

Place: TOR Firehouse  
Time: 7:15 pm  
Date: January 8, 2019

## Minutes of Board Meeting

Those present:

Ferrone	Mirkin	Bancroft	Duddie	Ertrachter	Anderson	Gentle
DiPreta	S. DeLeo	D'Ambrosio	Davis	T. Condon	Nestor	Wong
Brown	Calandrelli	J. DeLeo	Fuchs	Gendason	Reimer	Drexel
Hoch	McKeever	Rende				

Minutes from the December, 2018 minutes were e-mailed to everyone. Motion made to accept the minutes from that meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

## Old Business

- **Treasurer Report**

- a. **Ertrachter** provided the budget for 2019.
- b. The largest budget items were discussed and compared to last year.
- c. Budget assumes that income will exceed expenses by \$10,000 in 2019.
- d. However, that result includes \$18,000 of income for banners on the fences (less expenses of printing the banners of \$1,500). There is an issue with the City of Stamford regarding whether this constitutes advertising at City fields, which is prohibited. As such, the league may not be able to sell banners this year. Discussions with the City are on-going. They may allow temporary signage (like banners) but not permanent signage (like have a sponsor's name appear on the scoreboard).
- e. Motion made and approved unanimously to approve the budget for 2019 as presented.
- f. Attached is copy of the 2019 budget.

- **Winter Workouts**

- a. Registration is closed. Workouts began on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.
- b. # Registered: 21 from majors, 20 10-year-olds, 20 9-year-olds.
- c. **Drexel** has contacted Bobby V's and reserved seven 1-hour time slots starting after the February school break and continuing until the week before the March 30<sup>th</sup> minors' tryouts. Cost will be \$100 per child. SNLL will pick up any additional costs above this amount since the Board does not want to charge the younger kids more than what is being charged for the major/AAA workouts.

- **Outreach Update**

- a. **D'Ambrosio** has coordinated with Northeast School and Springdale School regarding a Friday night clinic/pizza party for the kids.
- b. Springdale clinic will be Friday January 25<sup>th</sup> and Northeast on Friday February 1<sup>st</sup>. Both clinics will be the same and run from 6:00-7:30PM.
- c. PTO of each school will send a blast e-mail about the event.
- d. It was suggested that iPads be available so that parents can register the kids at the event.

- **Registration**

- a. Registration was opened on January 8<sup>th</sup> in 2018; registration for 2019 will be opened by January 11<sup>th</sup>.
- b. Motion was made to keep the fees the same as the prior year. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. Fees for 2019 are the same as they were for 2016, 2017 and 2018. Fees will be as follow:
  - Ages 9-12: \$195 early bird; \$220 after the early bird date. Any 9-year-old that does not make AAA will be refunded \$35.
  - Ages 7-8: \$160 early bird; \$185 after the early bird date.
  - Ages 6 & under: \$85 for all registrations.
  - Sibling discount of \$25 per child after the first child applies. Discount applies both before and after the early bird sign-up date.
  - Earl-bird sign-up date is February 23<sup>rd</sup>; registration after that date will pay the additional fee.

- **Marketing/Recruitment**

- a. At the last meeting it was decided that the lawn signs were not an effective way to advertise registration and therefore there would not be any lawn signs for 2019. However, suggestion was made to use the lawn signs that SNLL does have in key areas where they are not likely to be stolen (i.e., not in North Stamford because some lady in the neighborhood thinks they are an eye-sore and goes around removing them).
- b. Large banners were believed to be the most effective manner to advertise. Such banners will be placed at the corner of Newfield Ave. and Intervale Dr. (by the Sterling Farms tennis courts), and at Springdale, Dolan, and Northeast schools. Cost of a large banner is \$120.
- c. **DiPreta** has reached out to different organizations around Stamford to try and allow SNLL to send a blast e-mail to their members. Organizations that he has reached out to include the Italian Center, Youth Soccer, Youth Hockey, JCC, Peace Basketball, AITE, Yerwood Center, and North Stamford Association.
- d. **Davis** is reaching out to new homeowners in Springdale and North Stamford to let them know about SNLL.

## New Business

- **Challenger**

- a. **Bancroft** is working to try and increase the number of kids in the Challenger division. He has heard from others involved in such programs that the best way to get new kids is by word-of-mouth. He is reaching out to the Special Education programs in the City and would like to see if the Advocate will do a story about a child in the program.
- b. Any ideas on how to attract new kids should be discussed with **Bancroft**.
- c. In 2018, the SNLL Challenger team had about 10 regular kids. Fairfield and Darien had 20 or more kids in their programs along with a “buddy” for each player.

- **Reduction of Major League Teams**

- a. Decision was made to eliminate County TV from the majors and have their players be put on different teams. County TV has 3 kids that indicated that they are returning and one is a maybe. There is not a returning manager for County TV.
- b. According to the LLB Green Book (page 569), there is guidance for how to have a team reduction. Two options are provided:
  - Option A: Have the kids come to tryouts and go through the draft just like all other new kids trying out.
  - Option B: Before the major league draft begins, the kids from team being eliminated are selected first as one age group. The kids would not come to tryouts under this option.
- c. Discussion ensued regarding why this method was not used in the past. **Hoch** indicated that one team getting all 3 or 4 players would throw off the competitive balance of the majors.
- d. Motion made and approved unanimously to select Option B.
- e. Under Option B, Viking will have the option to make the first pick. If they pass, then each subsequent team will be allowed to pick or pass. However, depending upon whether there are 3 or 4 kids to draft, the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> team must make a pick, as will a pick need to be made by the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> teams. The result of choosing Option B will mean that all of the kids from County TV will be on different teams for the 2019 season.

