



Minutes – November 7, 2016

Called to Order – 7:07 pm; Minnie Moore Room @ Community Center

Board Members Present: Lindsay Atienza, Bonnie Burrell, Mark Elsbree, Jack Flolo, Travis Nisson, Trent Shoemaker, Brad Thompson, Kory Ward

Board Members Absent: Gina McLaren

Non-Board Members Present: Ashley Adams, Sarah Benson, Kirk Felger, Lars Hovey, Barrett Molter, Bunny Nelson, Matt Nelson, Jim Parris, Tami Saleen, Amanda Seaward, Shelly Shoemaker, Sherri Thomsen, Phillip Uhrig

Brad Thompson made a motion to approve minutes from October 3, 2016 meeting minutes. Mark Elsbree seconded. All in favor. Oct 3rd meeting minutes will be posted by Jeff McLaren on the WRBSA website.

Open Comments/Questions from the WR Community –

- Congrats to Legion by Matt Nelson.
- Lars Hovey asked about what the consequences will be for folks going outside the association.
- Bonnie Burrell asked Lars Hovey what his thoughts are on this.

Announce Renaming of the 10U and 12U Teams – Brad Thompson

Brad Thompson discussed renaming of the teams. In the December board meeting, we are to put a final vote on what the names should be. Would like to keep the cowboy theme and coincide with Legion.

Announce Coach Applications Posting and Due Date – Brad Thompson

Brad Thompson announced that coaching applications will be due a lot earlier this year. The deadline has been moved up to the beginning of the year. The applications will be posted in December and will close at the end of January. Applications will be posted online at Website, Facebook, and will advertise in newspaper. The organization will support full season or short season,

whatever fits the kids needs. Goal is to push for 2 full season 12U teams and 2 10U teams. Looking for coaches for 4 softball teams as well (16U, 14U, 12U, and 10U).

Update from Legion Director – Kirk Felger

Great season but coaching consistency is a huge issue. Took first last year with Legion. They had three teams this year. We had one B team and had 17 kids. We had one of our best season in Wood River Baseball. Legion program is a feeder program for our high school. Goal is to get them to Varsity baseball. It is development and baseball community to realize. Tons of love for each other on the team and no fighting. It made them state champions. We need to agree and trust the coaches. It takes a whole village of baseball to love each other from thick and thin. Huge thank you to Shelly Shoemaker for the concession director. A lot of talent in this community for baseball. 30–40 games this year again for Legion. All 6 seniors went to play college baseball.

Questions?

Mark Elsbree – 2 years ago Legion B was new. Why did we get rid of Babe Ruth, we did so they could play more games? Buses were provided and we paid for gas. It helped with travel and team dynamic. This year it was a little better for Legion B so two seasons new thing for district C. Babe Ruth going away in Idaho.

Update from Baseball Director – Brad Thompson

10u and 12u were very successful. We did 7 tournaments for full season teams and 4 for short season. 12U full season won Salmon tournament. 10U full season placed 5 out of 7 tournaments and won Rupert. Brad Thompson and Donnie Green coached 10U short season team. Mark Elsbree coached the 12U short season team with Jeff McLaren. Seeing the improvement was huge in the short season. Tough to lose but having fun and being there. Numbers are important. With good success and recruitment, we hope to get some more players to fill out the teams. This past year, 46–47 kids 12 and under for baseball. Teaching life skills and baseball skills to these kids.

Update from Softball Director – Lindsay Atienza

3 teams for softball this year. Ashley Adams coached one team and we had a 6-year-old on the team to field the team. They became a family and were not winning a lot of games. 12U struggled fielding a team but was coached by Katie Estrada. They made it to four tournaments and really struggled this year. They were pulling girls from Buhl to field a team. 14U was by far our strongest team. It is a feeder program and is building our high school teams. 6 tournaments for the 14u. Softball family is being built. We were not able to field a 16u team. We will hope to be fielding a team next year for 16u. There was a lot of

miscommunication and organization. Lindsay apologized for all of this. Commitment is hard for softball in this community. Questions?

What tournaments are they expecting next year?

Questions for the 10u softball program plans?

Matt answered this question for Lindsay.

Parents of a 12U getting commitment is not correct. Too much of a general statement. We did not have correct information to get people involved.

Concerns about this program.

We used outside girls to fill these teams. We used these girls out of necessity to fill these teams. Teams are not filled with all local and not a lot of interest. It is up and coming for softball. The softball program is growing. Board is concerned about growing it and wants to help the program.

Concerns about the softball program from parents. They want to know how board is going to make it better.

Baseball had tournaments picked at try outs and commitment. Families will need to fully commit. Clear information out early about the season. Lots of talk on how to get commitment like baseball does. Emails were not clear but misinformation about the teams. It has left a bad taste in peoples' mouths. They want board to guide them. The coaches are struggling and want board to guide them. Softball hasn't made a clear schedule to keep expectations. Concerns on how we are getting coaches. What is the chain of command conversation? The parents want training on their side. Biggest frustration is clear direct communication. Lots of conversation on the softball issues.

Elections for the Following –

Baseball Director –

Nomination by email: Jake Hothem

Nomination Donnie Green – declined the nomination.

Jake Hothem is Baseball Director.

Softball Director

Nomination Ashley Adams would do with co-director

Nomination Tammy – declined the nomination.

Nomination Sarah would do with co-director

Nomination Matt – declined the nomination.

Brad Thompson made a motion to split Softball Director to be a Co-director position. Lindsey seconded it. All in favor

Ashely Adams and **Sarah Benson** voted in as Softball Co-Directors.

Legion Director

Nomination Kirk Fleger

Kirk Fleger is Legion Director.

Treasurer

Nomination Shelly Shoemaker

Nomination Bonnie Burrell – declined the nomination.

Shelly Shoemaker is Treasurer.

Thanks to Bonnie Burrell for all the hard work.

(2) Baseball General Board Members

Nomination Phillip Uhrig – No, explain saying friendship broken up.

Nomination Barrett Molter – No

Nomination Travis Nisson – Accept

Nomination Donnie – No

Nomination Bunny Nelson – No

Nomination Jim – No

Travis Nisson is a general baseball board member.

(1) position open for baseball board member.

Other Business –

Softball discussion Matt Nelson bringing to the table. People are afraid to become part of the board. Matt Nelson is feeling frustrated people don't want to be part of the board. Matt Nelson feels board doesn't mesh well. Softball director felt she didn't have the support from the board. Budgets overseen by Brad Thompson and losing support by rogue. Pretty upset we were told that the Softball Program is \$6000 in debt. When we raise money and have to have these girls punished. Fees were wrong and emails saying you were going to knock out these debt. Tons of frustration with this money. Matt Nelson mad about the budget. After much discussion about fundraising and what we would do, the board asked Matt Nelson and softball to come to December meeting with a proposal for the fundraising funds within WRBSA's parameters. These are that each organization can do one (1) fundraiser a year that will offset team player fees. They either need to pick one of the fundraisers they did to count for next year or put all the money they fundraised into the general fund and organize a fundraiser for next year for fees. There was much discussion about how baseball and all other fundraising goes to general fund which helped pay

for softball shortfalls for 3 years and how some felt it isn't fair that softball keeps all their own fundraising when they have used other funds to stay afloat.

2 year 3 month term ideas to help with transitioning board members.

Next Meeting: December 5th, 2016 7:00pm

Brad Thompson made a motion to adjourn. Mark Elsbree seconded. All in favor.