

BRAINERD BAXTER BASEBALL ASSOCIATION BBBA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Meeting Time: 6:00 pm

Meeting Location: 14275 Golf Course Drive, Suite 300, Baxter MN 56425 and via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

6:03 pm

Present:

Co-Chair	Steve Hanson
Co-Chair	Troy Rushmeyer
Secretary	Ann Scheinost
Treasurer	Jim Haakonson
Assistant Treasurer	Mike Eidenshink
Director	Eric Fenstad
Director	Wade Haapajoki
Director	Zach Heidmann
Director	Jeremiah Piepkorn

Absent:

Director	Mandy Vanek
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OPEN FORUM

Time allocated for non-members to bring matters not on the agenda to the attention of the Board. Time limits may be imposed.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA / APPROVAL OF AGENDA / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Eric Fenstad: Fall tryouts for next year

Steve Hanson: Baxter City Council Meeting

Steve Hanson: Communication from Cal Ripken wrapped around 2022 season

Motion to approve this agenda, with additions, along with the meeting minutes from 8/19/2021, was made by Steve Hanson, seconded by Jim Haakonson. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

1. Share discussion related to Community Ed/Rec Ball - BBBA meeting with Board (Joe Pohlkamp, Corry Lund, Steve Hanson, Wade Haapojoki, Mandy Vanek and Troy Rushmeyer present)
 - a. Potential for 13U and 14U teams to play as travel teams with a MYAS Northern/Central League if created in time.
 - b. All other teams will play Community Ed/Rec ball to increase their numbers, and add two t-ball fields
 - c. Discussed future partnership between Comm. Ed. and BBBA (Community focused – skills and coaches clinics, recruitments, marketing, etc.)
2. Need to still meet with School District – perhaps new AD related to tourney play moving forward
3. Steve and Troy to share discussions we've had with Brainerd and Baxter Parks and Rec and City staff.

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- a. Extremely positive on both fronts – these are partnerships that we need to continue to foster. Both cities are willing to do what they can to ensure success.
4. Surveys - Clients/Coaches – Need to complete and get them sent out. Ann and Troy will ask Steve Schaitberger for the survey information he has in order to move forward.
5. Share with entire board related to donation for new weight room at BHS. Eric has the BBBA check, along with contributions from three board members. Awaiting further donations from the board to see if anyone else wishes to donate. As of the meeting time, there were sixteen days left on the match opportunity.
6. Need to fill Steve Schaitberger’s Board position: IT and marketing skill sets.

New Business

1. Baxter City Council Meeting: Steve Hanson met with Alex: Post-mortem of what they saw and the experience we had. Also talked about our vision with the fields, and discovered there was a four-field complex proposed by Denny Hecker, which fell through. The vision was there, the money wasn’t. Would like to have presence at the Baxter City Council Meeting on October 19th. There was excitement about what was done with the city as a whole. Perhaps the “Hecker” plans can become a reality.
2. Communication from Cal Ripken wrapped around 2022: Steve Hanson spoke with Scott Peterson’ State Commissioner for Cal Ripken: there is more coordination with MYAS pertaining to state tournament scheduling for a better alignment between the two. Minnesota has been awarded the 9U regional: this could be something for us to consider.
3. Fall tryouts (Eric Fenstad): Advantages: players are still in baseball shape, team cohesiveness, arm care, beneficitation from an organizational standpoint (such as getting into tournaments) and keeping up with the teams in the metro area. A point was raised that this should have been done already (August?), and we should discuss this now, but for next year, along with winter workouts and skills and coaches clinics. It may be better to table fall tryouts and teams until we have larger numbers. What can we do between now and spring? Winter opportunities for player development.
4. Create Home Tournament Sub-committee (recommend 4-7 board members)
 - a. Start meeting 1-2 x per month and report to entire board at the regularly scheduled monthly meeting. Eric suggested having volunteer coordinators, concessions, site field directors; having someone at each age group be responsible for being the on-site director to ensure books, pitch counts, books, field maintenance; board come up with the road map for a tournament and delegating to those positions (parents, community volunteers, etc.)
 - b. Summarize positive email we received from Edina regarding next year’s tournaments
 - c. There was discussion to increase next year’s tournament fee. Motion to increase fee to \$450 was made by Eric Fenstad, seconded by Jim Haakonson. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Need to schedule time to start the work on our road map
 - a. Dawson Blanck and Jeremy Innes (Brainerd boys) from MYAS will be in town October 9th weekend and would be willing to meet with us regarding some knowledge/insight they have with different communities relating to Rec Ball, Travel ball and travel team league play, future tourneys.
6. Treasurer’s report: No additional items were shared.

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NEXT MEETING

Meeting Date: Monday, October 18, 2021

Meeting Time:

Meeting Location: TBD

ADJOURNMENT

7:36 pm

Motion to adjourn was made by was made by Jim Haakonson, seconded by Eric Fenstad. Motion passed unanimously.