



# ST. JOHN'S MINOR 'A' BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

## 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### MINUTES

**Date-Time:** November 09, 2016 7:00 pm

**Location:** Elks Club – Carpasian Road

**In attendance:** Delegate Attendance Sheet attached

**Recording Secretaries:** Ken Curtis – President  
Mike Buist – Executive Director

#### **1. Welcome – Approval of Agenda for 2016 AGM & Review Minutes of 2015 Annual General Meeting – November 12, 2015**

Mike B. (Chair of the Meeting) called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. He stated that two of our directors had contacted him to say that they would be a little late – Kevin Heffernan and Mark Jones.

Mike B. then thanked everyone for coming out on such a miserable night and asked that all delegates introduce themselves.

He then asked the delegates to review the Agenda for the 2016 AGM in their package. He then asked for a motion to approve the Agenda.

**Motion #1: That the Agenda for the 2016 Annual General Meeting be approved as tabled.**

**Moved by:** Gary McDonald  
**Seconded by:** Terry Lynn Harvey  
**Approved:** Unanimously

Mike then asked the delegates to spend a few minutes reviewing the minutes of the 2015 AGM. He then asked for a motion to approve those minutes.

**Motion #2: That the Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting be approved.**

**Moved by:** Nikki Musseau  
**Seconded by:** Brad George  
**Approved:** Unanimously

#### **2. Business Arising**

Mike B. then asked the delegates if there was any business arising from the minutes. There was none.

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P. O. Box 2545, Station C, St. John's NF A1C 6K1

Telephone: (709) 576-8464 Email: [baseball@nf.aibn.com](mailto:baseball@nf.aibn.com) Website: [www.baseballstjohns.ca](http://www.baseballstjohns.ca)

### 3. Presentation of 2016 Reports

Mike B. then proceeded with the presentation of reports detailed in the AGM Handout.

- **President's Report –Ken Curtis** – Ken stated that in his report he tried to note some of the achievements of the Board in 2016 and a few of the objectives for 2017. He felt that our four major initiatives in 2016 were:

-Partnering with City to finally spend our \$15,000 capital grant; we will get dugouts and new fencing at Kelly's Brook and dugouts at Kilbride Lions.

-Holding the first John Wickham Memorial Bantam House Championship Tournament

-Expanding AAA regional leagues to include Mosquito and Peewee.

-Baseball NL awarded the Les Noseworthy Award to Kristyn Coley and the Minor Umpire of the Year to Andrew Janes. He congratulated both.

Some of our primary objectives for the upcoming year include:

-Meet with the City to try to add to the facilities we now have. We have reached our capacity in the lower age brackets.

-Approve and publish written policies re: Fair Play and Game Management

-Produce a Staff Manual and hold additional umpire training sessions.

-Continue our attempt to secure stronger representation on the Baseball NL Board.

Mike B. then asked for a motion to approve Ken's report as tabled.

**Motion #3: That the President's report be approved as tabled.**

**Moved by:** Todd Janes  
**Seconded by:** Brad George  
**Approved:** Unanimously

- **Executive Director – Mike Buist** – highlighted his written report. From an operation standpoint, he felt that 2016 was an excellent year. He thanked Kristyn C. and Triffie Parsons for their contribution and assistance.

Mike also highlighted the significant increase in registration for the Little League Classic when we moved it indoors to the Techniplex. The Geoff Walsh and Classic are excellent tournaments that result in new registrations in the 6-10 age group. However, we do need ensure the timing of those tournaments is strategic.

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Mike also pointed out that we will meet early in the year with our regional colleagues to try to improve our regional leagues (especially Midget) and tournaments.

**Motion #4: That the Executive Director's report be approved as tabled.**

**Moved by:** Kevin Heffernan  
**Seconded by:** Daisy McDonald  
**Approved:** Unanimously

### **4. Election of Officers**

Mike then explained the election process as outlined in our By-Laws. We elect the Executive Positions (President, V-P, Secretary-Treasurer) individually; the Directors-at-Large are elected collectively. Some positions have two-year terms and some have one-year terms. We want to make sure that we have some continuity of directors each year.

