

INDIAN VALLEY LITTLE LEAGUE

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 24, 2014, 6:30PM, INDIAN VALLEY LITTLE LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, held at the Kerhonkson Fire House, Kerhonkson, NY.

PRESENT:

John Ellsworth, President/ Safety Officer/ Umpire in Chief
Christopher De Pew, Vice President
Becky Stange, Secretary/ TB&CP Team Coordinator
Matthew Paley, Treasurer
Thomas Stange, Field and Grounds/ TB&CP Team Coordinator
Heather De Pew, Fundraising
Laura McCarthy, Fundraising
Cathy Bowman, Equipment Manager

ABSENT:

Christopher King, Information Officer
Gregg Kenney, Player Agent
Lorissa Beatty, Fundraising

MINUTES:

Mrs. Stange motioned to accept the minutes prepared by Mrs. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Paley. No discussion. All members present in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Paley noted that there was a running mistake on previous reports that he hadn't noticed, but has since corrected. The League's checking account is at \$9,460.36. We brought in about \$5,000 for registration so far and there have been a few bills that have gone out.

Mr. Ellsworth requested that the savings account totals be added at the bottom of the report-- just the totals were fine.

Mrs. McCarthy motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report prepared by Mr. Paley. Seconded by Mrs. Stange. No discussion. All members present in favor.

PICTURES:

Mrs. McCarthy noted that her friend from Bellissimo Photography wasn't coming to present.

Mr. Ellsworth noted that Joe from Park Studios was currently out of the country, but he has been texting with him everyday. His partner was supposed to be at this meeting to present, but he couldn't make it. They could reschedule for March 3rd to present.

Mrs. Stange didn't feel that a special meeting for one photographer presentation was necessary. She suggested that Park Studios submit their proposal to the Board via email. This is the same studio that the Board has used for the past few years, so their work was familiar to everyone.

Mr. Ellsworth noted that next year the Board needed to start searching for photographers at the November or December Meetings. He reminded the Board that Teresa Carlucci was also still an option. She had indicated that she would do it in one or two weeks and come to the teams' games and do them that way. The Board would hold off on deciding about pictures until they received the Park Studios proposal and communicate via email when they are received. He also noted that Joe from Park Studios would be the one taking the pictures.

FUNDRAISING:

HOFFMAN CAR WASH:

Mrs. De Pew noted that she received info from Hoffman Car Wash. Her contact at Hoffman would give the league 150 order forms. Mrs. De Pew noted that if the league had 150 kids this year and each kid sold 5 car washes, that would be \$3500 profit for the league. She hadn't reached out to the Car Wash in Kerhonkson to see if they could do something similar, but she wasn't optimistic that they would. Hoffman is a large company and this is something that they often do.

Mrs. McCarthy noted that we could also keep an order form in the concession stand and sell car wash tickets that way as well.

Mrs. McCarthy motioned to hold the Hoffman Car Wash fundraiser. Seconded by Mrs. Stange. No discussion. All Members Present in favor.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE:

Mrs. McCarthy noted that the last she has heard from Mrs. Beatty regarding the Texas Road House fundraiser was that they hadn't gotten the packets together yet.

Mr. Ellsworth noted that fundraisers for the 2014 Season so far are as follows:

- *Apparel
- *tag day
- *50/50's
- *Hoffman Car Wash
- *Texas Roadhouse

*Outpost BBQ

*Discount Cards-- Opening Day in the concession stand and have 200 cards up for sale for a week.

Mr. Ellsworth noted that there was also a guy that was interested in selling kettle corn that would sell it for a certain price and give some of the profits to the league. He also looked into having a movie at the field, but it would cost at least \$300 to purchase the rights to be able to show it.

Mr. De Pew noted that he hasn't gotten exact prices yet, but he has interacted with the owner and an estimate would be to sell dinners for \$10 and the league would get \$4 or \$5 per dinner.

REGISTRATION:

Mr. Ellsworth noted that Mr. Kenney has sent the Board all of the numbers except for the returning Major's players. The numbers keep changing and we really aren't going to know for sure until the morning of tryouts. He noted that as long as 9/10 year olds who are playing on Major/Minors are facing kids who pitch, they are eligible for the 9/10 year old All Stars.

A member of the public questioned if there would be a new Major team added this year?

Mr. Ellsworth answered, no. The numbers don't support it.

Mrs. Bowman noted that a lot of tee ballers aren't coming back and she thinks that we as a Board should do more with the tee ballers to encourage them to come back. She wondered if maybe there could be another section in between Coach Pitch and Tee Ball to make it more appealing to kids that start when they are 4 and have to do two years of Tee Ball? She felt that something had to be done. Mr. Paley was a great tee ball coach. The league really needed coaches who could encourage the kids in a way that they'd like to continue to play.

Mr. Stange noted that it's tough enough to find a parent that would be willing to coach, especially for Tee Ball and Coach Pitch.

Mrs. Bowman suggested finding one strong coach and combine the Tee Ball teams and work on more skills and guide the kids.

Mr. Ellsworth noted that the Board could set up coaching clinics.

Mrs. Bowman noted that more people might be willing to coach if they had some guidance from the Board.

Mr. Stange noted that if anyone knew of a coach that wanted to help out, they should approach the Board if they need help with practices.

Mr. Paley noted once the season gets started and we find coaches for the teams that need them, the Board will be able to identify the gaps then.

5 YEAR OLDS PLAYING UP:

Mr. Paley raised the question about 5 year olds playing up from Tee Ball to Coach Pitch.

