

**Attendees**

Bill Alexander	T. J. Barresi	Pete Crisanti	Anne Marie Edwards
Walter Felgate	Ric Gaudet	Paul Gegetskas	Bill Gozzo
Andrew Hallgren	Tom Harris	Tim Johnson	Mike Loftus
Scott MacGregor	Greg Malloy	Craig Mann	Sandy Miller
Dennis Morgan	Bill Morneault	Tim Rice	Lawrence P. Rizzo
Stephen Rubino	Troy Ruff	Bob Stickels	Gary Tasillo
Nick Vavalle	Jeff Vibes		

**Next Meeting**

- 8:30 P.M. Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at St. Casimir's.
- A special open Board meeting will be held on April 22, 2009 to discuss the WILL/WALL merger and succession planning. The time and location have yet to be determined.

**Action Item**

Mike L. will finalize and communicate the time and location of the special open Board meeting.

**Minutes**

- The meeting was called to order at 7:20 P.M.
- The minutes from the meeting held on March 11, 2009 were approved.

**Treasure's Report**

Mike Loftus reported the following:

- We have \$74,000 in our account.
- Of that \$21,000 came from registrations, which should cover our operating expenses this year.
- Given the above our net funds, after operating expenses, are projected to be about \$53,000.

- CLP – Mike believes there is an opportunity for lowering our expenses and will look into vendors.

### **Action Item**

Mike will research vendors to replace CLP and share his findings next month.

### **Field Clean-up**

There was a solid turnout; the fields were play-ready by 1:00 P.M. It was suggested that next year we market the event stronger through:

- Directors, and
- offering pizza for lunch to all volunteers.

### **Action Item**

Jeff N. will organize next year's field day and break out assignments by Director... they will coordinate the completion of their assigned tasks. He will also bring this up as part of secession planning.

### **Safety Officer Report**

Troy reported the following:

- Coaches' Meeting - The turnout was good but some managers were missing... teams were not represented.
- Fencing - The town agreed to pick up the full cost to repair the fencing, which will be done before opening day.
- AAA Field - The hole in centerfield and the bases have been repaired.

Lawrence reported the following:

- Players are not allowed to wear jewelry on the field. The umpires will be checking before each game.
- We are encouraging young men to wear a cup this year and all players to wear a mouth guard.
- He asked if there was any way to prohibit the use of tobacco around the field. It was noted that the only way tobacco could be prohibited was through a town ordinance, which does not currently exist.
- He noted, other than a few document exceptions, Little League requires all bats to be rated as 1.15 BPF.

### **Action Items**

- The safety packet, which was handed out during the coaches' meeting, will be placed on the website in adobe format. Both Troy and Jeff V. will work on this.
- Troy will ensure that the safety kit containers, which he ordered for T-ball, are distributed upon receipt.
- Larry will petition next year's By-laws Committee to require young men to wear a cup.
- Larry will ensure that exceptions to the 1.15 BPF rating are posted in the press-box and on the web-site. As part of this action item Larry will provide a link for inclusion on the web-site.

## **Umpire Clinic**

There were about 20 people at the umpire clinic, which lasted about 3 ½ hours. As in the past, Vic Proulx did a great job. One suggestion was made regarding splitting the clinic into two sessions. For continuity, and considering the possible obstacles associated with having people attend two sessions, it was agreed that this training is best done in one session.

## **Concession Training**

Nick V. reported that the training has been completed and the stand was cleaned on opening day. There is a need for the following:

- A closer for the Monday sift, which is 6:00 – 8:30 PM.
- A Sunday mid-shift manager

It was suggested that a rotation might work. Further, given that Monday has traditionally not been a money maker, we could consider not opening the stand on Mondays.

## **Action Items**

- Jeff V. will add Concession Stand Director information on the web-site.
- Nick and Jeff V. will work on putting the concession schedule on the web-site.
- Nick will address the lack of a Monday closer and a Sunday mid-shift manager.

## **Game Schedules and Batting Cages at Scott's**

### **Game Schedules**

Ric reported that the schedules for AA and below are not completed; coordination with WALL has not been finalized. Once completed, Ric will coordinate with Jeff V. to load on the web-site.

### **Batting Cages**

- Last year WILL funded the use of batting cages for each team based on the following:
  - Major BB and Junior SB Teams – 4 hours

- AAA Teams – 3 hours
- AA Teams – 2 hours
- After some discussion, the Board agreed to increase the funded amount for the minor league teams. As with last year, this funding will have end date; this year's end date is May 1<sup>st</sup>. Below is this year's funding amounts:
  - Major BB and Junior SB Teams – 4 hours
  - AAA Teams – 4 hours
  - AA Teams – 3 hours

### **Opening Day Agenda**

- 10:30 - Teams (including members of the Challenger Program) will assemble at Poguonock School and begin marching at 10:50. Bill Morneault will coordinate.
- 11:15 – President's welcome and short speech – Greg Malloy
- 11:20 – Presentation of the Welch award by the Hawes and Barmucci families.
- 11:25 – National Anthem. Greg to secure performer; if one cannot be secured the back-up will be a CD.
- 11:30 – Play Ball

### **Action Items**

- Greg will secure performer(s) for the National Anthem.
- Jeff N. and Paul G. will secure a crew to prepare the fields for play on opening day.
- Gary Tasillo will look into having the Boy Scouts raise the flags and follow-up with Greg.

