

## **Columbia Hot Stove Minutes**

**Date:** 11/19/15

**Called to Order:** 7:00 by Dan

**Attendance:**

Present: Dan, Doug, Valerie, Gina, Sandy, Matt, Melanie

Absent: Adrienne, Eriq

Others in Attendance: 1

Minutes from October, 2015 meeting were approved

### **Board Reports -**

**Treasurer (Gina):** Current balance is \$14,026.24. There was no activity for the month of October. Gina reviewed the break down for the year. Our financials have been sent to Jeff Corrigan to file our annual taxes. The Board approved free registration for the Corrigan family for this generous service.

**Boys Travel (Doug):** PCA was at the County meeting. It is possible the County will form an affiliation with them that we can join, which would save money over doing it ourselves again. The next County meeting will be held in Columbia on 1/24 at 5 PM. Sandy will reserve Town Hall. Umpire classes will be held the first 3 Sundays in March from 1-4 at the Elyria American Legion. Ages 12 and up are accepted. Sandy will advertise in RUR and on school website. Baseball order was submitted, had to use best guess on teams. All those certified in the first year for the Concussion training will be due again this year.

**Girls Travel (Valerie):** Nothing to report, no meeting held recently. Next meeting is this Sunday

**Umpires/Schedules (Eriq):** Eriq has resigned. Dan appointed Zak Jester as Head Umpire/Field Scheduler. Executive Committee voted 3-0 to approve, with Doug abstaining. Eriq will also no longer do field maintenance, we need to find someone new.

**Concession Stand (Adrienne):** Report via email: Stand is still closed and Adrienne has reached out to Melinda to get the refrigerator back over to the stand. She will get back to her let her know what night we can move it. Trying to get it done before we run into bad weather. Will update once that is done. ---- Board discussed the Concession stand responses in the survey. Board has decided that the Stand must be open for ALL games. We are providing a service (including the restrooms) as well as fundraising with the stand. Also, we must grill for the tournaments. Possibly grill as well when we have many games throughout the day on a Saturday. We feel these two issues are important to our members and not doing them also resulted in us making in 2015 just about ½ the profit of what we did in 2014.

**Equipment (Matt):** All equipment has now finally been turned in. One manager gave particular difficulty. We need to order catcher's equipment and mitts. Also, batting helmets. Matt presented tentative bids for catcher's gear and helmets. Board voted unanimously to order the catcher's gear now so we can display at registration.

**Uniforms/Sponsorship (Melanie):** Melanie present 3 bids for uniforms. Cal Sales and Just Stuff came in close, SportsWorld was higher. Board voted to go with Cal Sales again. Extensive discussion over uniform styles/colors. The Board voted to go with the same style uniform for the girls as used last year. Boys will have a digital camo jersey, same pants, socks. Looking into fitted hats. Some changes with sponsor logos, jerseys to say Columbia. Melanie will order samples for Uniform Try-On dates.

### **Old Business:**

- Dan still waiting to hear on quotes for batting cages
- Dirt for fields – too late to do now. Mr. Ramsey and Mr. Jump with the schools want to work together with us on improving the fields. They are willing to chip in on dirt, possibly pea gravel for dugouts. Replace foul poles. May want to extend D field to make it usable for more teams.
- Gator needs repaired/replaced (possibly with UTV). Will get a price to replace the drag assembly as well.

- Discussed new website and registration. Registration will be primarily online. Mandatory uniform try-on dates of 1/24 (2-4:30 pm) and 2/14 (12-2 pm). Can take in-person registration on those dates. FIRM registration deadline of 2/14.
- Doug is working on Google calendar for field scheduling for practices.
- Fundraiser – Bebe can no longer chair this. Discussed doing a taco lunch at Bootlegger’s instead of a wing night. All were in favor of this. Gina will inquire with Bootlegger’s – looking at March 5<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup>. Will also look at doing the lottery fundraiser during the season
- Need to set up a meeting with the Trustees – Dan to talk with them.
- Confirmed we will be co-hosting the Madness tournament on June 17-19<sup>th</sup>. We do not need to provide any field staff, equipment or supplies. We can collect for parking and run concession stand for our profit.

**New Business:**

- Doug and Dan mentioned that in the future, we should consider hosting a pre-season tournament
- Doug found out something that could help us get Regionals in the future is to have Wi-Fi at the park. That is a big reason North Ridgeville has been getting them. Need to discuss with the Trustees.
- Discussed meeting attendance. Dan stated he feels that Hot Stove is moving in the right direction, however we each need to meet our expectations. There is a lot of work to do for all the Board members, and we all have responsibilities beyond those listed in the By-Laws and outside the scope of just our position (we all vote on various motions, uniforms, etc). Discussed how can we get managers and members to attend our meetings, when often Board members aren’t even attending? Dan will reach out to Adrienne as she has missed the last 5 meetings. Is she able to remain a member of the Board and handle the responsibilities given her new work schedule and other commitments?
- Board decided to hold a Board/Managers/Volunteers social at Bootlegger’s at 6 pm on Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. All 2015 managers and spouses, Bebe, Pam and Board members are invited. We will provide pizza, appetizers and pop. Just a chance to thank everyone for their efforts and look forward to the 2016 season. Maybe provide a few highlights of changes (new website, equipment, field scheduling, etc). We will also invite Tim and his family and present the planned gifts at that time.

**Correspondence:**

- Just one registration inquiry.

**Open Discussion:**

- None

**Next Meeting:** January 14th, 7 pm at Bootlegger’s

**Adjourned:** 9:55 pm