

**Penns Valley Little League Baseball
Board Meeting Minutes
Sunday, January 3, 2016 – 5 p.m. at PVHS**

Board Members Present:

Crystal Confer, Bob Gillespie, Brian Niewinski, Joe Shouey, Shannon Stover and Rich Sweitzer

Board Members Not Present:

Mike Watson

Others Present:

Michelle Houtz, Jessica Miller, Shawn Robb, Christine Sailors, Mary Stoner

Meeting called to order at 5:09 p.m. by Brian Niewinski.

Public Comments:

No public comments.

Update on Spring Registration:

Brian reminded everyone of the upcoming spring registration dates:

Thursday, January 14, 2016 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Saturday, January 16, 2016 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Thursday, January 21, 2016 – 6 to 9 p.m.

It was suggested that we include this on Facebook. Brian agreed that would be fine and will take care of it.

We are working on getting a Google doc for people to do online registration and sending payment to PVLL to finalize their registration. This is the first year of trying it so; hopefully it works well for us. It was suggested about asking for a \$5 flat fee for online registration.

Brian will work on sending out a registration sign-up sheet to the board for helping work at registration. He is suggesting 2 people should be present at each registration.

Update on Officer Positions:

We are still looking for officers for the following positions: Field Maintenance, Equipment, Social Media, Team Parent and Fundraising. All positions are on the website and if anyone is interested, please have them contact the board.

The following have shown interest in volunteering: Christine Sailors for Fundraising Officer, Kelli Brungart for Social Media Officer and Zoe Meyer for Team Parent Coordinator.

New PV High School Coach, Jon Bowersox:

Brian met with Jon on December 14th and he supports us working together to make the program solid. Some of the topics they discussed in their meeting were pitchers to know the difference between the wind up and the stretch (maybe with our experienced 11-12 year olds) holding a Coach's Clinic, getting some of the PVLL players involved with the high school players and having them help with open gyms. Jon seemed receptive to everything that they discussed. It was suggested to possibly have a Coach's Clinic around the open gyms in February.

Open Gyms:

Player Agent Bob Gillespie addressed the Board saying that he feels that the Tee-Ball Coaches need to be present if they would like to participate in an open gym. We can provide training, but it's not overly productive. Mary Stoner agreed as she helped with the open gyms for this division last year.

The schedule for Open Gyms would be:

Tee-Ball and Rookies every other week
Minors and Majors every week

It was suggested that coaches should be present for the open gyms. Only those with clearances should be helping.

It was suggested only players; coaches and helpers that have clearances would be permitted in the gym due to safety concerns. This could be communicated in an email to alert parents with young children. There were a lot of close calls last year.

It was suggested to have the open gym dates when we have registration so that way people can get clearances by then. Brian was going to check to see if this would be possible.

There was a general discussion about clearances. Safety Officer Joe Shouey is checking to see when clearances were put in last year and when they need to be renewed for this year. We need to double check what Little League is requiring with the new PA Law. Brian thought sharing the links and clearance information that was sent out by Macada Loner on behalf of the school district was useful and a good source to send out to our volunteers.

Bob and Joe will draft an email on how the open gyms will be facilitated this year.

Fundraising Ideas:

In past years, we have done the raffle. It has done well for us, but last year it didn't do so well. Those at the meeting would like to move away from doing this as a fundraiser. We need to cover at least \$7,000.00 if we do away with the raffle.

Mike and Brian suggested doing more tournaments in PV, possibly one for the Rookie and one for the Major divisions. This could be a good fundraiser. There was a general discussion about how much to charge for registration. The group thought between \$200.00-\$300.00 per team. We could try to get between 10 and 12 teams. Some liked the idea doing this during regular season and having league teams. If we choose to do this, we need to get dates out so it can get scheduled. The biggest concern is getting enough people to help. It was suggested that we have a Tournament Officer. The board agreed that this position would need to be created if we choose to do the tournaments. We could create a position, include job duties and add it to our website to see if there is any interest. Other leagues hire a tournament director; the downfall would be we wouldn't get all profits.

