund or we have already cleared with 3D that they will allow us to roll the days into next season
 - i. Based on conversation of board and members there was a very positive response for 3D and there is some intention to use them for next season. Demanding a refund may sour the relationship and is less likely to be approved.
 - ii. We need to plan the dates better next year prior to CVYL scheduling to ensure we're making the most of our contract in season.
 - iii. Would like to survey the coaches for feedback on the program and allow them to formally weigh in on decision for next season.
 - iv. Motion to roll existing 3D dates to next year – approved.

6. New Business

a. Town Stipend

- i. By June 30 all town leagues have to provide tax returns, bank records and a description of financial controls in place in response to recent incident with the previous SLA treasurer.
- ii. Town stipend will be based on this
- iii. SLA should look into opportunities for more funding from town for next year. It has been the same for years as far as we can tell and we are getting far less funding than some other leagues, although we have grown in recent years.

b. Winter Program

- i. Should SLA formally run winter program?
 - 1. Girls wish to continue to run their winter program outside of SLA – they run only 1 senior program which is invite and changing this may be too much of a burden at this point.
 - 2. Boys would like to conduct a fall tryout at each level (Jr/Sr) to see if we could make 2 or 3 teams
 - a. Tryouts would be open to everyone and although winter leagues tend to be competitive and expensive we may be able to work around this by creating an in-house program for non-select teams – we want to keep sticks in kids' hands.
 - 3. Some discussion on fall tryouts for both winter and spring sessions but no takeaways. Will be discussed further in first board meeting of new season.

c. Girls to CONNY

- i. Given the lack of competition for some of our teams in CVGYL, SLA is planning to move a couple of the better girls teams to CONNY. Considering 1 Junior and 1

Senior team to move. No need to vote on this today, will formalize decision in September.

- d. Boys Refs for U10 – Need to plan early to train HS players to be referees for U10 next season. SM will follow up with referee contacts on setting this up.
 - e. Coaches Survey – board wants to get feedback from parents on their experience with their coaches. This is something other leagues do and is good for feedback and coach development. TM will put survey together, will need until Aug to get it done.
 - f. Equipment Collection – will collect equipment next Sunday at the trailer
7. Eli's / Harpoon Brewery offer
- a. SF was contacted by a couple guys from Eli Cannons and Harpoon Brewery who are big lax guys and heard about the theft of SLA funds. They have generously offered to provide resources to help us recover some funds.
 - b. SF will follow up and we'll come up with something – we definitely appreciate the offer and want to take them up on it.
8. Motion to Adjourn – Approved

This is the final meeting of the year. SLA board will reconvene in September at a date/time TBD.