

West Madison Little League
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Sunday, April 13, 2008

Members Present: Lenoach, Zwaska, Metcalf, Heneghan, Lubarsky, Newburg, McNamara, Chitwood, Miller, Smith, Hunter, Steeves and Battista. **Members Absent:** Tomczak, Boehm

Guests Present: Darin Crapp and Chris Steeves

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Heneghan at 6:05 PM with a quorum present. March 9 Board Meeting minutes were approved as previously distributed.

Financial Reports: Battista reported for Tomczak and reviewed cash balances and indicated all bills are paid. The bulk of our funds are invested in various interest bearing accounts. Zwaska distributed the 3/31/08 budget tracking report. All reports indicated WMLL is in good financial order. Question was raised about total income to date and McNamara indicated he has more checks in hand and ready for deposit which will bring totals in line with expectations.

Administrative Reports: President -- Heneghan commented that more assistance is needed for the golf outing as Mary Beth Drabik is unavailable for the fund raising activities. He asked all board members to pitch in and look for hole sponsors for this event.

VP Baseball – no report

VP-Softball – no report

Exec. Director -- Battista commented on the following items: 1) a second portable sound system was purchased for use on opening day on the minor field; 2) opening day plans; 3) new sign showing high school logos that WMLL is a feeder system to; 4) update on dugout painting project and new WMLL logo signs that are being made similar to dugout signs at Verona LL; 5) summary of Bowlathon – event was successful overall but revenue was down with lane sponsors harder to come by. Net margin on the event will be approximately \$6,000 vs \$10,000 last year; 6) boundary map clarification is being worked on for Indy Little Lg regional office; 7) schedules are being input into the website database; 8) more help is needed for the golf outing, both planning and fund raising.

Operations Reports: Sponsorships – Steeves reviewed an updated list of sponsors and noted ones who haven't paid yet as well as new team sponsors. He is asking that League Coordinators help him to contact any of the remaining unpaid sponsors with whom they are familiar. This has been done by several LC's and has been very fruitful. Overall, results are good with over \$35,000 received to date from team and sign sponsors plus a number of other general donations. Approximately \$8,000 more is due.

Concessions – Smith and Crapp reviewed several major items, including 1) new double access warmer to make serving easier and faster for volunteer workers; 2) new freezer ordered in fall has now been delivered; 3) pricing issues for the coming season as costs from vendors are increasing for almost everything.

Groundkeeping -- Zwaska reported on several items, including 1) new irrigation has been added to major field; 2) rain has slowed things down in general with quite a bit of work remaining of minor field and some on senior field; 3) new power switch has been added to minor field scoreboard in hopes of avoiding the burnout problems in the past on minor field pitching machine outlet; 4) new nets will be installed on senior field on 4/14/08.

Continuing Business: Umpire Coordination Update – Miller reported we will be having an umpire website with schedules. Coaches will be sent a list of umps and be given access to the schedule. They are encouraged to call umps a day or so ahead of games. Miller will purchase enough umpire shirts to cover fall ball. First umpire training session went well today and second will be next Sunday.

Tournament Team Planning – Miller distributed a list of potential tournaments in which our WMLL teams may be registered. It was decided that if suitable tournaments were not available for the 10 and 11 year old “Open” teams, it would be acceptable to enter these 10 and 11 year old Open teams in the District tournaments. It was generally agreed that we will most likely not have enough players to form an Open team in the 14 year old age group. As for the Junior District teams, it was agreed that the 75 % rule (for % of team that must be 14 year olds) would be interpreted as 9 fourteen year olds (11 player roster X 75 % = 8.25, which will be rounded up to 9).

50th Season Celebration -- Miller reported the basic plan as reviewed at the last meeting is still moving forward. He suggested some direct mail inquiries to those we have already identified as having been involved in the early years of WMLL. He also suggested advertising the event and calling for information by purchasing ad space in the Sunday “Celebration” section of the State Journal. There was general consensus to move forward on these items. Battista and Heneghan will be meeting with Rosie Daniels regarding her assistance with the picnic portion of the celebration. Plans are already in process for printing commemorative t-shirts.

New Business: Lg. Coordinator Reports on Coaches Meetings and Drafts for each league – each LC reported on the status of their league. Senior Lg and Major Lg in baseball still have openings and could add up to one more player per team. All other baseball leagues are full. Softball leagues are full except the Junior League which has a few openings remaining. Battista reviewed what happened this year with the 11 year old group of players in terms of a large number of the more skilled players requesting not to be drafted up to the Major Lg. Further discussion will take place over the winter and a decision will be made for the 2009 season.

Data Entry for Future Registration – McNamara briefly reviewed the time commitment required of the registrar and suggested that alternatives be considered. Following discussion, Heneghan moved, Lubarsky seconded, to pursue the hiring of a data entry operator to handle future registrations, beginning with 2008 Fall Ball. Unanimously approved.

Future Agenda Item – Heneghan suggested the board establish a policy regarding parents grilling food on the WMLL grounds other than on the WMLL outdoor grill. General agreement that using a portable grill was not a good idea from a safety perspective. This item will be on the June 1 agenda.

Next Meeting: Sunday, June 1, 2008, 6:00 PM, at Vitense.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 PM