

Coginchaug Little League Meeting Minutes

3/8/16

Attendees: Renee Donlan, John Leonard, Andy Kleczkowski, Mike Donlan, Steve DeMartino, Rick Quirk, Nick Faiella, Stephanie Berry, Rick Mach, Scott Strang, Bruce Willet, Tom Wenchell, Keith Pascarelli, Chris Meisenkothen. Mike Mancini, Henry Bugai, Joe Fournier, Amy Moore, Megan Morello, Carolyn Racki, Howard Weisberg.

Call to Order 7:30 pm.

Last minutes had wrong date for CPR. 3/19 is correct date.

Open house went well. Scott thanked Renee for pulling it together. 16 families came though.

Looking to do New Britain Bees day-May, 15- Players can go on field. No game conflicts due to pet Fair in Durham.

T-ball: Megan Morello. Nominated by rated by Renee, seconded by Steve. Elected by unanimous vote.

Scott presented a Cooperstown bat to Tom Wenchell, awarded by Little League District 9 in recognition of Tom's service in 2014. From the District nine league.

Tom Wenchell introduced Blue Devils Diamond Club for baseball and Softball. Second year of this club. They raise funds to buy varsity letters, hold ice cream socials, etc. Some fund raisers coming up. April day@ Iliano's. Kids will help with T-ball. Senior day-baseball May 12. Softball on May 19. Diamond Club looking for financial help with capital improvements for the HS baseball field. Water is the biggest need. \$5,500. This expense was cut from the school budget. Babe Ruth kicked in \$4,200. May 2nd High school Baseball & softball games. CLL will promote.

Majors Softball:

Clinic doesn't look likely. Looking for someone to help. Will talk to Gabby Diaz. Lake Grove time available. Draft tonight. League will have 2 teams. Sponsors: looking for 3-4 more girls' team sponsors. Some more likely to come in.

Majors Baseball:

Coaches, draft, shirts, sponsors all good. 56 kids signed up for clinics. Reached break even. Scheduling needed. Majors and Durham minors field ready for use so practices can start. Need to get screens and other equipment out.

Minors baseball:

76 players in minors. 42 in AAA. Teams need to be adjusted. Coaching: plenty of volunteers, need to decide. Sponsors: need 1 or 2 more. Coaches nominated by Scott. (see Andy's list)

Minors softball.

3 small teams this year. Will set up a pool system for travel.

Farm softball

24 girls. Likely 2 teams rather than 3. Will schedule more out of town teams. Stephanie Berry win help. Many sign ups in the past week.

Farm baseball

Likely 3 teams. Looking for coaches.

50/70:

18 players. two teams. Will open to 12 year old draft. Not enough managers. Scott talking to other towns.

Juniors Baseball:

- Steve DeMartino stated interest is developing for establishing a juniors baseball program, though may be difficult to get enough interest given the many options available at this age level (Babe Ruth, American Legion, travel)
- Steve attended meeting at Coginchaug high school to discuss field usage on the school fields earlier that week. However, field usage was not discussed as expected at the meeting so Scott will discuss potential field usage needs for Juniors Baseball directly with the Coginchaug AD.

Safety:

- Mike Donlan working on updating the league's safety plan for 2016 online.
- Scott to provide him with appropriate login information

Opening Day:

- Nothing new to report. Steve will update Board at next meeting.

MLB Pitch, Hit and Run:

- Informed that CLL will need to provide at least 5 volunteers to run the program
- Target date still set at May 7.
- Need to determine the location for the event. Considering using Atwell for all those 12 and under and either Parmalee or the boys field across the street on Pickett Lane for those 12-14.
- Scott would like CLL to host if we can get enough volunteers.

Volunteer Forms:

- Scott reminded all Board members to complete a volunteer form prior to the start of the season.

2016 Annual Budget:

- Scott reviewed a proposed budget for 2016.
- Began 2016 with approximately \$9,000 in the CLL checking account and \$16,800 in the Concessions checking account.
- Registration income down due to fewer players in 2016
- Concessions conservatively estimated at \$8,000 profit for 2016, will likely exceed this amount
- Total estimated annual income of \$115,000, estimated expenses of \$118,000, projected \$3,000 operating loss
- Motion to approve by Steve, seconded by Joe, unanimously approved

Proposed Field Work:

- Based on feedback from the last board meeting, Rick Mach did some more investigative work on the composition of the infield mix to be purchased. The exact mix used by Keegan, our vendor, is 30% clay/70% sand which is adequate for our use. MLB field use a 60% clay mix.
- The Durham fields will require 4 loads of infield mix – 1 for Atwell, 2 for Parmalee, and 1 for JV

- Rick quoted the infield mix to Keegan and another vendor, with Keegan coming in at \$5,130 delivered, which was substantially lower than the other bid.
- Rick also obtained 7 different quotes for the labor to re-grade all four fields in Durham.
- Rick recommended using Catania Construction as his quote for \$2,000 was the 2nd lowest, including rolling the infield/outfield of all 4 fields at no additional charge, and he has experience grading our fields in prior years.
- Motion made by Keith to approve purchasing the infield mix from Keegan and using Catania Construction for the labor to regrade the field. Seconded by Rick, unanimously approved.

Funding for CRHS Baseball field improvements:

- Discussed Tom Wenchell's presentation to the Board earlier requesting a contribution from CLL to help fund improvements to the CRHS baseball field
- Steve stated that CLL would benefit from the improvements with a boys juniors team as that team would play on that field.
- Scott supported making a small contribution
- Keith made motion to donate \$750. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Field Prep Day

- Rick proposed setting field prep days on March 20 and March 26, 2106
- Carolyn to send out notice to league

Meeting Adjourned 9:08 pm