



**BTBA Board: February Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2018 – 7pm
Bloomington City Hall – Hage Conference Room**

Attendees:

BTBA Board Members Present:

**Jim Peterson – President
Scott Baker – Vice President
Robert Chamberlain – Treasurer
George Bender – Secretary
Jodi Syrjamaki – Tournament Director
Aaron Dean
Ryan Schilling
Jean Gonzalez
Scott King**

BTBA Board Members Absent:

**John Coady
Corey Vucinovich
Brian Carter
Adam Brown
Scott Nelson**

BTBA Membership Present: None

Agenda Items:

- 7pm – Call to Order – Jim Peterson
- 7:00 – Approve Minutes from previous Board meeting
- 7:05 – President’s Summary – Jim Peterson
- 7:10 – Legal Report – Aaron Dean
- 7:15 – Treasurer’s Report – Robert Chamberlain
- 7:15 – Registration Update – Robert Chamberlain
- 7:20 – Tournament Committee Update
- 7:30 – Committee Updates – Jim Peterson
 1. Tryout Committee – Corey Vucinovich
 2. Hrbek Improvements Committee – Ryan Schilling & George Bender
 3. Fundraising – (Previously Tabled)
 4. Communications – Jean Gonzalez
- 7:45 – Positive Coaching Alliance Update – Jim Peterson & Scott Nelson
- 7:50 – Exemption Application(s) – Jim Peterson
- 7:50 – Off-season Training Update – Scott Nelson & Ryan Schilling
- 7:55 – Winter Workout Update – Jim Peterson
- 8:00 – Open Discussion & Adjournment

Next Meeting: March 11, 2017 at 7pm

Minutes:

The Board meeting was convened at 7:03pm by Jim Peterson.

The minutes from the previous Board meeting were discussed and a motion was made by Scott Baker and seconded by Ryan Schilling to approve the minutes from the Board meeting held on January 7, 2018. The minutes will be posted on the website.

President’s Update:

Jim Peterson provided a brief update of items the Executive Committee addressed since the last meeting. In addition, Jim is planning to attend the MBL Director’s meeting on February 22, 2018.

Jim mentioned regarding the exemption applications that MBL will listen to BTBA’s request for the 14AAA level but the request for the 13AAA level was denied.

Jim will host a new family meeting at Kennedy on Sunday, Feb 18. Aaron will host a new family meeting at Jefferson on Feb 18 for 10U and on Feb 21 for 11U and up.

Legal Update:

Aaron Dean noted he had met with Robert Chamberlain yesterday to discuss financial risk management policies for BTBA and prepared a draft policy document related to Financial Controls for email distribution and review by Board membership. The policy may be considered for adoption at the Board meeting in March.

Treasurer's Update:

- Registration is currently open and there are presently 43 players registered. Registration closes March 10. Players will be put on a waiting list after that date.
- Robert Chamberlain reviewed the monthly financial documents and provided an update on player registrations for the 2018 season.
- An idea was presented and discussed to consider offering a discount to the registration fee if the player is registered by a specific date. This would allow for more accurate planning and help take the uncertainty out of establishing team numbers with MBL. It would also offer a way to families to lower costs.
- Checks continue to be received for player registrations and tournament entries.
- A discussion occurred about advertising to potential baseball families in the City with a focus on trying to provide an opportunity for more players from the east side of Bloomington.
- The posting of the completed year-end financial documents has been recommended by the Executive Committee as the remainder of the information has trickled in and been gone through. The information will be added to the website.

Tournament Update:

- The organization has registered 138 teams for home tournaments. 8 tournaments are full (10A, 12AA, 13A, 13AA, 13AAA, 14AA, & 14/15A)
- The away tournament registrations have been mostly completed. 15AAA needs to pick 1 away tournament. Mike Stephen has been contacted to provide input regarding this selection.
- George Bender selected and Jodi Syrjamaki contacted away tournaments for 11A but the organization has avoided payment to hold these spots. This

is due to low registration numbers expected from the 11U age group. Discussion followed and it was decided to continue to hold off on payment until March 11 or a count of 33 players is reached.

- We have registered for 14AA tournaments and not for any 14AAA tournaments at this time.

Tryout Update:

- The committee has continued to communicate with Pitch2Pitch regarding try-outs and is planning to meet with P2P. The tryouts will occur at their Burnsville facility. P2P still believes the tryouts can be completed in 1 day and the committee concurs this is probable but decided to keep communication regarding the tryouts to 2 days.
- A discussion occurred regarding allowing coach candidates to be allowed to be present at tryouts. It was determined this practice should continue and will still be allowed.
- The tryout manual will be redlined by Scott Baker to change the set-up to match the tryouts being hosted at P2P and any other specifics that require updating.

Hrbek Facility Improvements Update:

- Ryan Schilling and George Bender worked on researching dugout concepts and re-construction of the existing dugouts. A meeting occurred to discuss the list of proposed improvements that has been developed. A meeting will be scheduled after February 20 with the City's Parks Dept personnel.

Fundraising Update:

- Current plan is to offer advertising space on the outfield fence in the form of boards or banners. Making the advertisements safe for players was discussed. A lump sum fee of ~\$1500 will be charged annually for the space. An additional ~\$200 will be charged for the production of the banner. 4-5 advertisements per field are currently planned.
- Replacement of the scoreboards in the future is a need being discussed by the Hrbek Improvements committee and it could also provide an opportunity for additional space.

Communications Update:

- Facebook is currently the priority for communications in addition to the association's website and emails sent to membership.

- A friendly reminder is planned to request coaching applications was discussed. There remains a need to add coaches at all levels.

Coach and Player Development Update:

- Positive Coaching Alliance-

Further negotiations are required with PCA to match the needs identified for the organization with the offerings and cost. The Coach and Player Development committee will continue to follow-up with PCA.

- Off-Season Training-

This is through Pitch2Pitch and there are still opportunities available for families to utilize for training. An offering for 10 sessions has been coordinated and made available. The conditioning program has been well-liked by the attendees.

Approximately 40 players are currently utilizing this program with the vast majority of the players being 12U and under.

- The committee is planning to meet with Jim Gess to coordinate his participation in coaching clinics and at P2P.

Uniforms:

- Specific discussions related to uniforms did not occur.

Field Maintenance and Crew:

- Jim Peterson is planning to meet with Austin Hamilton to continue to move forward.
- Training related to operation of the 4-wheeler for maintenance activities is an item remaining to be addressed.

Field Scheduling:

- Heather Bartfield is going to continue to be the field scheduler for 2018.

Concessions:

- John Coady is planning to continue to be the concessions manager for 2018.
- A discussion occurred to recommend creating an assistant concessions manager position and attempting to fill it. This would hopefully provide for continuity in the future and provide back-up during the season.

Open Discussion:

- An alcohol policy needs to be officially drafted to assist with enforcement in the future.

- A motion was made by George Bender to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Jodi Syrjamaki. The motion passed.