

West Madison Little League
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Sunday, March 7, 2010

Members Present: Jordan, Lenocho, McNamara, Zwaska, Norton, Steeves, Heneghan, Miller, Newburg, Tomczak, Battista, Metcalf, Chitwood, Smith, Hunter

Members Absent, Wood

Guests Present: Nate LaDien

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Heneghan at 6:35 PM

Minutes of Previous Meetings: motion, second and carried to approve minutes of the previous meeting as distributed.

Registration Update: Lengthy review and discussion regarding registration totals for each age group and possible team alignments for 2010 season. Motion by Hunter, second by Heneghan to proceed with the following for baseball: 16 teams in the Atlantic Lg (224 players), 10 teams in Pacific (130 players), 10 teams in Central (130 players), 10 teams in Major (130 players), 10 teams in Badger (133 players currently registered) and 6 teams in Senior (78 players), with proviso that if there are any significant changes in registration numbers, the Lg Coordinator would make a final determination on number of teams in consultation with the President and VP-Baseball. Motion carried. Similar discussion followed for Girls' Softball, in which registration is still open. Consensus that Lg Coordinators, President and VP-Softball will consult on final team numbers. Discussion followed regarding two players who live within the East Madison LL boundaries and have requested to play at WMLL. It was noted that Battista has spoken to the EMLL President and EMLL is willing to allow the players to move. Discussion on what kind of precedent this may set and implications for future seasons. Motion by Steeves, second by Miller, to allow the EMLL players to play this season at WMLL, with the understanding that WMLL will develop a policy to address this issue going forward. Motion carried. Also discussed a special request from a 12 year old with developmental issues to remain in the Central League. Motion by Miller, second by Metcalf, to approve this request.

Coaching Proposals: discussion followed for each league on remaining coaching proposals with all being accepted. For remaining positions, it was agreed the Lg Coordinators would email the board with final selections to expedite matters.

Skills Session Review: the board discussed details of the skills session. Goal is to begin set up by 2:30 and be prepared for first group to begin checking in by 3:10 PM. It was also agreed to do a more thorough job of policing the staging area and to ask players not to throw baseballs around at all in this area.

Tournament Team Selection Process Revisions: Miller reviewed proposed changes to the selection process. In summary, the basic changes are: (1) to eliminate the league-wide voting by 11 year olds and have them vote only for players on their team with whom they are more familiar; (2) permit the Lg Coordinator, in consultation with the President, to declare an open tryout if deemed appropriate (voting would still take place by players and coaches to provide input to the tournament team coaches). Motion by Miller, second by Smith and carried to adopt the proposed changes.

Financial Reports: Tomczak noted the various cash balances in various accounts. Zwaska reported he will send out the latest budget tracking report as soon as he receives the final income breakout for February. He reported that Norton is having some issues with the online registration system in gathering and sorting the data as desired.

Construction Update: work continues on the interior of the building and meetings are set for this coming week with landscapers, etc to finalize plans for spring work to complete the exterior projects around the building. The building will be re-keyed this week also.

Brick Fund Raising Campaign: Heneghan reported we have orders for 40 bricks, totalling \$7300 to date. The initial order for bricks will be placed at the end of this coming week.

Sponsorship Update: Jordan distributed several handouts reviewing further sponsor donations since the last meeting (\$6600 paid and \$6300 additional pledged). In terms of the 2010 Bowlathon, the event netted \$3565 this year, which was a \$750 increase over 2009. The board thanked Jordan, Norton and Andrea Chaffee for a job well done.

Exec Director Report: Battista noted that several of the high school legion schedules have been received to date. An effort is again being made by the coaches to avoid as many scheduling conflicts as possible with the WMLL senior lg. He also asked the Board if it wanted to consider implementing any pitching rule changes in light of the 10 year olds to be drafted up to the Central League. Following discussion, consensus to use the same wording as in the Major Lg rules (for 11 year olds being drafted into that league).

Tax and Unemployment Issues: Steeves asked for an update on the status of items pertaining to the IRS. Tomczak and Heneghan noted that it was being handled by our accountant and that the issue should be resolved to our satisfaction soon. Heneghan reported on an unemployment claim by a former groundskeeping employee and suggested WMLL look into standard UIC insurance in lieu of the current CD set aside for that purpose. Heneghan, Hunter and Tomczak will research the issue and report back.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM

Next Meeting: Sunday, April 18, 6:30 PM, Vitense