Bingo was suggested, but worry the valley is getting tired of this type of fundraiser. The PVEI PTO did an American Girl/LEGO Bingo in the fall. Mary wasn't sure of total profits, but they did make some money. Softball is doing a pot luck with gift cards/basket Bingo. The Wrestling Club did a cash bingo and it was successful, but not certain how much it raised for their club.

We could do some type of food (ham/turkey sandwich; chicken dinners; a \$25/\$50 head dinner with a known guest speaker and silent auction. The Legion would be willing to help.

Opening Day could be a fundraiser for us too. The Legion would be willing to work with us and do a fundraiser (chicken bbq and guest speakers).

It was asked what our current budget is. Rich gave a report of \$684.57. Brian mentioned that we should start having a more detailed budget report at the beginning of the meetings that gives a breakdown of income and expenses.

Krispy Kreme donut fundraisers have been done down in the Lewisburg area. The company donated so many donuts and they were sold outside of Wal Mart. It was a good fundraiser. Brian asked Joe to get more details about this.

Mike has suggested doing "Can days". Brian needs to double check with Little League if we can have our players go out in uniform to collect donations. If we are permitted to do this, then it was suggested we go to local merchants (Snappy's, Sheetz, our local banks, Burkholder's, Weaver's, Hosterman & Stover's, etc.). Some thought it might be more productive if we go as teams to different locations in one day and it's not a big time commitment.

Uniforms and Clothing:

In the past we have mirrored what PV Baseball does with their clothing sales, but we don't have to. Some liked having PVLL opposed to PV Baseball on the clothing. It was suggested we offer a few variations for people to choose from. Shannon will check on having different logos for this year.

Shannon is working with Five Points out of Lewistown. This is the company the PV High School Student Council just used. They don't charge for logo set up, they prepackage everything, you can do paper or online ordering. Shannon wants to confirm a few more things before we commit to the company. Ideas for items to sell this year include:

Warm up jackets (removable sleeves), Dri Fit sweatshirts, long sleeve and short sleeve shirts, hats, cotton T-shirts both in short and long sleeve, sweatpants, hooded sweatshirts, bleacher blankets and shorts.

Shannon shared a few sample team jerseys for this year. Minor and Majors would be in a Dri Fit digital camo design, Rookies in a Dri Fit shirt and Tee Ball would be in cotton T-shirts. A few concerns with what the logos would look like displayed on the digital camo. Shannon was going to reach out to Collegiate Pride to see if they could do a few mock ups with a few sponsors from last year. All shirts will be available for players to try on during open registration. The hats will be in a solid color, trimmed in white and a colored embroidered PV depending on team colors. Last year, we ordered extra hats for spectators to purchase, but it wasn't well received. We won't be doing that this year.

There was a question about sponsors rotating to different divisions to give others an opportunity to sponsor different divisions. Brian mentioned that the Board was notified that Dix Honda would not be a sponsor this year. Luse Repair dropped out last year, and it's uncertain if they will return. There are a couple other sponsors that might not return either, but we won't know until the sponsorship letters are sent. If someone wants to sponsor a team, please ask them to contact the Board, as we would be happy to have new sponsors. As of now, we reach out to the current sponsors and if there are holes then we reach out to new businesses for sponsorship. Weaver's was suggested as a possible sponsor.

The current sponsorship is \$350, which covers the cost of the uniforms. It has been this amount for some time, uncertain how long. It was suggested that we raise the cost of sponsorship by \$25 or \$50 as the cost of everything over the years keeps rising.

We have some pants that would be good for practice pants. It was suggested that the league sell them for \$1 or \$2 a pair. This could be done during open gyms or registration. We also have black belts that we could also sell.

Adjournment at 6:34 p.m. by Brian Niewinski.

Nest meeting: Sunday, February 7 at 3 p.m. at PVE/I Cafeteria