**Hershey Little League**

 **Board of Directors**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date: March 2, 2014**

**Meeting Location: Hershey Medical Center, H 1059**

**Members Present:** George Blackall, Chris DeFlitch, Doug Hummer, Chris Painter, Jeff Schmidt, Terry Singer, Myron McCurdy, Pat Meister, Josh Orris, Matt Wildasin

**Members Absent:** Vince Pasquini, Mark Snyder, Stan Sullivan, Dave Umberger

Guest: Brian Bingeman

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Myron McCurdy at 6:05 PM.

**President’s Report**: Myron McCurdy:

**Honoring Jeff Hahn**: Myron is getting some guidance from close friends of Jeff’s. We will have a patch with Jeff’s initials for all leagues. We are also considering a tree and plaque in his memory.

Jeff Schmidt and Mile Hand are liaisons with family.

We are receiving donations in his memory- Pat Meister is opening a separate account to track the donations.

Chris DeFlitch proposed that we name a PCA coaching award in honor of Jeff Hahn- second by Pat Meister. Unanimous approval.

Myron attended the District 6 LLI meeting. He distributed the minutes to the HLL Board. Some key rule changes:

Birthdate cut-off will move from April 30 to Dec 31 next year

 Rosters must be uploaded to LLI by April 1.

5-7 year olds can do coach pitch or machines.

Majors: Catchers can now wear shorter chest protectors

Hitters must keep at least one foot in the batter’s box during at bats- or you get a strike called against you. BBO will review this.

Slap bunting is no longer allowed in LL baseball

Artificial mounds are now approved for district level tournaments.

There will be a safety awareness program March 9 at Cumberland Valley.

Considering changing the pitch count to count all pitches even if there is a rainout in the early innings.

LLI struggling with parent behavior. Myron told them about HlL’s program with PCA

**Vice President’s Report**: Chris DeFlitch:

Met with Coach Ruhl to discuss:

1. Colts clinic March 22- snow date March 29
2. No coaches clinic this year
3. Teeners clinic- interested in doing it. HLL will share the revenue to cover costs. April 12, 26. May 3 is makeup date
4. Coach requested additional funds for rewards for last year’s legion team for their accomplishments. Asking for $300. Motion to approve $300 to Coach Ruhl for Legion rewards made by Terry Singer, Second Myron. Unanimous approval.
5. Had some discussions about Legion coach next year. We are the only town in the area who has their HS coach as Legion coach. Myron presented some details in that other towns no longer do this. It is not considered good practice to make Legion an extension of HS ball. We do not have nominations for Legion yet, but this should be factored in when we do vote.
6. Possibility of HS spring team for those who do not make the HS team. Challenge is how to make this happen in a short period of time.

Coaching nominations: (Coaches are listed as head coach first, then assistant coach)

**Tee Ball:**
Commissioner: Jeff Schmidt: 39 Player registered and there will be 4 teams:

John Brougher/Aaron Moran

Michael Burnett/Kevin Rowland

Devon Tweet/Kris Boslough

Avery Romain/Joshua Haffey

Motion to approve this slate: first by Chris Deflitch. Second by Matt Wildasin. Unanimous approval.

Note: See motion below for John Macki to replace Kevin Rowland as an assistant coach. The motion passed.

**The final approved T Ball coaches are:**

John Brougher/Aaron Moran

Michael Burnett/John Macki

Devon Tweet/Kris Boslough

Avery Romain/Joshua Haffey

**Colts**

Commissioner: Matt Wildasin

66 players 6 teams

Dom Argento/James Campbell

Dave Umberger/Doug Hummer

Tom Richards/ Charles Chappel

Josh Orris/Patrick Haughton

Dan Schauble/John Weatherhold

Mark Copenhaver/Matt Imboden

Michael Miller- contingent in case of 7th team

The coaches were discussed. Motion to approve this slate: First by Chris DeFlitch. Discussion that if Kevin Rowland would like to be a 1st asst in Colts over T ball, that will be respected. Second Jeff Schmidt. Unanimous approval.

Chris DeFlitch nominated John Macki to replace Kevin Rowland as an assistant coach in T ball and Kevin Rowland to replace Pat Haughton for colts assistant. Second by Josh Orris. Unanimous approval.

**The final approved slate of Colts coaches is:**

Dom Argento/James Campbell

Dave Umberger/Doug Hummer

Tom Richards/ Charles Chappel

Josh Orris/Kevin Rowland

Dan Schauble/John Weatherhold

Mark Copenhaver/Matt Imboden

Michael Miller- contingent in case of 7th team

**Minors:**

Commissioner: Doug Hummer: 70 players; 6 teams

Chad Alander/ Rob McGrorty

Bill Fortunato/Dave Cooney

Matt Kaag/Joe Nye

Mark Snyder/Mark Knull

Matt Wildasin/Travis Treadway

Mike Preis/Brad Winnick

The coaches were discussed.

Motion to approve slate made by Chris DeFlitch. Second by Terry Singer. Unanimous approval.

**Challenger Division:**

Commissioner: Mike Miller- one team-12 players, Myron nominated Mike Miller. Second by Terry Singer. Unanimous approval.

**Majors:**

Commissioner: Dave Umberger. Dave was not present so Myron presented the coaches.

69 players, 6 teams

Harry Strawser/Ed Liesch

Jeff Schmidt/Mike Hand

Pat Meister/Jeff Sundstrom

Bill Jones/Jim Larkin

Doug Field/ Dan Hugendubler

Aaron Fackler/Brian Bingeman

Coaches were discussed.

Motion made to approve this slate of coaches by Chris DeFlitch. Second by Matt Wildasin. Unanimous approval

Background checks on all coaches are currently being done. Any red flags will go to Chris DeFlitch. If there is a problem, it will be discussed in BBO and the Board will be involved as needed.