Mr. Ellsworth noted that the Little League Manual says that 4 and 5 year olds are to play Tee Ball only. He questioned if the Board was willing to take a chance with a waiver? He didn't know if the whole Board was aware, so he explained the situation. Mr. Paley is requesting that his 5 year old play up to Coach Pitch. The Board would need to authorize this, and then request a waiver from Little League.

Mr. Stange questioned if he does move up, would he still be covered under insurance?

Mr. Ellsworth answered, yes.

Mr. De Pew questioned how this was different from 8 year olds playing up to the Majors?

Mrs. Bowman noted that if the Board sent a letter with the request giving their reasons for moving the child up and that they assessed the child and maybe an example would be that he is a danger to others his age that he is playing with. This would give a foundation for doing this on a case by case basis.

Mr. De Pew questioned what would stop 8 year olds from doing this? If we open it up to 5 year olds, we have to open it up to everyone. We've never done this with kids this young in the past. We've moved 7 year olds up to Major/Minor, and 9 year olds up to Majors from Major/Minors, but all of these age groups were eligible to play in the sections they moved up to. He suggested that if we allow this, that we contact all of the parents of 5 year olds in tee ball to see if they want their kids evaluated.

The Board discussed this some more and decided that in keeping with what Mrs. Bowman was saying earlier, that 1/2 of the Tee Ball season will be hitting off of the tee and the second 1/2 can be coach pitch. Give the kids 6 live pitches and if they don't hit the ball, bring the tee out.

Mrs. Bowman noted that having 5 & 6 year olds playing together was fine, but having Tee Ball from 4-6 year olds was a big gap in age.

Mr. De Pew made a motion for evaluating 5 year olds who have played one year of Tee Ball to be eligible to move up to Coach Pitch. Seconded by Mr. Paley. All members present in favor.

Mr. Kenney, Player Agent, would make the phone calls to those parents.

TRY OUTS/ EVALUATIONS:

March 22, 2014- Majors: 9 -12 Year olds- Middle School Gym, 9am

March 29, 2014 - 5-8 Year Olds- Middle School Gym, 9 am

Phone calls would need to be made to let parents know of the times.

Mr. Stange suggested doing 5 year old evaluations first to get them in and out.

OPENING DAY:

Mr. De Pew noted that the Board really needed to layout opening day. He suggested inviting vendors and selling spots to them to set up. We would also have the BBQ guy on this day-- make it into a community event. The league could charge \$15 or so per spot. Mr. De Pew will figure out how many spots are available and make phone calls and set it up.

The Board agreed that they should get some hats and visors to sell at Opening Day as well.

FIELDS:

Mr. Stange noted that he brought copies of the letter for mowing bids for everyone to read and okay before he sends them out. He had a list of people from Mr. Decker on who to send it to.

Mrs. McCarthy motioned to send the letter out. Seconded by Mrs. De Pew. No discussion. All members present in favor.

TOWN HALL FIELD:

The Board agreed that the Town of Rochester field was in no condition to play at this season. It was dangerous.

Mr. De Pew noted that someone should contact the Town of Wawarsing to see if our league could get the Lipman Park field a couple of night's a week for practices.

Mr. Ellsworth would contact Little League to find out about practicing out of our district.

Mr. De Pew questioned how many kids did we have signed up so far?

Mr. Ellsworth didn't have that number. Mr. Kenney had the folders and the Major teams were in folders but hadn't been counted yet. There would only be 4 Major teams.

UNIFORMS:

Mr. De Pew has been in contact with Anaconda Kaye and he's gotten quotes for uniforms:

Youth Pants (Small-XLarge): \$5.45 a pair

Adult Pants (Small-XLarge): \$8.95

Shirts with name & sponsor on sleeve: \$12.88

Shirts with sponsor on back & no name: \$10.00

Major League Replica Jersey with name & sponsor on sleeve: \$16.00

Hats: \$6.25

Mr. De Pew asked if Mr. Paley could get him a number on how much between all of the All Star Teams did the league spend on uniforms last year. He knows a lot of the other leagues have top of the line uniforms.

Mr. Paley noted that in what information he had in front of him the League must have spent at least \$1,000 on All Star Uniforms.

Mr. De Pew asked Anaconda for a quote on 3 nice sets of All Star uniforms to hand out and get back each season-- full button down Jerseys, nice pants, socks, & belts. The quote was for about \$2,000. These uniforms will last the League 5-7 years.

Mrs. Bowman thought this was a good idea.

He noted that it probably costs \$27.00 per kid for a regular season uniform. That's about \$320 per team. If we could raise the sponsorship from \$100 to \$150 per team, that would cover half of the uniform costs. The Board should consider increasing this fee for next year.

Mr. De Pew noted that it would also be cheaper if the League did away with putting kid's names on the back of the shirts. It's always a headache and that's what takes so much time. Yes, it's cool, but most of the other leagues just put the sponsor name on the back of the shirt. If we did that we could get the uniforms together much quicker.

As it was, we would need the team information to Anaconda no later than April 4th to have uniforms for opening day on April 26th.

The Board agreed that after the March 29th evaluation a group of Board Members should meet to get the teams together so we can get the information to Anaconda in a timely manner.

Mrs. De Pew motioned to raise the team sponsorship fee to \$150 if the requests haven't been sent out yet. Seconded by Mrs. McCarthy. All members present in favor.

Mrs. McCarthy would speak with Mrs. Beatty to see if she has sent those out yet.

SAFETY MANUAL:


Mr. Ellsworth noted that he needed to get motivated and get that together. He may ask Mrs. Stange for help typing it out.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. De Pew motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mrs. De Pew. No discussion. All members present in favor.

As there was no further business, at 8:38PM Mr. Ellsworth adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Stange, Secretary