

**Penns Valley Little League Baseball**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Sunday, August 7, 2016 – 5 p.m. at PVEI Cafeteria**

**Board Members Present:**

Crystal Confer, Bob Gillespie, Shannon Stover, and Rich Sweitzer

**Board Members Not Present:**

Beth King, Brian Niewinski, and Mike Watson

**Others Present:**

Judy Brooks, Shelley Feltenberger, Zoe Meyer, Jess Miller, Christine Sailors, Kelly Shouey, Joe Shouey, and Mary Stoner.

Meeting called to order at 5:09 p.m. by Rich Sweitzer.

**Public Comments:**

There was a general discussion about some concerns on how the 7/8 All Star team was organized. The biggest concern was the lateness in getting the team together and organized. The team wasn't ready to compete like the other teams they played and parents are concerned for next year and players not wanting to go out for baseball given their all star experience and not winning games.

Rich Sweitzer reported on behalf of the board that there were a few issues getting all the teams organized for 7/8's, 9/10's, and 10/11's. The main reason was lack of managers and having to find them for all three teams. The reason the 9/10's struggled this year was due to us having a District 10/11 Team.

It was suggested to do a survey for specific all star teams so that parents could see if they would be willing to commit to post season, players want to compete, any interest in managing or coaching, etc. This should be done well in advance of all stars, like at the beginning of the season so you have the information.

Another issue was parents felt there should have been tryouts for the different levels. In past years this has been done and has been successful. There were some kids that were overlooked as they played on a different division than post season and coaches weren't aware so some players weren't even considered. Parents would of felt more comfortable in order to do all stars if there was a tryout. Rich Sweitzer reported again on behalf of the board that a few years ago the League had a two-day tryout and all ages were invited to try out and coaches could be there to evaluate.

Overall, communication needs to improve. There was a lot of missed information among the four post-season teams. A lot of the information should have been communicated to all managers at the same time so all divisions were aware of what was going on.

Parents also expressed their dislike of the “keeper league” for next year. The feeling is that it’s unfair to the kids that some teams have more experienced kids than others and it appears as if the teams are stacked. Rich Sweitzer reported on behalf of the board that the League has reached out to other local leagues and this is how they advance and stay competitive

It was asked of the board to discuss how sponsorship was to work in post-season. Rich reported on behalf of the board that the managers went to find sponsorship to off set the costs the League paid for each post-season team. Sponsorship money helped with uniforms and tournament fees. If there was something specific the team wanted for the players, the money could be asked of the sponsor and their money could be ear marked. It was noted that it states in our constitution as there is no solicitation for individual donations; if one person from Team A asks a business and someone else asks the same business from Team B it looks as we don’t communicate and this impacts on our image. In the future if we are doing sponsorship for post-season it was recommended that the fundraising chair be in charge of this to avoid any overlap.

It was asked about all the ‘extras’ the 11/12 District Team received. Rich commented that he as a dad reached out to businesses for donations to be used for certain items for the players given this was their last year in Little League. It was suggested that the League does something for all players leaving Little League in regular season, not just in post season. Softball does something for all those kids that are leaving the Little League.

#### Treasurer’s Report

Our current balance is \$3,034.49.

Rich Sweitzer did a comparison from last season versus this season given we changed some fundraisers, added player fees and add post-season sponsorships.

The 12U tournament overall took in \$3,900 for team fees and profited \$1,771 for concessions; the League paid out \$1,110 for umpires; \$822.64 for trophies which resulted in \$1,967.36 profit. The total estimated profit from the post season tournament was an estimated \$3,738.43 total profit from last year.

Last year during post season, the League paid for everything. Our funds were down from the previous year with a balance of \$500 - \$1,000 at the start of this season. The League needed to generate more revenue for this year.

We had the following post-season expenses this year:

Uniforms - \$2,483.79

Umpires - \$280

District Fees - \$683.62 (9/10’s, 10/11’s, and 11/12’s teams)

Tournament Fees for all levels - \$2,550  
Total expenses: \$5,997.41

We had the following post-season income for this year:  
Player fees generated - \$2,270  
Sponsorships (not included raised for extras) to benefit all \$2,925  
Total income: \$5,195

Difference between expenses and income were \$802.41. The League covered the cost opposed to paying for all of post season like last year.

We will have a better recap after everything is finalized at our next meeting. It's looking like the League will have around \$6,000 heading into next year. We are in a much better place.

### **Officers' Reports:**

#### **Fundraising/Christine Sailors:**

We sold 500 Spikes Tickets profiting around \$1,500. The Hit-a-Thon raised \$2,943.21 (20% participation – Tball and Rookie had higher participation); the discount cards raised \$400 so far, however, not all teams have returned money or cards. Of the 48 players who participated in post-season, only 14 participated. She has heard good feedback from this but we need to do at the beginning of the season. It was suggested to handout at sign-ups and gives each family a packet of 10 to sell. Christine also thought of adding a serial numbers on the card for accountability for the parents. If an individual doesn't return any cards not sold, then that family is responsible for all 10-discount cards. Team rosters would of been helpful for accountability. We tried it once and now we can tweak it for next year. We purchased 500 cards and each card makes a \$9.50 profit. The cards are good until March 31, 2017. It was suggested to send an email to the League, adding a note on Facebook, etc. letting people know these cards exist and if interested contact Christine for purchase. It was suggested if we do the Hit-a-Thon next year to have designated dates for divisions to show up to do this. This might increase participation. Managers and coaches weren't sure if everyone was doing this or what the idea of this was. It was the first year, so we can try again next year with some improvements.

Most organizations offer an "Opt out Option" for fundraising and give a certain dollar donation. Shannon has done this in the past at Rebersburg Elementary and can share the form that was used. It was suggested that the League look into this for next year. It could be handed out to managers/coaches before practices begin.

Christine asked what the tiers for sponsorship would be for next year's letters and signs. Rich Sweitzer reported on behalf of the board that the new board members for next year will need to figure this out.

**Concessions/Mary Stoner:**

Alicia is working on a more detailed report of what worked and didn't work well this season. Mary Stoner asked if there would be more outlets in the Spring Mills Concession Stand? Rich Sweitzer confirmed there would be and that someone is to be working on that this fall. Softball is primarily using it as they did a lot of the work on that field. If the League is planning to use the Spring Mills field then we need to add more field mix as it was really hard for our 12U Tournament. It looked lowered since they leveled out the in field (bases and pitchers mound looked raised). This needs to be fixed.

Slushy machine was profitable. It's not known at this time by how much.

**Clothing/Shannon Stover**

Shannon asked if we should add items to the current FivePoints website and also if we should keep it up until next season for people to order. Everyone agreed to keep it up but might suggest sending out a reminder for people to order.

It seemed the sales were down with the online ordering and asked how to increase sales. Some suggested still handing out a color copy of the order from and push people to the website. Shannon will look at ways to improve this for next year.

Rich reported there would be more information coming about bylaws and voting meeting and all should be getting an email. Rich thought October was the voting meeting.

A general question if the high school baseball team is still willing to help with the younger players? This is something that Brian and Jon Bowersox will need to discuss.

A general question if background checks would be good for 3 years? It was stated that Little League International has their form that needs to be updated annually.

A general question about upcoming winter gym schedules and if they have been scheduled yet as softball already scheduled.

Adjourned at 6:17 p.m.