



**BTBA Board Meeting Minutes (Annual Meeting)
September 22, 2019 – 7pm
Bloomington City Hall – City Council Chambers**

Agenda Items:

7pm – Call to Order – Jim Peterson

1. Approve Minutes from April 14 & May 19 Board meetings
2. Executive Committee Update
3. State of the Association – Jim Peterson

7:30 – Board Assignment Changes & Voting – Drew Squires

7:45 – Treasurer’s Report – Robert Chamberlain

8:00 – New Business/Public Comment Period

8:30 – Adjournment

Next Meeting: October 6, 2019 at 7pm in the Haeg Room at City Hall

Attendees:

BTBA Board Members Present:

**Jim Peterson – President
Drew Squires – Vice President
Robert Chamberlain – Treasurer
George Bender – Secretary
Jodi Syrjamaki
Jean Gonzalez
Corey Vucinovich
Austin Hamilton
Scott King
Adam Brown
Brian Carter
Justin Remsbottom**

BTBA Board Members Absent:

Aaron Dean

BTBA Membership Present: Chris Jurek, Joe Vogel

Others Present: None

The Board meeting was called to order at 7pm by Jim Peterson. This is the Annual Meeting and the format and agenda is a little different than a regular Board meeting. A quorum is present.

- The minutes from the April 14, 2019 and May 19, 2019 meetings were distributed at the meeting for review and comment. The minutes were read by George Bender. There were no additional comments. The minutes from the April 14 meeting were recommended for approval by Drew Squires and seconded by Robert Chamberlain. The Board approved the minutes unanimously. The minutes from the May 19 meeting were recommended for approval by Drew Squires and seconded by Robert Chamberlain. The Board approved the minutes unanimously.

Executive Committee Update:

- Scott Nelson resigned from the board effective August 7, 2019. BTBA would like to thank Scott for his dedication to the program and his service over the last several years.

State of the Association:

- The 2019 season saw an ~25% increase in teams. Player registrations increased from 187 in 2018 to 230 in 2019 and the Association did not field a 15U level in 2019. For comparison purposes, player registration in 2017 was 198 but a 15U level was fielded.
- 14 tournaments were hosted in 2019 by BTBA. This was 2 less than 2018 due to weather conflicts. 139 teams were hosted in these tournaments. Only the 11AAA (5 teams) and 15AAA (4 teams) were difficult to field a full tournament. BTBA hosted 80 teams in 2 state tournaments. BTBA also hosted an August Classic. It was noted that BTBA typically doesn't host a 15AA tournament but the Association will likely field a 15AA team in 2020 and the Tournament Committee will need to address how to handle this unique situation.

Future Expected Concerns:

- Growth – the Association can't gain another 25% in teams due to lack of field availability. BAA is struggling to maintain past registration numbers and some age groupings changed in 2019 from 2 age levels in one group to 3 age levels in a group due to limited registrations. Less players may be involved with baseball if BAA continues to struggle and BTBA is somewhat dependent on BAA at early age levels to develop future BTBA members. BTBA may have to consider how to partner or support BAA. A similar situation developed in girl's fastpitch softball and the traveling fastpitch association to on the feeder recreational league.
- BTBA did not have to cut any players for the 2019 season!
- The 15U program in 2020 will have at least 3 teams. Where will these teams play and practice because the City only makes one field available at Dred Scott.
- Concessions – Two separate thefts occurred in 2019. Security was increased including adding a safe. Updated financial controls are likely to be necessary.