Meeting location will be HMC going forward. Thank you Chris for making this arrangement.

AD- Myron & Chris met with Dr Serfoss and Pam Reifinger and the Hershey Girls Softball Association (HGSA). Conflicts are developing on the schedule for South. Our Opening Day is the same time as a HS softball game. They will try to start their game earlier and we will move Opening day to North.

HGSA submitted a request to the AD for approval of the use of South for additional games (10 days- all Saturday nights). The request will be 6 weeks of Saturdays on South. They will pay for prep. They also requested to use South and North for HGSA Opening Day on April 13. Myron and Chris worked with them to try to resolve the conflicts.

There is also the potential to host HS district softball game. No decision made.

Schedule:

Minors/ Majors: March 9 is currently the scheduled evaluation day. Given that the fields will not be playable, options were discussed that included trying to find an indoor facility for March 9 or 16. Assessments will be made based on availability of an indoor facility. Second option for March 15 outdoors if an indoor facility is not available.

Concessions: Jay has agreed to comply with the original contract. He is interested in not doing year 3 but he will do this year. This is to include providing concessions at North/South and Koons Upper and Lower.

PCA- Terry is organizing the upcoming workshops (March 8 and 29) and has clarified the web site. Teeners coaches, while not yet approved, will be strongly encouraged to attend.

Opening Day: Terry Singer presented the tentative outline for Opening Day:

**DRAFT**

Hershey Little League

Opening Day Agenda

Saturday, April 12, 2014 - North Field

11:00 am - 1:30 pm

10:45 am Players gather in ECC Parking Lot

 Announce Concession Stand Open

 Announce Drop off for Food Bank Items & Gently Used Equipment

11:00 am Pep Rally Tunes by Hershey High School (tentative)

 Coaches & Players march down from ECC Lot to outside fence of South Field - they line up from Challengers, T-Ball, Colts, Minors, to Majors

11:15 am MC - Welcome and Opening Remarks

 -Welcome Players & Parents & Challengers

 -Purpose/Mission of HLL

 -Positive Coaching Alliance

 -Acknowledge Sponsors & Dignitaries

 -Board Members, Umpires, Coaches

 -Mention 75th anniversary of LL baseball

11:30 am Clyo from the Barnstormers Joins Us at 3rd base to high five players as introduced

 Team, Coach & Player Introductions:

 By teams: Challengers, then T-Ball, then Colts, then Minors, then Majors

 (Players Enter at 3rd base and run out towards left field and make their way over to right field and line up along the outfield fence; the line of players will ultimately stretch from the right field foul line to the left field foul line along the inside of the outfield fence.)

 (Clyo Leaves at 12:30 pm)

12:30 pm Presentation of the Colors - Boy Scouts (tentative)

 National Anthem - Myron's Team

 MC Lead Little League Player Pledge followed by Little

 League Parent Pledge

 Possible Visit from the Life Lion at some point

 First Pitch Challenger Team Member & Coach/Catcher

1:30 pm PLAY BALL :)

 The Cardboard to Leather program will be happening on OD. Hershey Food Bank will also be present. Mixies will offer a BOGO for the kids. Turkey Hill will also offer something. We are waiting on confirmation from the HS pep singers for entertainment for the early part of the program.

Thank you to Geralyn Singer for leading the OD effort.

All-Star Exhibit: Josh is putting it in a final format. It will be voted on next month.

**Secretary’s Report**: George Blackall: Nothing to report.

**Treasurer’s Report**: Pat Meister presented financial statements from 3/2/14 (attached).

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**Old Business:**

Sponsorship- Jeff Schmidt – we currently have 34 sponsors. Good work all.

**New Business:**

**Brian Bingeman:**

**Capital Improvements:**

Plaza is the biggest item. Making the field playable to 13 year old level- We budgeted $1,300 plus 2,000 for infield mix. The bid came in for $3,900. Brian is working with Umbergers to reduce the number.

North- moving the access to the outfield and building a retaining wall. This will be a big volunteer effort. Once the date is established we will ask for volunteers.

Mound on north-consistent with budget.

Memorial- mound repair- the bid came in for $1,900- we budgeted $2,000

Fixing bullpens- waiting for proposal

We need tarps for the dirt mounds and home plate areas and we need to educate the users to place them on the field after games and practices.

Brian is meeting with the teenagers who will be maintaining the fields. They will be paid $10 per hour. Will need 4 per day.

Maintenance: Mandatory that coaches rake fields after practices. Need 6 more rakes and drying tools.

Brian would like to get shirts for the field prep guys.

**Uniforms:**

Myron reported on Uniforms in Mark Snyder’s absence. Mark requested bids- he is recommending that we go with Elizabethtown sports. They are willing to give a 3 yr agreement and the cost was within $1 of other bids. They have been user friendly in the past. Elizabethtown is recommending $1 per shirt to sew the patches on. They can screen print it on for .25 per shirt. They can also screen print Jeff Hahn’s initials in purple. There was discussion about ensuring that we receive quality uniforms. Myron will ask for samples for us to review.

Motion to adjourn by Chris DeFlitch. Second by Josh Orris. No discussion. Unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM

**Important Dates:**

PCA workshops: March 8 coaches; March 29 parents

Minors/Majors Evaluations: March 9 or 15/16 depending on weather and availability of indoor facility.

Opening Day: April 12, 2014

**Next Meeting**: Our next meeting will be on April 13, 2014, at 6:30 PM at the Hershey Medical Center, Room H1059

Minutes submitted by George F. Blackall, Secretary, Hershey Little League.

Date: 2/3/14