



Branchburg Baseball Club

Minutes of the October 19, 2016 Membership Meeting

Meeting called to order at 8:04 p.m.

Roll Call

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rich Muratore, President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lew DeAngelis, Business Agent |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doug Brong, Vice President | <input type="checkbox"/> Ed Roche, Umpire-In-Chief |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ralph Rossi, Treasurer | <input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Fitzgibbon, Softball Director |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natalie Wong, Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> VACANT, Field Maintenance Director |

Membership Attendance

Steve Sokol	Pete Christopolus	Tom Ciesla
Anthony Boffa	Mark Zeni	Luis Figuredo
Dan Gromko	Scott Graber	Jerry Duffy
Chris Banos	Mike Meyers	Mark Lauber

- Upon motion duly made and seconded the membership unanimously approved the meeting minutes from the September 28, 2016 meeting.
- Upon motion duly made and seconded the membership unanimously approved the financial report dated October 17, 2016.

Officer Reports

President: Rich Muratore

- Happy to be on the board, took steps back a couple of years ago because it got too hard. What brought him back in – a few kids have come to him over the past few weeks saying what kind of impact he has had on them. Hence he is here for them – not for anyone else but for all the kids for BBC
- Focus
 - Getting park ready for the winter – if you are managing the fall team and playing at WOP, 2nd week of November we will need help taking things down. Expect an email with the specifics
 - In town registration will be available online by Thanksgiving – will strive to lower costs even more despite fact we are already pretty low – trying to encourage and motivate more participation with lower costs. Waiting for USABL teams to be complete so they can use the batting cages, but then will set the date. All signs removed already
 - Financial assessment underway and budget plan to be finalized shortly - want to make sure we invest our proceeds back to the community at large in addition to field investments

Vice President: Doug Brong

- Last try outs to be done on Sunday @9am (make up) then board meeting with managers - try to finalize within next few weeks. Big help by Chris Banos and Somerville kids, Tom Ciesla getting all of the evaluators in, did most of the work, big thanks
- Results will be posted on website by number – all managers to be confirmed within the next week and process will be outlined to communicate to their team members
- Rec season will begin Tuesday after Easter – first games
- Question posed around travel team composition - One gold team at each age group, some combined B teams for some age groups – still need to be fleshed out...otherwise will need to make cuts which is not our goal.

Treasurer: Ralph Rossi

- Financials sent to accountant for final report / audit – due in early December
- Most of the recent expenses are actually checks issued previously that were recently cashed

Secretary: Natalie Wong

- Rely on coaches and managers to provide highlights throughout rec and travel season to post on facebook, share with community at large, please send to Nataliewongnw@gmail.com

Business Agent: Lew DeAngelis

- Pending some other decisions, will have some guidance for in town and travel uniforms – big expense is in baseballs. May need to replace wind screens, else equipment wise all is good

Umpire-in-Chief: Ed Roche

- No report

Softball Director: Kevin Fitzgibbon

- No report

Field Maintenance Director: VACANT

- No report

Old Business

- No report

New Business

- **Field Improvements**
 - **Lew** – as previously communicated, we did get a donation to spruce up area by fields 1 & 2 T&R Landscaping mulched, took out some ugly bushes, put in decorative bushes – looks good

Open Forum

- **Participation in Rec / In town program**
 - **Mike Meyers** – with respect to Rec season, due to decreasing participation, how can we help spruce up donations, can we go to schools, send out pamphlets – increase communications – Richie noted we had been at a high around 600 a few years ago and now 400, hence his focus to lower costs – how do we promote more maybe free clinics to gain interest? Mike will help board to recruit and promote program, perhaps even have older kids go to elementary school to promote the baseball club.
- **Future Visions**
 - **Rich** – some new ideas and visions of what we can do to change and make things easier for everyone and to improve the program. Remind ourselves that we have 2 separate programs, rec and travel – it feels at times that travel is a big focus, but our focus is on both programs. Some key examples noted below

- **Coaches / Player Development**
 - **Scott** – is there any talk about a matrix or creating a structured plan in terms of skills, philosophy, that could trickle up / down across... see a good example with Chris Banos and The Somerville coaches being a part of the program. More formalized skill development, coaches clinic – fundamental development.
 - **Chris Banos** – want to get involved, feeder pool – look at Cranford program one of the reasons why he is here, want to help as much as possible
 - **Jerry Duffy** – intent behind the clinic was the focus on player development but kind of left it to the instructors and coaches weren't there all the time
 - **Rich** advised both player and coaches development will be key areas of focus for him and the board this coming year

Next Meeting

January 19, 2017

8:00 p.m.

Branchburg Sports Complex

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Natalie Wong, Secretary
BBC, 2016 - 2017