



TOWNSEND ASHBY YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL

OCTOBER 10, 2018, 7PM
TOWNSEND LIBRARY, TRUSTEES ROOM
BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Person	Position	Attended	Person	Position	Attended
Keith Turgeon	League President	X	Jess Donia	Concessions	-
Gary Donia	Vice President, Baseball Director	-	Brian Tesini	Softball Director	X
Jen Callahan	Secretary	-	Mark Arsenault	Player Advocate	-
Beth Arsenault	Treasurer	X	Josh Chapman	Facilities Manager	-
Jess Fellows	Community & Safety	-	Lisa Neal	Fundraising	X
Jason Vettese	Umpire in Chief	-			

OPEN ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- Volunteer Applications / CORI Forms Completion
 - Brian, Lisa, Jess F, Beth, Mark, and Keith have completed their application/waiver/CORI forms. **GARY, JEN, JASON, JESS D, JOSH**, please complete and send me your forms as soon as possible.
- Financial Update
 - PayPal \$6,517.41, WCU \$8,814.04 – Total \$15,331.45
 - Pending Deposits (sponsors) \$1,850.00
 - Handout –2018 Financial Summary
 - Handout - 2019 Operating Budget
- Registration Status
 - Baseball - (8) T-Ball, (18) Rookie, (7) Minors, (9) Major 60, (3) Major 70, (6) Seniors
 - Softball – (1) Rookie, (5) Minors, (2) Majors, (4) Seniors
 - Handout – 2019 Players List
- Sponsorship Status
 - Handout – 2019 Sponsorship Package
 - Package emailed to all existing sponsors, will go out in mass on November 1st.
 - McNabbs - \$300 - Team Sponsor (Seniors Softball)
 - L.F Robbins Insurance Agency - \$250 - Field Banner
 - Top Notch Plumbing & Heating - \$1,000 - Craven Snack Shack
 - Haffner’s - \$600 - Team Sponsor (Seniors Baseball), Field Banner
 - Arrow Septic - \$1,000 – Craven Scoreboard (committed – not yet received)
 - J&S Business Products – \$250 – Field Banner (committed – not yet received)
 - Echo Knoll Construction - \$250 – Field Banner (committed – not yet received)
- Player Evaluations – October 13th & 14th
 - Saturday – Jeff Cote, Tom Lamoureux, Jason Colavito, Jason Kelley, Kevin Pelletier, Bobby Pearson **NEED MORE**
 - Sunday – Brian Tesini, Sara Hopkins, Kristen Perna **NEED AT LEAST 3 MORE**
- Craven Field Seasonal Shutdown
 - Josh to turn off water and prep irrigation system for winter.
 - Keith to take down all banners (at Spaulding too)
 - Snack Shack needs to be completely emptied before winter. Lisa has offered to help get the shack cleaned out.
- Fields Usage Discussion
 - Allen Field – Available for practice only