- Address how the Association continues to develop and provide better training for the players and coaches.
- Aging infrastructure – how will the Association partner with the City to maintain the fields and revive necessary infrastructure. The City recently informed BTBA the structural stability of the dugouts at Hrbek is not a current concern and if the dugouts are replaced that construction similar to the current construction is unlikely due to the increased cost. Fenced dugouts are likely.
- Registrations – how do we continue to grow participation and find additional field availability as necessary.
- Jim Peterson noted he is a strong proponent for the current scholarship program and how it has developed over the last couple years. The payment flexibility provided for 2019 was very successful and should be continued. Less full scholarships was necessary due to this concept.
- New revenue – The banner sale program should continue to develop and expand. Sports Star provided 10% of the picture profits back to BTBA in 2019 due to new negotiations.
- Use of Field 8 at Hrbek – Jim Peterson indicated BTBA’s relationship with BAA is strong and we likely will need to negotiate some use of Hrbek 8 by BTBA. Currently, BAA exclusively utilizes this field for league play but it is not being fully scheduled.
- Maintain a strong relationship with the City. Consider negotiating use of the other fields at Valley View park.
- BTBA social media presence continues to expand. Continue this communication development.
- Holistically how should BTBA invest in the future? Should BTBA build a shed at Hrbek? The shed would need to be financed by BTBA and turned over to the City. An agreement for exclusive use would need to be created and signed.

Board Assignments:

- Jim Peterson turned leadership over to Drew Squires at this point in the meeting.
- Drew Squires nominated Jean Gonzalez to be Vice President for a period of 2 years and Corey Vucinovich seconded the nomination. The nomination passed unanimously.
- George Bender stepped down from the role of Secretary and Drew Squires nominated Holly Miller to be Secretary for a period of 2 years and Austin Hamilton seconded the nomination. The nomination passed unanimously.

- Drew Squires nominated George Bender to be the Chairperson of the Player and Coach Development Committee for a period of 2 years and Jean Gonzalez seconded the nomination. The nomination passed unanimously. Scott Nelson had previously resigned this position.
- Brian Carter stepped down from the role of the Equipment Manager and Drew Squires nominated Joe Vogel to be Equipment Manager for a period of 2 years and Corey Vucinovich seconded the nomination. The nomination passed unanimously.
- Adam Brown stepped down from the role of At-Large Board Member and Drew Squires nominated Maggie Peterson to be an At-Large Board Member for a period of 2 years and Robert Chamberlain seconded the nomination. The nomination passed unanimously.
- Corey Vucinovich volunteered to stay on the Board and continue serving in the role of Uniform Manager and Spirit-ware Coordinator.
- Scott King volunteered to stay on the Board and continue serving in the role of At-Large Board Member.
- Jodi Syrjamaki volunteered to stay on the Board and continue serving in the role of Tournament Coordinator for one more year.
- Justin Remsbottom volunteered to stay on the Board and continue serving in the role of Assistant Tournament Coordinator.
- Scott Baker will continue to volunteer as Webmaster for the short term until a new volunteer can be identified.
- Aaron Dean will continue to volunteer as Legal Council to the Board but will be stepping down as a Board member. BTBA will need to seek a new volunteer for this position.
- Heather Bartfield will be stepping down a Field Scheduling Coordinator. BTBA needs to find a new person to fill this position.

Treasurer Report:

- A treasurer's report/summary for 2019 was presented by Robert Chamberlain.
- Concessions revenue was down ~\$9,000 from 2019. This is partially due to the theft of money and goods. Concessions ended with an overall loss of ~\$10,000.
- Registration was up ~\$24,000.
- Overall, BTBA funds are expected to end up ~\$15,000 over 2018.

New Business:

- A discussion was held regarding a coaching concern that occurred in 2019. It decided to continue the discussion at the next Board meeting and set a written policy/protocol for removal of a coach.
 - Management of the Field Crew for 2020 was discussed. Drew Squires recommended going back to a paid field manager role. It was decided to continue the discussion at the next Board meeting.
 - Committee spots will be determined at the next meeting.
 - Concessions will be discussed at the next meeting.
 - Tryouts for 2020 will be discussed at the next meeting.
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- Corey Vucinovich motioned to adjourn the meeting and Robert Chamberlain seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42pm by Drew Squires.
 - The next Board meeting will be held on October 6, 2019 at 7pm in the Haeg Room at City Hall.