- **Other Items**

- a. Issued was raised regarding whether pitching machines should always be used in AA rather than have the kids start to pitch midway through the season. The argument made to use the pitching machine is that the games become too boring for the kids (and parents!) since 75% of the batters either strike out or walk (*Note: There's no statistical report to back up this percentage; it is just what I wrote in my notes*). Reason why kids should pitch are to get them ready to pitch at higher levels in SNLL. Decision was made to let the AA coaches discuss this issue as the season gets closer.
- b. Scheduling Committee will meet to finalize the 6-team major league schedule. Numbers will be used by the committee to set the schedule. Major league teams will pick their number at the February Board meeting. Once each number is assigned to a team, the practice schedule will be set as well. All major league games/practice schedules will be ready by the end of February.

- c. The Knights of Columbus will hold a free throw shooting contest on Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup> for kids ages 9 to 14. Event will be held at Trinity Catholic High School starting at 3:00PM (registration begins at 2:25PM). Board was asked to spread the word to SNLL little league kids to see if they wish to participate.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50PM

Upcoming meetings: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 7:15PM at the TOR Firehouse

**2016 League Budget**

**2019 Operating Budget**

**Operating Budget**

<b>Income</b>	<b>2015 Actual</b>	<b>2016 Actual</b>	<b>2017 Plan</b>	<b>2017 Actual</b>	<b>2018 Plan</b>	<b>2018 Actual</b>	<b>2019 Plan</b>
Registration	76,130	84,905	80,000	80,900	75,000	78,000	72,000
Booster	15,280	22,465	19,000	23,230	21,000	21,865	20,000
Sponsors	5,700	13,300	13,300	13,850	13,300	16,050	13,000
Concession	7,955	4,166	5,700	5,473	5,000	382	2,000
Banners UPS Raffle *	4,320	6,810	6,000	8,650	7,000	18,850	18,000
Donations				4,445		13,765	7,500
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>109,385</b>	<b>131,646</b>	<b>124,000</b>	<b>136,548</b>	<b>121,300</b>	<b>148,912</b>	<b>132,500</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
Scholarships and refunds		1,155	1,500	1,080	1,000	2625	1,500
Instant Replay	46,814	37,670	35,000	28,124	30,000	30118	32,000
Balls			5,000	8,050	8,000	7445	8,000
Bobby V's(indoor fac)		2,695	1,700	4,136	4,000	4310	4,500
Post Season Tournaments			1,000	0		3029	3,100
LL Fees	6,375	5,076	5,100	6,405	6,000	3935	4,000
Website	1,621	1,274	1,300	744	1,000	1530	1,500
Marketing	8,030	2,272	1,500	1,119	1,500	1175	1,200
Umps	33,845	27,035	25,000	26,230	25,000	20535	25,000
Fields/Equip	10,810	1,828	7,000	4,376	10,000	12,879	10,000
Stamford Public Schools	7,737	4,627	4,700	6,123	6,000	5654	6,000
Site One		2,271	5,000	3,562	3500	1597	4,000
Ed Clark Life Touch Big Al	5,234	5,977	6,000	5,142	5,000	4968	5,000
Banners Printing		2,275	500	1,905	1,000	3257	1,500
Washroom Maintenance		1,650	1,750	1,750	2,200	2200	2,200
Misc Exp	3,345	1,417	1,500	350	1,000	257	1,000
Fairfield County Portables	5,103	1,605	1,750	2,331	2,300	2550	2,600
Special Events			2,500	1,823	1,800	5976	6,500
Paypal Fees	4,630	2,413	2,500	2,300	2,500	2535	2,500
De.Leo Fund Contribution		0	0	0	10,000	8235	0
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>133,544</b>	<b>101,240</b>	<b>110,300</b>	<b>105,550</b>	<b>121,800</b>	<b>124,810</b>	<b>122,100</b>
<b>Net Results</b>	<b>-24,159</b>	<b>30,406</b>	<b>13,700</b>	<b>30,998</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>24,102</b>	<b>10,400</b>
<b>Savings Acct DeLeo fund</b>		<b>5,428</b>		<b>4,580</b>	<b>5,335</b>	<b>16,731</b>	<b>16731</b>
<b>In Banking Account</b>		<b>32,445</b>		<b>75,545</b>	<b>74,063</b>	<b>91575</b>	<b>50184</b>
<b>In Capital Account</b>		<b>3,981</b>		<b>9,454</b>	<b>9,454</b>	<b>9836</b>	<b>48387</b>
<b>In PayPal Account</b>		<b>730</b>		<b>117</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>462</b>
<b>Total Cash on Hand</b>		<b>42,584</b>		<b>85,116</b>	<b>83,634</b>	<b>101,613</b>	<b>99,033</b>
<b>Concession</b>							
<b>Income</b>		<b>17,211</b>		<b>15,302</b>			
<b>Expenses</b>		<b>13,045</b>		<b>9,829</b>			
<b>Net</b>		<b>4,166</b>		<b>5,473</b>			
<b>In Concession Account</b>		<b>3,981</b>		<b>9,454</b>			

an additional \$1026 refund from Pepsi after year end  
 \$6123 2017 payment cashed from Stamford after closing