

**St. Anthony sports Boosters Softball Association (SABSA) Minutes
November 2, 2013 Meeting (“Emergency” Meeting)**

Call to Order:

President Al Bates called the meeting to order at 10:14 am at the Village Pub.

Attendees:

Al Bates, Lamar Brendemuehl, Dirk DeWester, Jerry Welch, Rick Ballot

Ratify New Board Members:

Al moved, Lamar seconded to ratify the new Ad Hoc Board members Dirk DeWester, Jerry Welch, and Rick Ballot. Motion Passed 2-0 (2 of the 3 remaining “old SABSA Board” members representing a quorum).

Approval of the Prior Meeting’s Minutes:

Minutes from the October 28 were approved – motion by Rick, second by Dirk, motion passed 5-0.

Letter of Support for the Grant Request for Central Park Fields C2 & C3 Dugout Improvements:

The “Emergency” discussion item, the effort underway to raise funds to put Dugout Covers on Fields C2 & C3 to match those on C1 was opened. SABSA has received a request from SAVHS Athletic Director Troy Urdahl to consider supporting, via providing a Letter of Support and committing matching funds (\$1,000 was suggested), a Grant Application being written to provide Dugout Covers for C2 & C3.

The "logic" that was explained for the discussions was essentially: "The project is for C2 & C3 - that means it's for one "mixed use" (Baseball & Softball) Field C2, and one Baseball Field C3. That should translate into 1/2 of 1/2 of the support coming from “Softball” (1/4 of the total support). Of approximately \$12,000 in matching funds being pursued, “Softball” should logically try to come up with \$3,000. If SABSA, the HDC, and School Softball all came up with equal shares, that would be \$1,000 from each".

C3 being configured for Baseball only, the discussion tended towards Booster Softball’s potential contribution to the Covers for C2, a “mixed (baseball/softball) use field we commonly refer to as the “JV Softball Field”.

Discussion ensued about the difficulty of getting the 14U Summer Softball team adequate practice time, especially on C2. C2, regarded as a "mixed use" field (Softball/Baseball) did not have *any* scheduled SABSA teams on it at all last year. Success in loading C1 with Softball teams, along with the unusual circumstance of the HDC 16U and 18U teams practicing together, and coupled with the current self-imposed field pressure of chalking fields early in the day to cause them to be unavailable in the 3-6 pm time slot, and a fairly large number of Baseball teams vying for time on C2 - all this led to the 14U SABSA (summer) team being allowed/scheduled NO practice time on C2 last summer.

Sentiment towards supporting field investments for C2 & C3 was described as related to field availability for Softball, specifically the 14U Summer team. Agreement ensued that SABSA should push for 2 practice time slots per week on C2 for Summer 2014, but this should take away from the priority loading of C1 with Softball teams as C1 time is available.

Further discussion involved restatement of how difficult Field Scheduling has been at St. Anthony. It is not clear who is responsible for scheduling what fields, when – between the Community Center and Boosters Scheduler Gary Goldsmith. Additionally, Silver Point fields are scheduled separately. An online solution would address many concerns/issues.

SABSA's sending of a Letter of Support, and the amount of the dollar commitment to the project were discussed. As NO SABSA teams were scheduled on C2 (or, obviously C3, now that C3 is solely a Baseball field) last year, SABSA's contribution would largely be a gesture of 'community support' – and an opportunity to press for 2 practice times per week on C2 for SABSA's 14U Summer team.

Dirk moved, and Jerry seconded, to authorize SABSA to send a Letter of Support and authorized a commitment of \$500. The letter will not mention a dollar amount, or the push for C2 field time, but the motion directs SABSA to push for 2 practice slots per week on Field C2. The motion passed 5-0.

Next meeting:

Reminder: The next meeting will be Sunday, November 17 at 6:30 pm at the Village Pub.

Meeting adjourned:

The meeting adjourned at 11:34 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Al Bates, President