

Place: Italian Center Boardroom

Time: 7:15 pm

Date: April 1, 2019

Minutes of Board Meeting

Those present:

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

Minutes from the March, 2019 meeting were e-mailed to everyone. Only change was to the date of AAA Opening Day (which should have been Sunday, April 7th). Motion made to accept the minutes from that meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

• **Registration**

- a. **Gendason** reported that 290 kids in total have registered (last year's total number of kids was 331). There are still expected to be some registrations for Instructional and A ball (current total is 60, whereas last year the total was 110).

• **Minor League Update**

- a. AAA teams have been assigned and practices have started.
- b. AA teams had tryouts on March 30th. Teams have been drafted. Practices to start week of April 1st. There are 6 teams with 11 kids on a team.
- c. Single A division to start playing on Saturday, April 27th.
- d. Instructional league to start either April 27th or May 4th.
- e. Challenger schedule has been completed. There will be 10 games (5 home and 5 away). Games are usually on Saturday or Sunday at 10:00AM with 2 night-games scheduled at Springdale field. April 28th is the first game and the last game is June 16th. To date, only 3 players have registered.

• **Field Improvements**

- a. Discussion took place about projects to be completed at the fields. Board voted to approve the following expense allocations:
 1. Upgrade bullpen area near scoreboard at Springdale field. A swinging gate will be installed and area around the scoreboard will be re-fenced. Clay will be purchased to refurbish the mounds. Cost approved up to \$3,000. [Passed unanimously]
 2. Masonry work to be completed around storage shed at Springdale field in order to prevent further erosion. Tar to be placed under bleachers. Cost approved up to \$5,000. [Passed unanimously, with 2 abstentions]
- b. Board to review the "punch list" that **Nestor** has prepared of all the items that people have suggested need to be fixed around the fields.
- c. One item in particular that was raised was to fix or replace the batting cage at Heroy Park.

• **City of Stamford/Parks & Rec Update**

- a. Brown attended Parks & Rec meeting regarding the proposal that SNLL install an artificial turf infield at Chestnut.
- b. City appears to be waiting to see whether the proposed legislation will be passed in Hartford to prohibit any new turf fields in the state of CT due to health concerns. As such, no movement on this issue.

- c. City did have the following comments regarding the new field:
 1. They seemed to be reluctant to allow SNLL to have an artificial turf field that all of the little leagues in Stamford could not use for little league games.
 2. City suggested that SNLL pay for field and permit all little leagues in Stamford to use it. SNLL not in favor of this suggestion.
 3. City did like the idea that the field could be used as a 50/70 field as well as a little league field and that all kids in the City could benefit from the 50/70 field.
 - d. Since City will not move ahead with permitting the installation of the field at Chestnut, there is a great need of repair at that field. The City is in charge of the maintenance of this field and **Hoch** has asked for people in SNLL to contact their City representative and tell them that repairs need to be made at Chestnut.
 - e. City indicated that both Chestnut and Springdale fields would be ready for use by Saturday, April 6th. Since SNLL scheduled the season to open on Tuesday, April 2nd, the City has granted permission for games to begin that day. However, the City will only have Springdale field ready for play by then. As such, games scheduled for Chestnut will be moved to Springdale field and be played as part of a doubleheader.
- **Treasurer's Report**
 - a. **Ertrachter** reported on the following:
 1. League operating funds now stand at \$100,000 as registration fees and banner sales have been collected but most expenses (e.g., uniforms, umpires, equipment) have not been incurred. In addition, there is \$50,000 in the capital improvement account.
 2. Banner sales were better than last year. Board thanked **Davis** for his efforts.
 3. **Brown** passed out the new Booster cards for AAA and majors. As was done last year, managers should try and get the money turned in prior to Opening Day (April 27th). All kids that get their cards sold before then will get a free ticket to the Opening Day raffle.

New Business

- **Opening Day Ceremonies**
 - a. Opening Day Ceremonies are Saturday, April 27th at Springdale field.
 - b. Ceremonies start at 11:00AM. First major league game is at 12:15PM.
 - c. **Hoch** asking for volunteers to help plan the day.
- **10-Year-Old Travel Team**
 - a. Schedule has been set. There will be 4 games with possibly a 5th one to be added. Games will be either on Friday or Sunday.
 - b. Majors' managers to ask their 10-year-olds if they are interested in playing on this team. All 10-year-olds in the majors are eligible to play if they want. Continuous batting order is used in the games so if there are 14 kids, then 14 kids bat.
 - c. **Hoch/DiPreta/McKeever** to coach the team.
- **Major League Managers/Coaches**
 - a. Board voted unanimously to approve of the following as the managers/coaches for the major league teams:
 Clairol: DeLeo, Condon, McKeever, Wong
 Carpentry: Strazza, Calandrelli, Moavero, Soltis
 RMS: Lovello, T. Nestor, J. Palmer, Thompson
 Boot Camp: Ertrachter, Mirkin, Anderson, R.J. Moavero
 Haggerty: Fuchs, Szczesny, Gentle, Baker
 Viking: DiPreta, Berlingo, Cook, Guinta

- **Duties as a Board**

- a. With the recent issues raised regarding possible illegal activity concerning another Stamford sports league's finances, the Board discussed what controls are in place to keep something like that from happening to SNLL.
- b. Certain controls are in place to prevent the Treasurer and President from writing checks to themselves or to others that are not approved by someone on the Executive Committee. The Treasurer provides a report at each Board meeting regarding the finances of the league. The league has an accountant (who had kids go through SNLL and was a former coach) prepare the 990 form that is filed with the IRS each year.
- c. It is the policy of SNLL for any parent with a child in the league to attend Board meetings and ask questions if they have any concerns about the league operations.
- d. Although league minutes have been e-mailed to anyone that comes to or has attended a Board meeting, the Board voted unanimously to post the minutes of the meetings to the web site.

- **Other Items .**

- a. **Hoch** demonstrated how to use the on-site defibrillator. Important information to remember:
 1. Defibrillators are kept in the concession stand at Chestnut and in the upper press box at Springdale.
 2. Call 911. Be sure to give exact location (e.g., don't just say at Springdale school – need to say that you are at the baseball field).
 3. If medical event is happening on the field, be sure to get the kids back into the dugouts.
- b. SNLL has chartered for girls softball under LLB. Three divisions have been registered: ages 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12.
- c. Rules clarification with regard to catching and pitching:
 1. If player starts as catcher, then pitches, then returns to catching:
 - (a) Before pitching, he must catch for 3 innings or fewer.
 - (b) In order to return to catching, he must have thrown no more than 20 pitches ("soft 20").
 2. If player starts as pitcher and then wants to catch:
 - (a) She cannot throw more than 40 pitches (this is a "hard 40").

Meeting adjourned at 9:05PM

Upcoming meetings: Tuesday, May 7th at 7:15PM at the TOR Firehouse