#### **Executive Directors – Returning for one-year term**

<b>Ken Curtis</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Will fulfil his term in office</b>
<b>Mark Jones</b>	<b>Secretary-Treasurer</b>	<b>Will fulfil his term in office</b>

The following Executive position is open this year.

#### **Vice-President – 2-year term**

Mike opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice-President.

**Kevin Heffernan nominated Kristyn Coley. Daisy McDonald seconded the nomination. Kristyn accepted the nomination.** After asking three times if there were any other nominations, **Kristyn Coley was named Vice-President.**

#### **Directors-at-Large – Returning for one-year term**

<b>Corey Chafe</b>	<b>Will fulfil his term in office</b>
<b>Brad Sherriffs</b>	<b>Will fulfil his term in office</b>
<b>Mark Healy</b>	<b>Will fulfil his term in office</b>
<b>Juan Edwards</b>	<b>Will fulfil his term in office</b>
<b>Charlie Kelly</b>	<b>Will fulfil his term in office</b>

Mike then explained that there are **4 Director-at-Large positions open for election for two-year terms.**

He then declared the floor open for nominations for the four positions as Directors-at-Large.

**Sean Quinlan – nominated by Mike Buist. Brad George seconded the nomination. Mike accepted the nomination on behalf of Sean Quinlan who could not attend the meeting.**

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**Jonathan Harvey – nominated by Gary McDonald. Daisy McDonald seconded the nomination. Jonathan accepted the nomination.**

**Gary McDonald – nominated by Jonathan Harvey. Terry Lynn Harvey seconded the nomination. Gary accepted the nomination.**

**Darla Ryan – nominated by Kristyn Coley. Corey Chafe seconded the nomination. Darla accepted the nomination.**

**Brad George – nominated by Ken Curtis. Juan Edwards seconded the nomination. Brad accepted the nomination.**

**Nikki Musseau – nominated by Roger Andrews. Corey Chafe seconded the nomination. Nikki accepted the nomination.**

Mike then asked three times if there were any other nominations. Since we had 6 candidates nominated and seconded for 4 positions, Mike stated that we would have an election by ballot. He explained that eligible voters could name a maximum of 4 candidates on their ballot.

He then asked Bob Morgan and Juan Edwards to act as scrutineers. They agreed.

When counted, Mike announced that there were two clear winners and a tie between three nominees for the final two positions. We will need another vote by ballot for the final 2 positions.

The two nominees elected as Directors-at-large on the first ballot were **Brad George and Nikki Musseau.**

The three nominees who were tied: Gary McDonald, Darla Ryan and Sean Quinlan. The ballots were distributed again and the votes counted by the scrutineers.

The successful nominees were **Darla Ryan and Gary McDonald.**

He then thanked all those who agreed to stand for positions and asked for a motion to destroy the ballots.

**Motion #5: That the ballots used for the election of Directors be destroyed.**

**Moved by: Kevin Heffernan**

**Seconded by: Nikki Musseau**

**Approved: Unanimously**

### **5. Financial Statements**

Mike then asked Mark Jones to review the Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2016 as submitted by our auditors – Fred Earle & Associates. Mark explained that an Accountant's Review is not an Audit. However, for our organization a review is the norm and quite suitable.

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Mark highlighted the following points:

- **Revenue** – SJMBA increased its revenues by approximately \$43,000 over 2015. We had a significant increase in registration and program revenues.
- **Expenses** – Although the strength of the US dollar hurt us, we were able to keep our expenses in line.
- **Operating Surplus** – we have regained a comfortable operating surplus and will seek to maintain it. We are not in the business of making profits – we will put our money back into the program.

Mike added the following comments:

- **Corporate Sponsorship** – we have some sponsorship agreements that have expired. It is important that we maintain the \$25-30,000 cash contribution from our corporate program. Mike asked the delegates for any leads they might have to add new sponsors.
- **Capital Purchases** – we made some significant purchases in 2016 i.e. 7 green equipment bins and 3 silver storage units. However, we will negate the ongoing rental expense that we incurred for the storage units.
- **Budget stability** – Mike is confident that we have achieved some budget stability and will be able to have some flexibility should opportunities arise.

