

Whitman Baseball Softball Association  
Meeting Minutes  
January 5, 2014

Opening:

Brian Schwede called the regular meeting of the Whitman Baseball Softball Association to order at 6:07pm.

Present:

Brian Schwede, Diane Schwede, Marci Moulton, Robin Hamilton, Andrea Cafferty, Dan Desmond, Gerard Cooper, Kevin Briggs, Ralph Goodick, Christine Goodick, Dan Hurlihy, Nicole Sturgeon, Mark Spadorcia, Kris Nicholson, Jeff Nicholson, Joe Cunningham, Andrea Cunningham, Mike Cook, Dan Driscoll

Not Present: Crystal McCormack, Bob Coulter, Greg Googins, Jason Flebotte, Al Cafferty, Kevin Cleary, Mike Kenney

New Business:

Brian Schwede introduced Jeff Nicholson to the BOD – with the resignation of Dana Peterson, Jeff was the next person in line in the general election to accept a BOD position – he will replace Dana as Major League Director

Andrea Cafferty gave an update of the Financials, reviewing the spreadsheet sent out to all BOD members. Current balance is \$14,394.40 Field renovation project is currently up to \$11,886.23 – included in that is a recent bill from PA Landers for \$2,535.13 - \$15,000 was set aside for the project. One of the reasons for the higher than expected cost was that the field crew had to unexpectedly rent equipment to complete the fall portion of the project. Finances were approved.

A motion was made and approved to accept the minutes from last month's meeting. Chrissy Goodick has made the minutes available on wbsall.com under "general".

Brian Schwede discussed uniforms. He has contacted Rob from ABC to work on pricing. They will meet to get specifics on prices for the 2014 season. Uniforms is the largest expense that the league has – could run \$12,000 plus. One major league set of uniforms may be replaced – Duval's Pharmacy is the oldest and most worn – it will cost roughly \$500 to replace the set. Marci mentioned that softball uniforms are ok, specifically citing the senior girl's uniforms. Brian opened discussion to the group i.e. changes to instructional or farm league uniforms – no ideas were brought forth on uniform changes. TimeOut was suggested as another choice of vendor. The group agreed to keep along with ABC as the league could use TimeOut for other things.

Andrea Cunningham spoke about sponsorships and fundraising. There has been \$3,000 collected for team donations, \$600 for field signs and one \$150 donation. She will contact the sponsors on the list again via mail before starting to make phone calls. She proposed dates for upcoming events – 6/7/14 proposed for Meadow Muffin, 5/17 proposed for fundraiser adult dance. Brian Schwede proposed Opening Day be 4/12. Weather permitting, the date was agreed on by the BOD. Other dates still pending approval. If anyone had a sponsor that they speak to each year, the sponsor forms are available on wbsall.com

Kevin Briggs proposed using League Apparel for sweatshirts or any other type of logoed WBSA apparel for parents to purchase. Currently, Canton Little League uses the company. It's all ordering online, custom made and shipped to the purchaser. WBSA would get 20% of each sale. Chrissy Goodick could link that site to wbsall.com Brian Schwede suggested that the owner or League Apparel come to the coach's meeting in March to talk about their product. Brian also wants to be sure that would not count as a fundraiser as the league is permitted only three a year and a raffle.

Marci Moulton is looking into the possibility of another winter softball clinic. She is speaking to the VFW to ask for use again. She needed Chrissy Goodick's help getting registration space on wbsall.com. Marci was working on a flier and email to send to parents.

Marci Moulton mentioned a possible switch of leagues for softball for the 2014 season. Currently, Whitman plays with Brockton, Randolph, Holbrook and East Bridgewater. She is actively looking into switching to the Kingston, Pembroke and Halifax league. There is also a possibility of farm softball playing against Hanson farm league.

Marci Moulton asked the BOD to bring their licenses with them to the next BOB meeting to start the CORI process.

Kevin Briggs suggested and will research changing the locks on all WBSA property including Conley and MS locks.

Dan Herlihy wanted to remind Kevin Briggs and Dan Driscoll (minor league and farm league directors) that coaches at those levels need to coach bases. Brian Schwede mentioned that is a rule that an umpire under the age of 18 cannot be on the field alone. Kevin, Dan and Dan all agreed that better communication at the coach's meeting about umping expectations should remedy the problem.

Andrea Cafferty told the BOD that the Ortiz donation (player whose mother was hit by a car in Whitman a few months ago) did not work out. The family moved out of town and they did not receive the donation. The check was not cashed and will not be. She suggested that the donation be given to the O'Ciardubhain family, who lost their home to a fire 10 days before Christmas. Their children play within the league.

A motion was made and accepted by the BOD to give the donation to the O'Ciardubhain family.

Andrea Cunningham, on behalf of the Cooperstown teams Whitman Wolfpack and Whitman Panthers, asked the BOD for a free registration for each of their upcoming fundraiser events. BOD agreed to donation a single registration to both teams.

Brian Schwede mentioned that the deadline for major league coaches has been reached. The nine candidates are Tom Meehan, Mike Kenney, Gerard Cooper, Jim Pare, Jeff Nicholson, Jason Flebotte, Kevin Briggs, Brian Sullivan and Duane LeVangie. The vote to fill the seven team spot will take place at the next BOD meeting on February 9.

Chrissy Goodick announced that online registration will be opened on Monday, January 6. Diane Schwede is working with the W-H facilities scheduling director and will have walk in dates soon. She is hoping for two dates in January and one date in February, all at the WMS library. Once she has the dates secured, she will let the BOD know.

Brian Schwede wants to have list of interested farm baseball coaches ready by 2/8.

Andrea Cafferty suggested that the BOD consider major league coaches interviews. The BOD went through this process two seasons ago and it was successful. After open discussion on the suggestion, the BOD agreed to pursue this process again for candidates interested in coaching a major league team for the 2014 season.

Brian Schwede will call Jason Flebotte to get some dates circulating for the major league coaching inquisition. The interviews must be done on or prior to February 9 as the BOD is scheduled to vote on seven coaches at that meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. The next BOD meeting will be held on Sunday, February 9 at the Whitman Police Station.