

West Plains Little League Board Meeting

10/18/2017

Meeting called to order at 6:35p

Members in Attendance:

-Jeff Heuschkel, Rob Beamer, Stacy Ashcroft, Adam Smith, Jake Beaty, Justin Knighten, Tannya Hurley, Ray Schmitt, James Gall, Steve Griffey, Rachel Griffey, Terri Haas

Treasurer report:

-Rob gave a Treasury Report Update. All expenses are current and paid.

Welcome New Board Members & Guests:

-Jake Beaty wants added to board. The board discusses this and votes to add Jake. All for it. Motion passes unanimously.

The board welcomes special guest James Eckhardt who was there to talk about sponsorship

Field Improvement Update/Sponsorship :- Stacy and RJ

-RJ Presented an updated sponsorship structure and we discussed it as a board. We talked about conducting a survey of our current sponsors before implementing a new structure. We also talked about different ways to pursue the field improvement at Salnave. We discussed the financial implications of raising a lot of money and funneling it through WPLL. We talked about community relations related to improving a field in one town over another. We talked about possibly having the field improvement committee work through the city, opposed to through the league. We all took copies of the sponsorship form and are to review it and be prepared to discuss it further at the next meeting.

Coach Training/Clinics:

-Schedule clinics/meetings well in advance
Be sure to cover Coaching Etiquette and expectations
Utilize Big Al's in an effective manner.
Clarify League rules for each division of play
Put thought into the best time to host the coach's meeting
Maybe have two different meeting times.
Maybe have different meetings for each division.

-SOFTBALL Coach's Training – How can we develop something useful for softball coaches? Board discusses implementing a coach training to help newer coaches.

Rule Changes:

Run Limit at Majors- Once a team is up by 10, limit runs scored to 4 runs.
Clarify slap bunt situation
Review substitution rules for AAA.
Consider continuous batting order
Softball – Limit last inning to 4 runs

Equipment:

Look into ordering new banners. Cost? Where to order from? Need to research bats and have a plan for bat replacement

-Need to decide if Heather will do all equipment or if we need a dedicated Softball equipment person.

Opening Ceremonies/Pictures:

Consider if doing pictures/Opening Ceremonies is an option
Invite Sponsors to Opening Ceremonies
Give banners to teams at opening ceremonies to carry with team.
Option of having two picture locations – Cheney and Medical Lake

Field Reservations:

Stacy would like a master sheet of who is contacted for which fields and who on the board contacts those people.

Need an organized plan for contacting people for field reservations
Discussed how to better coordinate practices between teams

Registration (City of Cheney Guide)

Do we want to put together an ad for the city of cheny parks and rec guide? Airway heights? Medical Lake?

Umpire Recruitment and Training:

Need to set umpire training dates early and spread the word
EWU ROTC could be a great recruiting source for umpires
Softball umpires need a rules sheet that clearly outlines the rules of play in WPLL to alleviate any confusion or arguing.
The idea of developing of a sportsmanship program, with pins handed out by umpires was mentioned.

Inter-leaguing:

We didn't discuss interleaguing for baseball. We did ask Rob to discuss softball interleaguing at his next district meeting. We want to be sure we have clear communication this year.

Website Additions and Changes

Need to add a "List of Sponsors" section on website
Invite Darin Teichmer to a board meeting. He is new web guy and may have changes he is interested in implementing

Big Al's Coaching Approval

Adam plans to implement the use of Big Al this year in more deliberate ways. We voted on paying for the Big Al training program. Motion passes unanimously. Stacy mentioned that if we order soon, the cost will only be \$540.

SOFTBALL Discussion:

Stacy read through a list of concerns that she had received via email. They were:

1. Equal focus on softball/baseball
2. Field reservations and availability
3. Majors tryouts/oversight
4. Parent insight – we need to have a community meeting to talk about the softball program with parents and players so that we can develop a good program

5. We need chinks/rakes available for softball games
6. Softball involvement at Opening Ceremonies. There was miscommunication by the coaches last year, which resulted in confusion for the softball side of things.
7. Having high school kids put on a clinic for softball

Mike Paulson Volunteer of the Year Award :

(Due Date, Nomination Form/Format, Voting Process)

Rob would like to move the deadline for this into March to allow more time to get things ready for Opening Ceremonies

Next Meeting Topics

Present draft plans for areas of responsibility

Equipment Plan

Coach's training

Opening Ceremonies

Field Use Reservation Plans

2018 Calendar

Startup supplies

2018 Charter

Next Meeting 11/15/2017 @ 6:30p @Wren Pierson Center

Meeting Called to close at about 8pm