

**St. Anthony sports Boosters Softball Association (SABSA) Board Meeting Minutes
2019, December 18
St. Anthony Community Center, Room CS9 – 6:30 pm**

Attendees: Al Bates, Rossi Cannon, Sara Strain, Erik Lindgren, Steve Munson, Andrew Kagol, Dick Gallagher

The meeting was called to order by President Al Bates at 6:38 pm. Al expressed a goal of finishing the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Approval of the prior meetings' minutes:

- Meeting of November 11, 2019 - Motion by Rossi Cannon, Seconded by Sara Strain. Motion passed.

Elections for 2020 Board Positions:

By Consensus, the elections were moved up in the agenda, to accommodate attendees' schedules, should the remaining business run late.

Ballots were distributed, and collected by Al, who was not running for election.

Following collection and review of the ballots, Al announced the election of:

- President – Rossi Cannon
- Secretary – Sara Strain
- Treasurer – Erik Lindgren
- At-Large – Andrew Kagol
- At-Large – Katie Brustad

Al Also announced that the Vice-President and the third At-Large position, which did not have Nominated Candidates, had each received one vote as "Write-Ins". Al noted that the Ballots had a position for Write-Ins on them, but the Bylaws do not contain a write-in provision.

Noted from the Bylaws: If no nominations exist, new Board Members may be voted in by a nomination and vote of the Board Members present.

Al suggested that any decision regarding the unfilled positions be deferred to the 2020 Board at the next meeting. The item was thus tabled by consensus.

President's Update: Al –

- Al reported that we had received a nice Thank You note from SAVHS Varsity Junior Captain Annie Welch for our Letter of Support for a turf field in Central Park.

- Al and Rossi had attended the November 19 Tri-County League Directors' Meeting, and reported:
 - League Fees have increased to \$570 to offset increases in Umpire Rates to \$45 game (affecting Qualifier & State Tourney costs)
 - There was discussion on increasing the Gate Fees for Qualifiers & State to help offset higher field rental/maintenance costs being requested of the Host Associations by their respective City Organizations. In response, several Associations related their successes in enlisting their local Chamber of Commerce to bring pressure on their City to push back against the potential increases by quoting economic benefits to local merchants (restaurants, gas stations, etc). Gate Fees were not increased.
 - Some dates were shared as the timing of the 4th of July presents calendar issues this year. 10U/12U Qualifiers: 6/27; 10U/12U State: 7/18-19; 14U&up Qualifiers: 7/11-12; 14U&up State: 7/18-19.
 - Pine City, Owatonna, & the MN Fierce were admitted to the league for 2020. We may have a team or two travel to Pine City.
 - There is a push to try to get more Cadet Umpires trained through the Cadet Umpire program.
 - When a game is rescheduled and the original Host team travels, the original Host team is still responsible for paying the Umpire (by reimbursing the new Host team). The new Host team should be responsible for securing the Umpire and paying the Umpire, but this is yet to be clarified by the league into their Meeting Minutes.
 - 10Us will not get Tuesday night games in May; all May 10U games will be scheduled on Thursday nights.
 - Fall Ball will continue to be on Saturdays for 10U, due to a lack of Umpires.
 - The MN Twins will be doing more outreach/training opportunities in the coming year.
 - USA Softball is adopting a new Pitching Rule to allow a step-back windup step.
 - The league is doing more programming to get more of the scheduling and games onto the JO Softball website, and off of Ngin.
 - There is more negotiating going on with Club teams to try to limit the Clubs' inroads into 12U.

- Al also reported on the discussions that had occurred with Boosters Baseball (contributing \$1,000) and the City (contributing \$2,700), and presented Fence Improvement Project R5, for finalization, with the understanding that joint

fundraising activity would be undertaken with Boosters Baseball to raise the final ~\$1,500 needed to reach \$8,000 for the Project.

Sara Moved, Rossi Seconded, to approve the R5 Fence Project Plan as agreed with Boosters Baseball, including a \$3,000 contribution from SABSA and joint fundraising to be undertaken by SABSA and Boosters Baseball. Motion passed. Al volunteered to lead the joint fundraising efforts.

Treasurer's Report: Al Bates, acting Treasurer.

- The "Bank" Balance at November 5, 2019 was \$14,877.84, putting the YTD "profit/loss" at a loss of <\$2,822.74>. This does not include a small 'receivable' from the HDC for Fall Ball. No more recent reports from the Boosters Treasurer have been received.
- An Actuals vs. Budget review was deferred to New Business.

Coach Updates:

(none)

Coordinators Updates:

Player & Coach Development Update: Danielle/Al

- Winter Skills Clinics:
 - MFA Winter Skills Clinics will be on Jan 5, Jan 26, & Feb 2
- Open Gym will be Feb 1
Building Openings, Monitoring, & Closings will need to be coordinated for both of the above activities; Rossi will follow-up.
- Evaluations dates will be Feb 8 (Pitching & Catching) and Feb 9 (General Evals).
Gym time reservations are in place with the Community Center.

Equipment – Al/Erik (Acting Coordinator)

- Equipment should be inventoried and purchases made in January.
- Four new portable nets have been ordered; thanks Rossi for finding the sale!
The expense will hit the 2020 financials.

Fields - Steve/Al

- The Fence Project was addressed under the President's Report.

Umpires -

- Sara will follow up with Derek Stendahl to get his notes from 2019.

Spirit Wear & Online Store – Erik/Rossi -

- Rossi will look into some Items to gear up for a Sale at Evaluations.
- An Online Store will follow, later in the Spring.

Uniforms – Erik -

- There was discussion regarding buying all new Fastpitch jerseys vs. phasing in new jerseys to replace our current model, which has been discontinued. Players new to 10U in 2020 will need the new jerseys; there will likely be about 10-15 of these. If we were to outfit all of 10U with new jerseys, we would need to purchase about another 15 jerseys. Approximately 50-60 players are expected in 12U-14U. If we could find a jersey that would 'blend' well enough with the existing jerseys, not very many 12-14U players should need new jerseys for 2020, and the savings to not purchase new jerseys for 12-14U would be considerable, and a decision to purchase for those players could wait another year. Erik will secure jersey samples to help facilitate the jersey decision(s).

Fundraising – Andrew/AI -

- Andrew will pursue getting the Sponsorship Banner.
- AI will follow-up on the joint fundraising with Baseball for the Fence Improvement Project.

HDC Liaison Update – Rossi

- The Huskies Diamond Club did not hold a November meeting.

Old Business

- Yearly 'To-Do' Calendar Creation
 - AI and Rossi will get together after Christmas to work on this.

New Business

- Gym Time Use matrix
 - Rossi volunteered to track the use of our Gym Time. Discussions regarding gym time needed will need to occur at a future meeting in early 2020.

- 2019 Actual Spending vs. Budget areas & 2020 rough Budget
 - After an initial review of major areas, highlights of which included increases in league fees, expected Umpire fees, and Uniform costs, the following fees were agreed upon for 2020 by consensus: 6U: \$65; 8U: \$115; 10U: \$230; 12/14U: \$250.

- Evaluations Planning
 - Andrew reported he and Danielle met to have some preliminary discussions regarding elements of Evaluations, including Pitching and Catching Evaluations.

- Farewell Message
 - Al expressed his thanks to the Board and confidence in them for the future, as he ends his tenure as SABSA President and Rossi Cannon assumes the Presidency on January 1, 2020.

Next meetings' dates:

- Sunday, January 5. Time: 5:00 pm. Location: Village Pub (tentative)
- (no dates were set for subsequent meetings).

Adjournment time: 9:45 pm

Respectfully submitted, Al Bates, 2019 President