

**West Madison Little League**

Annual Meeting Minutes

Saturday, October 11, 2008

Madison Ice Arena

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Heneghan at 9:05 AM.

**Introductions:** Board Members in attendance introduced themselves.

**Operations Report:** Heneghan presented the President's Report and commented on the operation of the organization during the past year. Topics included participation levels, player scholarships, fall ball participation increases, very positive coach evaluations, top-notch field conditions, increases in concession sales, facility improvements, registration, and fund raising efforts. He concluded his report by thanking retiring board member Todd Boehm for his years of dedicated service.

**Financial Report:** Battista reviewed the annual financial report as of September 30, 2008, as compiled by Tomczak and Zwaska.. Total Income rose to \$417,839, an increase of over \$44,000, primarily related to higher concession sales and regular season and fall ball registrations. Total Expenses also rose to \$403,168. This increase of \$38,000 was mainly due to some payments for fall capital improvement projects being moved back into the 2007-08 fiscal year. Net Income came in at \$14,670 for the year. Battista also reported that another \$5000 will be transferred into the "rainy day fund CD," which now stands at \$29,446. Heneghan noted the Board may decide to move more dollars into this fund.

**Open Forum:** Members present were encouraged to bring up suggestions for the board's consideration. Suggestions included a review of the player roster assignment process for Fall Ball; review of Fall Ball coaching by non-WMLL coaches (it seems WMLL coaches are adhering to the Fall Ball philosophies, but many non-WMLL coaches are here "to win."). Suggestions ranged from using only WMLL coaches for Fall Ball, reducing maximum innings pitched to one, establishing two divisions (one competitive and one developmental) in some leagues, mandating more pitchers and player movement in the field and no stealing when team has a 10 run lead. There was also a good response to the addition of the "Open" tournament team concept for the regular season and a suggestion that there be consideration of increasing the number of players in the field for the Pacific league from 9 to 10, based on the success of this change in the Atlantic Lg;

**Elections:** Prior to the meeting, six members had expressed a desire to run for board positions (Frank Lench, Andy Chitwood, Tom Heneghan, John Lubarsky, Randy Norton and Mark Wood). Five positions were for three year terms and one position was for one year to complete the remainder of Todd Boehm's term. Candidate Lubarsky had expressed interest in being considered for the one year position so he could assist in the transition to a new coordinator for the Atlantic Lg.. As there were no other nominations from the floor, a motion was made by Heneghan, seconded by Zwaska and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for all six candidates and for Lubarsky to serve the one year term.

**Other Business:** Battista reported on the approval by the Board to investigate starting a Challenger Division for Handicapped children and the establishment of an ad hoc committee to review the tournament team selection process. Both initiatives are underway. Randy Tauber suggested more emphasis be placed on commitment from players and parents to the tournament teams beginning in 2009 (some players indicated an early commitment, then were not available for all tournaments). Joel Minkoff thanked the Board for providing an excellent program and a great run of 20 years coaching at WMLL.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:45 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Battista

Recording Secretary