

Board of Directors Meeting

August 30, 2015

Present: Greg Brooks, Matt Quinn, Mike Czerwonka, Seb Spada, John Devanny, Rob Newman, Steve Ladd, Karen Warren, Andrew Prestash,

Absent: None

Agenda

Equipment
Resignations
New board candidates
Fall Ball
Concession at Lawrence
Middletown fields update
Name change process
Ability Based Proposal

Equipment

- John now has Seb's key. Seb is officially resigning from the board after 8 years.
- Baroni/Romegialli storage is packed and not ideal location for distribution. Equipment bags are the biggest challenge.
- Karen has not heard back from the city yet regarding the possibility of city provisioned storage. Mike C. to follow up with city on progress.
- Rent a storage unit? May need to rent temporarily. 10'x15' \$134/mo. Extra Space Storage. John is going to call and find out information and availability.
- Potential to split with Ahearn Whalen? They have a double size storage. Offered to split it.
- Seb will work with John to get him up to speed.

Resignations

- Sean Clark, Seb Spada, Mike Larkin, and Jen Randazzese have resigned from the Board.
- Actively recruiting for new members. October is the open meeting to be announced.

Board Candidates and October meeting

- Andy heard interest from 4 individuals.
- Jen Lane, Wesleyan's Head Softball Coach is interested in joining. Seb will be happy to assist in transitioning the softball program and all the contacts to Jen.
- One parent who volunteered may be moving, but their kids are able to stay in Middletown Little League once they start in the program.

- Other individuals include Jaron Behm, Stephanie Barry, and Tom Shea.
- October meeting - board disbanded and positions re-elected. Open invitation to folks with all Board positions advertised.

Board meeting location

- Option to have meetings at First Church congregational for \$75/month.
- Legion Hall may be an option for free first on Sunday of the month. Steve Ladd has a key that would have to be available to us. Steve will investigate Legion Hall as an option.

Fall Ball

- Jen Randazzese is handling fall ball scheduling and attending the meeting for District 9.
- Three fall ball teams; 1 U10 baseball, 2 U12 baseball, 1 U12 Softball
 - Large softball team. Play doubleheaders and will split the squad. Different groups play each game.
- Tryouts took place and teams are capped at 12.
- Fall coaches: Paul Greco, Clinton O'Brien, Brody Santagata
- Ahearn Fall - Charter Jr Baseball and Sr Big League baseball. Need to add charter for these two teams. Karen to verify teams chartered for fall.

Ability Based Proposal

- Most towns are ability based (vs. age-based) programs. Are we going to pursue the proposal that was drafted?
- How would we execute the evaluation and placement? This is not tryouts - but placement level evaluations. Players not turned down for Little League.
- Communication of the plan will be critical. Community needs to know that the system is changing.
- Need to send letter as well as emails.
- Handling late registrations is an issue.
- Evaluators - Legion players?
- Discussion about the winter training programs and marketing toward evaluations. Baseball was more successful than softball. How to promote softball better?
- Discussion re venue for baseball.

Name Change

- Karen and Andy met to finalize
- MYBBSB.org is available and most popular choice. Rob to register domain name with GoDaddy. Looking for email addresses.
- Rob to handle configure League Athletics site and changing explicit links on site.
- Need to remove from banner at top of page. Need new landing page design.
- middletownmonarchs.org has been registered as a domain name. Will forward to mybbsb.org?
- Rob needs someone to provide some content re Monarchs program.

Vandalism at Hubbard

- damage to equipment and stolen equipment
- Long chain to lock the L screens in the batting cages.
- Mike is informing the police of the situation; perhaps increased patrol?

Lawrence Concession

- How can we provide food for the Monarchs double-headers? Reach out to charity groups and see if any interest? Food trucks? Mike to reach out to trucks.
- Mike will order backdrop screens for Lawrence.

City Fields Update

- Council voting to have a \$37M bond for major fields upgrade.
- Recent meeting resulted in artificial turf being removed from language of proposal.
- Another council member is questioning keeping the \$37M if not going to have artificial turf.
- Discussion regarding merits of turf vs. natural. Where could new fields be built? What would be commitment to maintaining new fields.

Constitution Revisions

- Mike working on revisions to constitution to update and re-draw the map.
- Discussion regarding plan moving forward with Little League.
- School forms and eligibility should be addressed at registration and not at All Stars time.
- Andy spent time talking to other leagues and got some valuable input.

Middletown Monarchs

- 1 10U and 1 12U teams. Had initial scrimmage. Good experience for both teams.
- 10U schedule: 20 games - all double-headers.
- First game under the lights at CT Sportsplex.

Motion to adjourn by Rob and seconded by Matt.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Next meeting is Sunday, October 4 at 5:00 PM