- Hawthorne Brook – Available for practice only – Note that we have heard from the High School, and they will be taking all the upgrades, including the fencing from HB and moving it to the HS softball field.
- Craven Field – Priority game use for Baseball Major 70 -> Major 60 -> Minors -> Rookies
- Spaulding Fields – Primary game fields for T-Ball, Baseball Rookie, and all levels of Softball. Practice available for any division when no conflict.
- North Middlesex High School Baseball Field – Primary game field for Baseball Seniors
- Summer Camps
 - We had 18 players participate in 2018 and raised \$180 and was very well received by those who attended – We will continue with a summer camp program for 2019.
 - Mini Warriors Summer Camps are only 50/50 at this point in continuing their program next year. If they decide not to continue, TAYBS will attempt to coordinate and run their own summer camp program. Potentially using high school ball players as councilors (paid).
 - Lisa suggested that we have the camp the week after the summer rec program ends.
- TAYBS Newsletter
 - Pam Deveny started this last year, but she has now left the board. We will discontinue with the newsletter.
- TAYBS Alumni Scholarships
 - In 2018, we gave out two \$250 scholarships, we will continue with this in 2019.
- Townsend Business Association Membership
 - In 2018, this affiliation cost us \$75 and helped us to bring in a record number of sponsors, we will continue with this membership in 2019.
- Winter Clinics Discussion
 - Need to secure locations, and coaches – there is extremely limited space this upcoming winter, so we need to figure out a solution ASAP. Jess F has already reached out to the schools.
 - Sessions for Baseball 7U, Baseball 10U, Baseball 14U, Softball 16U
- Uniform Discussion
 - Numerous complaints last year that 70's had names on Jerseys, and the quality of uniform was visually much higher than 60's. Complaints were that just because some kids are more talented, does not mean they necessarily work any harder, and that both Major 60 and Major 70 pay the same registration price.
 - After a good discussion, it was decided that we will no longer do higher end 70's uniforms with names. We will have a unique uniform design for Rookie, Minors, Majors and Seniors, regardless of sport, and regardless of team or 60/70 split. So, all Rookies for baseball and softball will look the same, all minors will look the same, all majors, 60's, 70's in baseball and softball will look the same, etc. T-Ball will remain as is and have the same uniforms we have had for the past several years.
- Continue joint charter with Pepperell for Minors & Majors Baseball?
 - This merge is solely to participate in Babe Ruth Tournament Play
 - Last year cost us \$1,318 to send 17 players (\$78/each)
 - Players were additionally charged \$75 per player
 - We will continue with the charter with Pepperell, but for the tournament costs, we will now have it separated out by percentage. If we have only 25% of the kids in the tournament, we will only cover 25% of the costs.
- Umpiring Costs & Scheduling
 - 2018 Baseball \$60 (Set by TAYBS), Softball \$50 (Set by NCMS) – We will continue with the same prices.
 - Jason has offered to manage umpire scheduling again this year – we all agreed to continue to have Jason handle umpires, with a big thank you!
 - Seniors umpires are 2 per game at \$65 each, estimate of 10 home games per season. We will be bringing up at the Babe Ruth offseason meeting that the 13/14 division only have a single umpire, and the 15/16/17 division has 2.
 - Jason has recommended we try to get softball pricing up to get umpires willing to do those games. He has also asked if we can have teenage umpires do the minors softball games – we will need to get NCMS to sign off on this. Brian will be attending the offseason NCMS meeting on October 18th and will bring this up for discussion.
- Summer Sandlot Tournament

- Last year, there were in season issues with rules and teams “trying to win” to get a better playoff seeding; during the playoffs, no volunteers stepped up to help. We agreed to continue with the following changes.
 - There will be no records during the summer season – this should ensure that the league is more focused on development than winning at all costs
 - We will continue with a playoff tournament, but instead of a weeklong series of games, it will be a one-day event at Craven, seeding to be randomized well in advance. Format will be double elimination; each game is 3 innings/1-hour max and have them back to back all in one day.
- Professional Training for Baseball & Softball Coaches
 - We will not require coaches to get Babe Ruth certified – Any coaches who participate in the Babe Ruth tournament, still must get their certifications – this is a Babe Ruth requirement.
 - Brian is going to reach out to the high school baseball and softball coaches to see if they are willing to do a coach’s clinic.
 - Lisa is going to reach out to a few professional clubs to see what types of costs there are to have them provide coaching clinics.
 - General agreement that if we can get some better trained coaches, it can help build better teams and increase player retention.
- Indoor Athletic Facility Affiliation
 - Should we consider affiliating with an indoor athletic facility – thought was that yes it would be a good idea, but with no facility within 30 minutes, that it would be highly unlikely to get done.
- Team Balance & Player Assignments
 - Spring T-Ball & Rookie will be balanced by age then town
 - Spring Minors, Majors & Seniors – coaches will discuss between themselves who should be on each team. Final spring rosters must be balanced and then approved by the Baseball (Gary) or Softball (Brian) Director and Player Advocate (Mark), ties broken up by League President (Keith).
 - Players moved up to 70’s will be at the Major 70’s coaches’ decision.
 - Summer & Fall Teams will be split up by what division they are anticipated to play the next spring. We want to have kids looking forward and not backwards. Summer & Fall is designed for player development, not competitive play, so teams will not necessarily be balanced.
- Special Events, Ownership Assignment & Schedule
 - 09/14 - Comedy Show (Lisa & Keith) – Completed, raised \$793
 - 03/16 - Dick’s Sporting Goods Weekend **NEED OWNER**
 - 03/21 - Preseason Celebration Dinner - Jess F & Keith
 - 04/02 - Mandatory Coaches Training (Team Management & Safety) - Keith & Jess F
 - 04/04 - TAYBS Paint Night - Jess F to organize event, Lisa to help night of
 - 04/13 - Craven Field Cleanup **NEED OWNER**
 - 04/14 - Spaulding Field Cleanup **NEED OWNER**
 - 04/20 - Coach & Volunteer Field Training (Snack Shack & Field Maintenance) - Keith & **TBD**
 - 04/21 - Season Kickoff Party at Patriot Pizza - Keith & Jess F
 - 05/02 - Cub Scout Night – Brian & **TBD**
 - 05/04 - Picture Day **NEED OWNER**
 - 05/04 - Hit a Thon - Keith & **TBD**
 - 05/17 - Movie Night on Craven Field **NEED OWNER**
 - 05/26 - Memorial Day Parade **NEED OWNER**
 - 06/07 - Annual Golf Tournament - Beth & Jenn Callahan
 - 07/12 - Night at the Ball Park **NEED OWNER**
 - 08/13 - Coach & Sponsor Appreciation Dinner - Keith & **TBD**
 - 08/15 - Lawn Party & Band Concert - Jess F & **TBD**
- Project Updates
 - Craven Field
 - Batting Cage Stone Dust – Kazanjian’s, work in October