### **Sound System**

TJ reported that the new public address system for Fields 1 and 2 have been chosen. They will be hard-wired.

- Field 1 will have a single 121 decibel field horn, hung over the press box, powered by a 180 watt mixer.
- Field 2 will have two 121 decibel field horns, hung either over the press box or on light poles, powered by a 960 watt mixer. Due to the opening day dead-line, the field horns will have to be temporarily installed in the press box.
- The total cost of both sound systems is \$2,184 under the approved \$2,500.

### **Action Items**

- TJ will ensure that the sound system is in working order for opening day.
- TJ will work with Jeff N. to permanently install the field horns for Field 2.

### **Upcoming Dates**

- Chris Corkum's Coaching Clinic – April 16<sup>th</sup> 7 – 9:30 P.M. at Fast Pitch Nation (\$30 per coach). It was noted that Chris works very well with younger players and this clinic would benefit coaches in T-ball, A, and AA. It was agreed that the league would reimburse WILL coaches at these levels who attend this clinic. Any coach interested must contact their director.
- Collection Days – April 25<sup>th</sup> and May 2<sup>nd</sup> starting at 8:00 A.M.
- Picture Day – May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Rock Cats' Hit, Run, and Throw Competition, for any 9 and 10 year old Little Leaguer, will be held on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:45 A.M.
- League Picnic – June 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Rock Cats Game - June 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Action Items**

- Mike L. will contact T-ball, A, and AA director's and have them get the word out to their coaches regarding Chris Corkum's Coaching Clinic.
- Greg M. will contact the Challenger League to see if they would like to join us on Picture Day.
- Ric G. will finalize game schedules and Manager contact information for all divisions and Jeff V. will update the web-site. This information is needed to complete the photo schedule for Pitcher Day.
- Bill M. will create and distribute a flyer for the Rock Cats' Hit Run and Throw Competition.
- Greg M. will contact the town to open the pool for the League Picnic and schedule Life Guards. (There will be a minor charge to WILL for the Life Guards.)
- Bill M. will create and distribute a flyer for the League Picnic.

### **Softball Uniforms and Pitching Machine**

- Uniforms - TJ reported that All-Star uniforms and helmets, for WILL/WALL Softball, need to be replaced. The sets are incomplete and well used. 45 uniforms and 18 helmets would cost about \$3,000 of which WALL is willing to pay half the cost. The Board approved \$1,500 to purchase these uniforms.
- Pitching Machine - Bill A. noted that the older pitching machine was stolen last October; the new machine was not taken and is used regularly. A police report was not filed because the

theft was not noticed immediately and the machine was well used. Given this, and our deductible, a claim was not file with the insurance company. It would cost about \$1,600 to replace. The Board did not approve the purchase of a new machine to replace the stolen one. The Board suggested that Bill A. should bring this up again next month, once we get a better handle on where we stand financially.

### **Action Item**

- TJ and Bill A. will work with Mike L.'s counterpart at WALL and Mike L. to purchase Softball's All-Star Uniforms.
- Bill A. will bring up the purchase of a new pitching machine for softball again next month.

## **New Business**

### **Year Book**

There was discussion about putting together our first annual WILL year book. Casey Johnson, a form WILL player and Tim Johnson's eldest son, is willing to do the work. He would need one photo of each team. This idea was well received.

### **Action Item**

Bill M. will contact the photographer to get a handle on what it would cost to get one team photo of each team and report back next month.

### **Safety Nets**

Paul G. reported his findings on the cost of safety nets, which is noted below:

- \$1,600 for first base line on Field 2.
- 1,800 for the area between Field 1 and 2.
- 400 for the first base line on Field 1.

The purpose of these nets is to prevent injuries to both fans and players. Given the purpose, the Board approved spending \$4,000 on these nets.

### **Action Item**

Paul G. will coordinate the purchase and installation of the safety nets.

### **Lietchy Shed**

Paul G. reported that the door to Lietchy Shed needs to be replaced. The current door is damaged beyond repair. The cost to replace the door is \$800. This was approved by the Board.

### **Action Item**

Paul G. will coordinate the purchase and installation of the door to Lietchy Shed.

## **Uniforms**

Paul G. noted that he continues to follow-up on missing uniforms from last year.

## **Shad Derby Parade**

Dennis Morgan offered to approach the Shad Derby Coordinator if we are interested in marching in this year's Shad Derby Parade. We have not marched in several years; Saturdays are our practice day. There was concern expressed regarding the perception that marching would bring, given our efforts to merge with WALL who does march. It was agreed that we wait until next year.

## **Action Item**

Dennis Morgan will bring up marching in the 2010 Shad Derby Parade before the season starts next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Morneault - Secretary.