

West Madison Little League
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Sunday, August 10, 2008

Members Present: Zwaska, Tomczak, Heneghan, Lubarsky, Newburg, Chitwood, Miller, Steeves and Battista.

Members Absent:, Lench, Boehm, Metcalf, McNamara, Smith, Hunter

Guests Present: None

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Heneghan at 6:10 PM. June Board Meeting minutes were approved as previously distributed.

Financial Reports: Tomczak reviewed cash balances and indicated all bills are paid. Zwaska distributed the 7/31/08 budget tracking report. All reports indicated WMLL is in good financial order and projected income will approach \$400,000 due to the increases in regular season registration, fall ball registration and concessions income. He reminded everyone of the Budget Meeting on Sept 4 at QP.

Administrative Reports: President -- Heneghan commented on success of Senior tournament team reaching regionals, coaching issues being reviewed and board slots that may need to be filled at the annual meeting.

VP-Baseball – Miller gave an overall review of the tournament team process. He will do a survey of the coaches for feedback on smaller roster sizes and formation of “open” teams.

VP-Softball – Heneghan reported on softball for Metcalf and indicated a great season with increased participation at younger levels. Older levels continue to be the challenge as girls seem to be moving into different activities once they pass the Jr softball level. Tournament teams had more success this year than in past indicating general improvement. The idea of moving fewer players “up a league” for regular season has seemed to work well.

Exec. Director -- Battista commented on the following items: 1) a request that he be permitted to investigate the formation of a Challenger Division for handicapped players. Request approved with Lubarsky indicating a possible willingness to coordinate this league, if formed; 2) a request to form a review committee of board members, coaches and parents to evaluate the entire tournament team selection process at WMLL and come back to the board with recommendations. Request approved.

Operations Reports: Sponsorships – Steeves reviewed the current status and will be following up on non-payers. He also plans to begin sending out renewal letters for 2009 in October.

Concessions – no report, although Zwaska commented on how well the stand has done and should set a new sales record, even without tournaments being hosted at WMLL this year.

Groundskeeping -- Zwaska reported on several items, including 1) current re-sodding project (2500 sq ft), 2) Major Field backstop replacement – all but netting on top is complete 3) other capital improvement projects including tree trimming, playground area containment, dugout warning tracks on Minor and Major Fields, Minor Field mound rebuild with artificial turf, drainage/runoff issues behind left field corner of minor field and aeration/overseeding of all fields.

New Business: Lg Coordinator reports on regular season – all leagues seemed to run fairly smooth with some issues reported in the Badger Lg due to shortage of coaches from the start and other matters. In addition, Pacific Lg had some coaching issues with one team, which Mark and Tom have been addressing. Battista distributed coach evaluations from parents for all leagues and asked Lg Coordinators to summarize and review with coaches. He stressed the importance of maintaining parent confidentiality.

Fall Ball Update – Battista briefly reviewed the fall ball registration situation. 550 players are registered and several leagues are closed out. The fall ball committee decided to add two teams to the minor league and 2 to the major league to

handle the demand (52 additional players could then be accommodated). Miller reported that he is working on rules for fall ball as well as umpire coordination. It appears Zef R and Mary C will be handling the duties with each receiving a stipend of \$500 for their efforts. This should dramatically improve the umpire attendance over 2007.

Weather Related Issues – this item was tabled until a future meeting but involves the decision making process for bad weather days and evenings when no board members are present.

No-Shows at Concession Stand – this problem has seemed to increase over the past few years where parents are not showing up for their team's home game concession duty. The board briefly discussed and tabled to a future meeting.

Parking Violations in Main Parking Lot – this is another issue that the board is faced with each year where parents or coaches without equipment are parking in the main parking lot. Quite often, there are no spaces left for coaches with equipment or cars are blocking the emergency vehicle lanes. Brief discussion and decision to table until the fall.

Annual Gatherings – the annual board vs staff softball picnic was set for Aug 31 at 6:00 PM. The annual board/spouse dinner was discussed and Battista was asked to poll the entire board about dates and place.

Annual Meeting and review of board positions – it was decided the annual meeting will be held on October 11 at Madison Ice Arena, if available. Heneghan reviewed the board positions that are up for election, who may be retiring from the board and candidates that have expressed possible interest in running.

Softball Field Renovations – brief discussion on recommendations from Hunter. Tabled until a future meeting when more board members with softball responsibilities are in attendance.

Next Meeting: Sunday, Sept 14, 2008, 6:00 PM, at Vitense.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 PM