



*Board Meeting Agenda*

Guilford Community Center - February 06, 2017

Agenda

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Chris opens meeting at 7:32 pm –

Present - Albert Farrah; Alex Halas; Dani Howard; Chris Loban; Danielle Morgan; Fred Rosa; Steven Ruotolo; Jori Smith; Jennifer Stanger; Thomas Steffen; Mark White; Lisa Zajkowski; Brett Griffith; Therese Jahnige; Todd Williams; Mark Sampson; Chris Ogeneski; Brian Berry

**Opening Meeting News**

Vote on Meeting Notes: “Dove sponsorship” is not part of 1/17 minutes. That was incorrectly noted and Danielle will correct prior to archiving. Minutes approved unanimously.

Lions Club: They want to contribute. They will attend March meeting and consider offering financial support for Adams’ updating.

VP of Softball: Adam Smith has resigned – overcommitted. Jori, Jen, and Therese will continue to carry the ball (as well as Fred Ferrie). The same division leagues will be opened up as last week.

Survey Results – Janice: There were both negative and positive comments. Please review your copies. Chris believes the goals we set were echoed in the comments.

**Action News**

Financial Update – Thomas; \$74,430 is our balance. Taxes are filed and went smoothly. The accountant charged \$150 for preparation. Who is tracking the checks coming into the P. O. Box? Thomas Steffen will check the checks into the system.

Spring Training Update – Chris: We have partnered with the Clutch and sold out. At the last minute we moved the venue from Sunday to Saturday and from GHS to Batters Up. 35 people have signed up. John Adams (Batters Up) also wants to work with us going forward – we are excited to partner more in the future.

Softball Spring Training Update – Jen and Jori: Softball will also host spring training 4 Mondays at SportsPlex with some coaches from GHS – they have balanced their budget so can run this clinic at no cost to the league. Tom will stay on top of payments to the SportsPlex.

Spring Ball registration update, scheduling, Commissioners, and player recruiting – Mark W: Softball remains the same. Baseball went back to the old system (age breakdowns) with the caveats that went out with the email. We have included the option to play up and play down.

Registration fee was increased by \$10 – Chris sent an email. Formal vote is called tonight – unanimous vote to accept this increase. Mark Donovan is the AAA Commissioner. Paul Scarpa will

continue to manage 50/70. We received money from other towns to support the umpires for this league.

Chris puts out a vote for cost of 50/70 league - We can charge \$25 for this, if already paying majors price. If you are not paying majors, then you pay the full price of \$135. There are all votes positive; except Janice votes no – and so it passes.

Player Evals 3/11 – Mark S: Saturday March 11 from 8-4 (softball will be 2-4): AA; AAA; majors, and softball. Mark needs 70 volunteers to run these. He has GHS baseball team to volunteer/support in the early part of the day; he needs adults to support and be there the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the day. Coaches cannot do their group, but it would be wise to call upon all the previous coaches for participation.

Draft is set for March 13<sup>th</sup> 7-10 pm in the Quonnopaug Room. Danielle will ask for the 14<sup>th</sup> as well {note – by the time these minutes were constructed this was approved by Community Center}.

April 1<sup>st</sup>

PCA: Dani has booked us 10-12 (Gym in Community Center). Then they will hold a Safety Clinic from 12-1. Then Clutch will do Coach the Coaches from 1-3. All day will be here in the gym. {note – this space has been reserved as well by note construction}.

Safety Clinic: 12-1 (lunch – pizza – sometime in there)

Coach the Coaches: all the coaching materials came for Steve and he will take them to the coaches.

Operational Update – Fred: Opening Day – Starting on the Green at 8am – Deep River Junior Fife and Drum (maybe?); Scanlon (local representatives), singer, Horace Little (a sing along), first pitches – much like last year; parents’ home run derby; announcer for opening day (Janice’s husband); whiffle ball game GHS baseball team kids; invite past community members to come back (Simply Guilford); volunteer opportunities to be hanging out at concessions stand (Danielle); clean up - construction guys; someone to take pictures with the kids.

Fred needs last year’s team champions and to announce them. We will not be putting up an LCD sign on the green. The LCD Sign is supposedly being purchased by the town to replace banner that hangs by Ashley’s Ice Cream but not available to us at this time. There is an option of putting up A Frame on town green with permission from Selectman’s office. Lisa will reach out to nursery schools and the elementary schools.

Fred also secured some great raffle prizes. He also suggests putting a portion of tickets sold by each family to be put towards their family’s account with GLL.

Fred also an ID card – we should all have these maybe? Perhaps this was generated when he cleared his background check – something we all still need to complete (Mark W working on this).

Umpire Committee Update: Committee met 2 times as a group and Danielle/Tom met a final time last Thursday – Chris called for the dissolution of the committee at that point. Recommendations are to increase pay to plate umpires to \$50 and keep base at \$25. Change – youth will no longer official the plate unless they earn this. Tom has set the following criteria – “based on individual youth, temperament, experience, and maturity and at the discretion of the adult/UIC working with the youth”. Danielle advised we connect with Robin Watson in some way – very inspirational and great guy in her interactions with him. Committee also distributed all minutes and formal recommendations to Board (see attached). It was suggested also that we solicit the PCA to use their training modules to work with our umpire trainings.

Tom will now take over and schedule trainings and new umpires (adult and youth) into the program.

Sponsorship push a must: Letters to be sent to potential returning and new sponsors. \$24,000 was taken in last year. We typically get varying level of sponsorship and for varying periods of time. The different levels of sponsorship are all set on line. People can solicit sponsorship (maybe a few each).

Volunteer Communications, Vetting Candidates – Danielle constructed a letter to send to the membership soliciting volunteers for coaching/assistant coaching and getting umpire candidates to sign up. Feedback was provided tonight (need to change wording from “volunteer” related to umpire – they are paid; and indicate that training is provided for umpires) and she will make changes. Tom will construct an umpire registration sheet and then Lisa can make a link and get the communication out to the membership.

Calendar of Events, Website Changes, FB usage – Lisa: Make sure we are communicating appropriately and timely. Use Facebook more often. Mark will be organizing an event for March 30<sup>th</sup> at Carson’s for the membership. Carsen’s also wants to sponsor a team.

Fields and Safety Update – Dave: Sketch has been submitted to Rick Maynard. They need to pull up the fencing and it will be installed.

Field irrigation, Adams Shed

Equipment Update – Alex: Scoreboard ordering – 2 companies want our business: this is going to cost more than we thought so we will seek some sponsorship. Alex will bring what we need to order for next meeting – placing the order for March will give us plenty of time.

Volunteer Registration - All members who have any involvement with the players (not just coaches) need to fill out the online volunteer registration. For those people who have filled out the paper or online form in the past, this **must** be renewed **every** calendar year.

Scoreboard Purchase - We are seeking sponsors who might wish to cover the cost of a board since we can order them with a sponsor panel. Any interested sponsors or people who know of any potential donors should contact Janice Crabtree directly at 203-901-8243.

Next meeting Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, Open Forum for any questions or comments before we close....Kyle Munsie will be stepping down as District Manager – we will not be hosting the finals. Rick will be installed as the district manager and he and Mark D will be running the tournaments.

Meeting is adjourned at 9:25 pm.