

Attendees

T. J. Barresi	Rusty Cleveland	Pete Crisanti	Anne Marie Edwards
Ric Gaudet	Bob Gegetskas	Paul Gegetskas	Bill Gozzo
Tim Johnson	Mike Loftus	Scott MacGregor	Greg Malloy
Craig Mann	Sandy Miller	Dennis Morgan	Bill Morneault
John Nolan	Jeff Nunes	Steven Ramero	Tim Rice
Gary Tasillo	Nick Vavalle	Jeff Vibes	

Next Meeting

7:00 P.M. Wednesday, October 8, 2008 at St. Casimir's.

Minutes

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

The minutes from the meetings held on June 11, 2008 and May 14th, 2008 were approved.

Treasure's Report**Summer Softball**

Mike reported on his research and discussions with constituents regarding the costs associated with softball teams using the softball fields for practice and games during the summer. The goal of his efforts was to determine an appropriate fee for summer softball. It was agreed that the total charge would be \$500, which would be paid as follows.

- Each team would pay \$100 amounting to \$200.
- A grant for \$300 would cover the rest.

Emergency Phone

Mike cancelled ATT after All-stars ended due to the lack of need, service and cost.

Action Item

Mike will look into other phone vendors for next year.

All-star Concessions

There were gaps in All-star concession coverage this year. The approach used was that parents of teams not playing would volunteer to cover the concession stand. This approach was taken so parents could watch their son's/daughter's game; unfortunately there were not always enough volunteers, especially for softball games. It was agreed that a new approach should be taken but details were not discussed.

Action Item

The VP of Baseball will work with the Concession Director and All-star managers to come up with a new approach. They will report back to the Board for approval.

Open Board Positions

The October Board meeting is when Board member are nominated and elected for the next year. This year several key positions will be open including the President and Concession Director.

Action Item

Jeff V. will update the website and send out a note.

Fall Ball

- Softball reported that they had enough players/teams to support three levels.
- Baseball reported that they had almost 80 players; they were able to support three teams on the big diamond and 3 teams on the small diamond.
- Fees charged - \$20 for the small diamond and \$50 for the big diamond. It was agreed that we should consider raising the fees.

Action Item

The VP of Baseball will work with the Treasure to determine an appropriate fee and report back to the Board for approval.

Field Closing

It was agreed that the field closing date will be October 25th with a rain date of October 26th or the following weekend.

Action Item

Jeff V. will update the website and send out a note.

Baseball City

Ric and Jeff V. noted that the feedback on Baseball City (clinics and the tryouts held there) was positive.

- Clinics - Ric noted that he would like to do both hitting and pitching clinics there.
- Tryout – There was some constructive feedback on the tryout format, which was discussed. It was agreed that we could have done the tryouts in one day verse having fielding and hitting on two different days. A second day would be scheduled for make-ups.
- Plaque of Appreciation – BBC did not charge WILL for the use of their facility during tryouts. It was determined that a plaque to BBC would be a nice gesture.

Action Items

- Ric will schedule tryouts early to secure prime dates.
- Ric will report back next month on:
 - hitting and pitching clinics,
 - BBC Plaque of Appreciation, and
 - tryout dates.

Used Equipment

It was noted that as players get older they grow out of perfectly good equipment such as bats, gloves, helmets, and even shoes. It was suggested that WILL's website could be used to advertise used equipment at a discount or even for free. After discussion consensus was reached that WILL's web site could be used for this purpose; WILL will receive no revenue from sales of any goods.

Action Item

Jeff V. agreed to organize a bulletin board on WILL's web-site.

By-laws Committee

Ric would like to review the by-laws earlier this year. He noted that the by-laws are reviewed yearly by a committee, as a means of taking lessons learned from the past year to enrich this living document as needed. The areas that tend to draw the most discussion are the draft process and the All-star selection process. This year another topic that will be addressed is Welch Award nominations from managers.

Action Item

Ric will send out an e-mail to managers, coaches and other parties of interest to secure volunteers for this committee.

Welch Award Nominations

Some managers have yet to submit nominations for this award which recognizes a player who, among other things, improves over the year, demonstrates team spirit and sportsmanship.

Action Item

Ric will contact those managers who have yet to submit a name to secure nominations.

Bradley Shed Door

The door to the Bradley shed is in need of repair; the lock is broken. If the lock cannot be fixed, the door will need to be replaced. The cost of doing either was approved.

Action Item

Jeff N. will take the lead on this effort.

Locks

There are several locks that need to be replaced. The cost of replacing any lock that needs to be replaced was approved.

Action Item

Jeff N. and Paul G. will access the locks and replace any that are broken.

Tractors

Paul G. noted that the orange tractor cannot be fixed but the silver one can be repaired. Given this, it was agreed that the orange tractor should be replaced.

Action Item

John Nolan offered to research the cost of purchasing a used versus new tractor. He will report his findings at the next meeting.

Fences/Gates

The fences and gates on several fields are in need of repair. Further, there was a discussion about putting up safety fencing between fields one and two as well as the first base side of field two. It was agreed that:

- the fences and gates should be assessed to determine what it would cost to repair/replace them; and
- it should be determined what it would cost for safety fencing.

Action Item

Jeff N. will work with Mr. Liedke to determine what it would cost to either repair or replace gates and fencing as well as the cost for safety fencing.

Bathrooms/Concession Stand

Jeff V. reported that Dave Ziaks will spearhead a project to build new bathrooms and concession stand. There are opportunities for securing financial support from fundraising and the town. This, coupled with contributions from WILL, should make the project affordable. Those in attendance acknowledge the work that Jeff V. and Bill Gozzo did to get the ball rolling on this.

Action Item

We anticipate Dave will be presenting a proposal to the Board next month.

Uniforms

It was noted that some regular season and All-star uniforms have yet to be returned by managers.

Action Item

Paul will follow-up with managers as needed and report back next month.

New Business

Synthetic Fields

It would cost \$7 per square foot, which equates to \$20,000 to replace the infield on field two. Before exploring this any further, it was determined that we need to find out if Little League allows play on synthetic fields.

Action Item

Ric and Jeff N. will check with Little League to address this question and report back next month.

PA system

The PA system is old and in need of repair/replacement. One possible solution is to go wireless.

Action Item

Dennis Morgan will look into the cost of replacing the system and report back next month.

Vandalism

We have had costly vandalism, which seems to have increased recently. Town police do drive through periodically but the problem persists. Discussion ensued around surveillance systems. Several options were discussed; a system that takes pictures triggered by a motion sensor has promise.

Action Item

Scott MacGregor will look into the cost of such a system as well as other options and report back next month.

Play-offs and All-stars

Pete Crisanti suggested the following:

- Provide a handout to new parents outlining All-star responsibilities. He created a sample doc which Ric accepted. This year many new parents were unaware of the commitment inherent in All-stars.
- Set next year's calendar so that play-offs end before the first day All-star practice can begin. Play-offs ran past the day All-star practice can begin, which delayed the start of All-star practices and left teams less prepared for their first game.
- Post the play-offs calendar on the web-site

These suggestions were discussed and changes will be made for next year.

Action Item

Jeff V. and Ric will address these suggestions as appropriate.

New Indoor Softball Facility

Sandy noted that there is a new indoor softball facility in the area. There may be opportunity to develop a relationship with them as baseball has with BBC.

Action Item

Bill A. and Sandy will open lines of communications with the owners of this new facility to see what they might be able to offer WILL.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Morneault - Secretary.