He then asked for a motion to approve our 2015-16 Fiscal Financial Statement.

**Motion #6: That the delegates approve the 2015-16 Financial Statements as tabled.**

**Moved by:** Nikki Musseau

**Seconded by:** Juan Edwards

**Approved:** Unanimously

### 6. Appointment of Auditors

Mike then asked for a motion to appoint Fred Earle & Associates as our auditing firm for 2016-17.

**Motion #7: That Fred Earle Chartered Accountant be engaged as auditors for SJMBA for the 2016-17 Fiscal year.**

**Moved by:** Mark Jones

**Seconded by:** Triffie Parsons

**Approved:** Unanimously

## 7. Open Discussion

During the President's and Executive Director's reports the delegates did have some questions that elicited some discussion. We also had a few questions following the business section of the meeting. We have tried to capture the significant points raised and the delegate who raised the points in the notes below:

- ***Girls division in Little League Classic*** – Nikki Musseau posed the question. We had a brief discussion. Present format seems to be popular.
- ***Girls Category in registration numbers*** – Bob Morgan suggested that we have a category for girls in our report so that we can better track our progress. Mike agreed to include next year.
- ***Coaches training by Ken McLean*** – Jonathan Harvey asked if we plan to offer coach training courses by Ken McLean in 2017. Mike replied that we definitely will offer again.
- ***Will we budget for additional umpire training in 2017*** – Charlie Kelly posed this question. Mike and Kristyn assured the group that we plan to enhance our umpire training program in 2017. We will have a SJMBA training session in addition to the one offered by BNL. We also plan to test our umpires re: our division rules to ensure they are knowledgeable.
- ***What have we done to promote Girls baseball*** – Charlie Kelly raised this point. Kristyn C. replied that we placed special ads on Facebook and Twitter, we operated a 'special' girls only winter ball program, we executed a 'Bring your buddy day' at the Techniplex and we operated a girls day camp throughout the summer.
- ***There is a need to ensure that under-age girls who play for Mosquito all-girls team are ready for Mosquito*** – Roger Andrews expressed this concern. Mike and Kristyn replied that we treat every case on its own merits. The bottom line is that we leave it to the parents to make the decision to play Rookie or Mosquito.
- ***Allow Girls who make the Mosquito AAA team to play for the All-Girls PW House team*** – This request was raised by Nikki Musseau and Mark Healy. The group had a good discussion re: this issue. It certainly would make the house team more competitive. The Board will discuss and make a decision.
- ***Ensure that portable toilets have workable locks*** – Bob Fahey noted that the one we had at Virginia Park could not be locked. Mike will make sure that is not the case in 2017.
- ***AA teams will not play in House league in 2017*** – Mike informed the delegates that this was a major point raised at the All-Star Coach review meeting. The group had a good discussion re: this issue. The Board will make a decision.
- ***Senior High Tournament*** – Mike noted in his report that he will recommend to the Board that we not host this tournament in 2017. None of the St. John's players register with SJMBA and it puts pressure on our schedule in late May-early June. Mike would rather schedule the

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Little League Classic and Geoff Walsh earlier so that we could accommodate the younger players who want to register for the summer program. In 2016, Mike stated that we had to turn away some children because we had reached our maximum numbers for Rookie and Mosquito. The Board will discuss and make a decision.

- ***Batting tee removed from Provincial Mosquito A*** – Gary McDonald thanked SJMBA for getting BNL to remove the tee from Mosquito A.

### 8. Adjournment

Mike then asked for a motion to adjourn.

**Motion #8: That the 2016 SJMBA Annual General Meeting be adjourned.**

<b>Moved by:</b>	<b>Mark Jones</b>
<b>Seconded by:</b>	<b>Kristyn Coley</b>
<b>Approved:</b>	<b>Unanimously</b>

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.