

Coginchaug Little League Board Meeting

November 8, 2016

Attendees: Stephanie Berry, Rick Mach, Steve DeMartino, Scott Strang, Chris Meisenkothen, Howard Weisberg, Tom Wameister, John Leonard, Mike Donlan, Brian Venables, Joe Venables

Meeting opened at 6:38 pm

Director reports

President:

Not enough attendance to vote at start of meeting, quorum reached by 7 PM.

Minutes for September and October posted.

Tilcon delivering stone dust 11/9, for warning tracks and softball batting cage. Mostly Herzog, some Atwell.

Starting to prepare 2017 budget, plan to have it ready for next meeting.

Treasurer:

Account balance is \$13,285.70. Paid for foul poles and most All-Star jackets.

Other Business

Joe Venables:

Proposed Eagle Scout project: relocate the Peckham batting cage. Recommends along the first base line. Electricity is available there. Cage is in good shape, with one or two holes that Joe will patch. Project includes some gravel.

Plan is to reuse the same poles and netting.

Joe has talked to Middlefield Parks and Rec, and received approval for the recommended location.

Not part of the project, but there is room to add a 12'x12' shed for storage of the batting machines etc.

Board discussed addition of a couple of poles, in order to add length for all baseball levels.

Timing would be August of 2017. In between seasons.

Little League Charter:

Review of the Little League participation benefits.

Little League requires that we update our Constitution every year. By-laws also need to be updated. Scott recommends all board members review these in preparation for the annual update.

We will vote on the updates in the next one or two meetings.

Budget:

Goal is to have budget ready for Jan/Feb.

Durham Fair Booth:

Walk-in needs repair. May cost less to use individual freezers rather than repair the walk-in. Rick Quirk will investigate options and make a recommendation.

Fall Ball:

Fall ball season is complete. Baseball scheduling went well, CLL ran the scheduling meeting.

Improvement suggestion: meet with all managers and coaches before the season starts.

Sometimes confusion over manager role vs assistant coaches.

Suggest mandatory coaches meeting at the season start, and have manager clearly designate a substitute if unavailable. All division levels, every season.

Spring Clinics and Tryouts:

These are the next events to schedule and complete.

Suggest to complete more evaluation opportunities in the tryouts. Possible to combine a multi-week clinic with tryouts/player evaluations.

Projects:

Proposal to buy two electronic locks. Approximately \$1,100. Tom Wameister motioned to vote. Chris Meisenkothen seconded. Unanimous vote approved.

CLL sweatshirts – Billings fundraiser. Do we want to do this again? Noted that the ordering process is difficult. Stephanie will investigate option and costs to make this easier for the purchaser.

SI Play – possible alternative to League Athletics. Much better mobile site than League Athletics. Any possible change should be shelved until we have a website coordinator. Note: both owned by same company, all new development going into SI Play.

Field Closing scheduled for Saturday 11/12 at 9:00. We will need new wind screens in some areas.

General feedback: our fields are crappy in comparison to other towns. Should we consider completely redoing Herzog and Atwell? Irrigation is needed to maintain good fields. League will investigate the costs for irrigation. No sense to spend big money on the outfield until the irrigation is available.

Dugouts need to be cleaned and painted. Improve the benches. No place to hang bags, etc. First base dugout at Atwell gets runoff every time it rains.

AED went missing from Peckham Park. Have we formally filed a report with the Middlefield Resident State Trooper? We should consider replacing this. Cost is about \$1,000.

Steve DeMartino moved to adjourn meeting, John Leonard seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:31.