

Attendees

T. J. Barresi	Charles Button	Pete Crisanti	Anne Marie Edwards
Ric Gaudet	Bob Gegetskas	Bill Gozzo	Mike Loftus
Scott MacGregor	Greg Malloy	Craig Mann	Sandy Miller
Bill Morneault	John Nolan	Jeff Nunes	Steven Romero
Tim Rice	Gary Tasillo	Nick Vavalle	Jeff Vibes

Next Meeting

7:00 P.M. Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at St. Casimir's.

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 P.M.

The minutes from the meeting held on October 8, 2008 were approved.

BBC

John Fote, a partner and coach at Baseball City, reviewed upcoming offerings/events at BBC:

- They have produced a DVD curriculum on fielding, throwing, batting and practice management, which is available at their retail store located at BBC in Hartford.
- They offer a travel baseball program which is available all year. The players play on a 75 ft infield with modified rules and practice are held at BBC.
- On 11/22, from 11:00 to 1:30, BBC will sponsor a coach's clinic with guest speaker Buck Showalter. BBC extended WILL a reduced rate depending on the number of people from WILL who attend.

Ric Gaudet noted the following:

- Given the positive feedback on this year's hitting clinic held at BBC, Ric is working on setting up hitting and pitching clinics for the beginning of next year. Tentative dates are:
 - The Sundays from 1/4 thru 2/15 for hitting.
 - The Sundays from 2/22 thru 4/9 for pitching.

- Given the money that can be made from tournaments, Ric is looking into a joint venture with BBC for a summer baseball tournament at Welch Park. Among other possibilities, revenue could be made by running our concession stand during the tournament.

Action Item

Ric will:

- send out an email, to parties of interest, detailing the particulars of the Buck Showalter Coaching Clinic,
- firm up dates for the hitting and pitching clinics at BBC and send an e-mail to parties of interest, and
- work with BBC to determine the plausibility and logistics of partnering to sponsor a summer baseball tournament at Welch Park then provide a report to the Board.

2009 Calendar

The calendar, which was tentatively established last month, was further augmented this month. Dates are tentative based on availability as noted.

- Collection Day(s) – 5/2 and 5/9/09. One of the biggest concerns noted was how we can encourage team/player participation. Collection Day is a major source of revenue for WILL... last year we did not have enough volunteers to cover all the collection locations.
- Picture Day - 5/3 with a rain date of 5/17/09 – Given the poor performance of last year's photographer, and the aggravation that accompanies picture day, the possibility of eliminating picture day was discussed. It was agreed that the aggravation was worth it because many parents, especially those of younger players, want the memory. Further, having each team do their own informal team pictures would not allow parents to select from professional packages.

Action Item

- Jeff V. will update the calendar and upload it on WILL's Web-site.
- Scott MacGregor will speak with Mark Fredette, the past Director of Fundraising to come up with options to maintain/increase participation.
- Bill M. will communicate these dates to the picture day coordinator.

Diamond Club

Ric presented the following proposal from the Diamond Club to those in attendance:

- Background:
 - The Windsor Diamond Club (a High School Baseball Booster Club) has been actively pursuing the building of dugouts for the two baseball fields at Windsor High School. Plans have been submitted to the town and are in the final step of the approval process.

- The plan submitted has a \$40,000 price tag (\$10,000 per dugout). The dugouts would be constructed with a decorative block and would include storage room at a dugout on each field. The dugouts would be enclosed with fencing, which would allow for the dugout to be secured when not in use. Included in the plan is to build a three wall block enclosure, which would discretely house portable bathroom facilities.
- The final step, which includes approving funding for the project, is submitting our plan to the town council for approval.
- The outstanding charge - The Town's Director of Recreation placed, on the baseball community plate, the challenge to come up with a dollar amount that we can contribute towards the project. Once a we provide him a figure, he will proceed with getting the project on the Council's agenda
- The Request:
 - The Diamond Club is asking all the organizations, that make up the Windsor' baseball community, to contribute \$5,000. These organizations include:
 - The Windsor Diamond Club – Windsor High School's Baseball Booster Club
 - Windsor Youth Baseball (Legion, Junior Legion, TD Banknorth & TD Banknorth Prep Teams)
 - Senior League Baseball
 - Windsor American Little League
 - Windsor International Little League
 - The benefits - Each organization will benefit from these dugouts. The benefits to WILL are as follows:
 - Senior Little League falls under WILL's charter. The teams in Senior Little League, and by default each of their players, use the fields where the dug outs will be built.
 - Any young man who currently plays Little League in WILL and moves on to Seniors, Windsor Youth Baseball, and/or High School Baseball will benefit.
- The discussion on the proposal reviewed the following:
 - The benefits to WILL and WILL's solid financial position. We have the money to support this and still do everything we are planning in the year to come, which includes building a new concession stand and lavatory.
 - A concern arose that the largest population under WILL's charter, the Little Leaguers, will not directly benefit from these dugouts. The flip side of that concern was the benefit to Senior Little League and prior Little Leaguers who were once Little Leagues in WILL. These players and their families helped WILL grow into the financially strong organization it is.
- The motion – After discussion the follow motion was made and seconded:

WILL is willing to support up to \$5000 towards the building of four dugouts at the high school to benefit baseball in the town of Windsor and Senior Little League, which is part of WILL's charter.

This motion was approved by a majority.

Action Items

- Ric will provide an update regarding the funding that each member of Windsor's baseball community agreed to.
- Once this update is provided, the Board will vote on how much, if anything, it will actually support.

Other/New Business

Concession Stand

A suggestion was made that Dave Ziaks and Bill Gozzo coordinate a presentation to the Board on the building of the concession stand.

Action Item

Sandy Miller will contact and work with Dave and Bill G. to support this initiative.

New Manager Meeting

Tim asked that anyone interested in taking on one of the vacant Manager positions, in the Majors, attend the next Board meeting. Tim wants to convene a new Manager meeting after that Board meeting.

Action Item

Tim will ensure that an invitation is sent out to all those interested in being a Manager in the Majors.

By-laws

The first meeting had to be cancelled due to a conflict. Ric's goal is to convene the first meeting before December's Board meeting.

Action Item

Ric will set a date and send out an invitation to all those on the committee.

Sound System

Our current system has exceeded its life expectancy. Last month Dennis Morgan noted that a wireless system, which would easily be strong enough to meet our needs, could cost as much as \$2,000. The Board asked if there are less expensive wireless systems that could meet our needs. Further, the Board noted that it would be helpful to get more information on permanent systems.

Steve R. asked what it would cost to rent a PA system. The thought was that, for the number of times a year we use a PA system, it might prove cost effective to rent. Dennis was unable to attend this month's meeting so Steve offered to do research regarding renting a PA system.

Action Items

- Dennis Morgan will continue his research and report back next month.
- Steve will do his research and report back next month.

Portable Food Cart

Bob G. proposed the possibility of purchasing a portable food cart which would allow parents to watch the game as a volunteer. There were a couple of question raised:

- Do we need an additional Health Department License?
- If so, what license would be needed and what does it cost?

Action Item

Bob will do research on the cost of a portable food cart and licensing. He will report his findings to the Board next month.

Field 2 Beautification

Bob G. proposed the possibility of beautifying Field 2's field house by landscaping the back and painting Windsor International Little League on the back of the building.

Action Item

Bob will do research on the cost of beautifying Field 2 as noted above and report back next month.

Action Item Log

It was suggested that an Action Item Log be created. The concern was that items may be getting lost. Bill M. welcomed the idea and agreed to create a log.

Action Item

Bill M. will create a running Action Item Log.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Morneault - Secretary.