- Batting Cage/Shed Power Install – Quote to dig trench came in at \$2,385, way out of budget. Josh to research into doing this with a “ditch witch” rental or some other method.
- Dugout Repairs & Improvements – Nashoba Tech, work in Spring
- Infield Recut & New Clay – Kazanjian’s, recut in October, new clay in the Spring
- Permanent Foul Lines – Ordered and have arrived, **NEED HELP TO INSTALL ASAP**
- Tree Removal – Delayed... still working with Town/Neighbors
- Parking Lot Regraded – Kazanjian’s, work in October
- Snack Shack Windows – Nashoba Tech, work in Spring
- Snack Shack Cabinets – Nashoba Tech, work in Spring
- Picnic Tables – Nashoba Tech, work in Spring
- Scoreboard Antenna – Josh to install new Antenna on Scoreboard
- Sprinklers – Josh to move sprinkler heads out of the infield
- Spaulding Field
 - Baseball Field Fencing Covers – Will order for March, we will need to install
 - Softball Field Bleachers – **NEED VOLUNTEERS** to help move bleachers from Timberlee over to Spaulding
 - Snack Shack – Building – Nashoba Tech, materials have arrived, construction to start this week
 - Snack Shack – Electrical – Pelletier Electric, will start once walls are up on Snack Shack, CBF Landworks will be doing the trench work (trench work \$\$ came in WAY higher than anticipated)
 - Snack Shack – Appliances – Ordering once the shack is completed; Refrigerator, Freezer, Microwave, Popcorn Machine, Hot Dog Machine, & Nacho Cheese warmer.
 - Field Turnover & New Clay – Kazanjian’s, turnover in October, new clay in the Spring
 - Scoreboards – New scoreboards ordered from Nevco are now in production and should ship out on 10/18. Nashoba Tech will be building the stand and installing the scoreboards. Pelletier Electric handling power connectivity.
 - Picnic Tables – Nashoba Tech, work in Spring
 - T-Ball Benches – Nashoba Tech, work in Spring
 - Softball Pitching Rubbers – Josh to install 3 permanent removable rubbers (same setup as major 60/70 at craven field)
 - T-Ball Pitching Rubbers and Home Plates – Josh to install pitchers’ rubbers and home plates on each of the T-ball fields
- Field & Facilities Equipment
 - Nail Drag – Existing one broke, replaced with Beacon Athletics 5x3 Premium Nail Drag. Already used at the Spaulding Softball Field and does a very nice job.
 - Tractor – We need to acquire an inexpensive tractor to handle field maintenance. I have spoken with Shepard’s and they are looking out for one, Josh is also on the hunt. Hopefully <\$250
 - Tools – Will be ordering a numerous field maintenance tools in March. Tamper, 3lb Sledge, Hula Hoe are planned.

Upcoming TAYBS Board Meetings:

- Wednesday, November 14th 7pm, Townsend Library
- Wednesday, December 12th 7pm, Townsend Library
- Wednesday, January 9th 7pm, Townsend Library
- Wednesday, February 13th 7pm, Townsend Library
- Wednesday, March 13th 7pm, Townsend Library