

Memo

To: AAA Board Members
From: Greg Bykowski
Date: May 8, 2024
Re: Monthly Board Meeting Notes – April

The Avonworth Athletic Association Board met on April 11th, 2024 at the Rochester Inn at 8:00 PM. Moved due to flooding concerns at the Mayernick Center.

APRIL 2024 MONTHLY MEETING

Attendance:

All members were in attendance except the following: Jamison, Garver, Capo, & Picard.

Meeting Called to Order: 8:32 PM

- March's meeting minutes approved [Cole / Acierno]

President's Report: Shipley

- No president's report this month

Financial Report: Wilmus

- March Financial Report
 - **\$60,781** in operating fund as of 1/31/24
 - Previous month (12/31): **\$36,060** [Net change: **\$24.7k**]
 - Deposits: \$41.5k
 - Withdrawals: \$16.8k
 - **\$31,836** in capital fund as of 1/31/24
 - Previous month: **\$21,835** [Net change: **\$10k**]
 - Deposits: \$10k
 - Withdrawals: \$0k
 - **\$92,617** is the total ending balance on 1/31/24.

- A \$10k surplus exists in the Venmo account (@AvonworthAA). Gallucci & Wilmus working to transfer the money into the organization's account. Shipley & Wilmus tried again, recently.
- One sponsor payment has not been received (Willow-\$1200). Linhart received in January.
- Tax-exemption renewal form might be coming through the mail soon.
- Additional information can be found in the Monthly Financial Report
 - Approved by: [Capo / Geiger]

VP On-Field: Gallucci

- Opening Day might not happen due to the rain.
- Shipley will send out a "Welcome to the Season" email
- Rules need to be sent out to the coaches
 - Little League International
 - Catchers cannot pitch after catching
- Call-up lists should be distributed soon.
- Umpires should be lined up for this weekend.
 - Try to eliminate down time between scheduled games.
- Coaches meeting went well
- Potentially having summer tournaments
 - 10U is interested
 - Would want to make sure that IL Field & ML Field should be
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- By-Laws Committee
 - Bykowski - Chair
 - Acierno
 - Garver
 - Others?

VP Off-Field: Graff

- Sponsorship
 - \$24,100 collected, total. Most money has been received.
 - Signage should be completed soon. Possibly tomorrow afternoon.
 - Would like to get them hung before Saturday
- Opening Day signs are in the shed
- Youth Day at High School Game on 4/15 @ 4:15
- Memorial Day
 - Merchandise has been ordered
 - Committee meeting happened on 4/3/24
 - Suzanne Basista & Kim Gallucci
 - Friday (and week leading up to it) will require a lot of volunteer help from board members.
 - Magnetic car decals might be ordered.
- T-Mobile Little League sponsorship

- Requires a few things. Shipley has more information about social media & banners to be hung
- Approximately \$500 or \$1000 sponsorship check
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- Kim Gallucci & Susan Basista will be Memorial Day Coordinators with Jim.
 - GPSA has a storefront that might have different ideas for merchandise.
 - Memorial Day Committee Meeting
 - Monthly meetings will be sent out.
 - List of Committee members needs to be developed

Concessions: Gallucci

- Gallucci & Acierno built the
- Sunday, they made \$458.
- Old grill needs to be scrapped.
 - Tony might be able to take care of this.
- Sign-up Genius has been distributed.
 - Commissioners and Coaches need to push volunteering in the stand.
- Pod for the concession stand should be ordered for the entire season
 - Bykowski motioned / Milsom seconded. Motioned approved.
- Sunday League concessions are a big help.
 - Shipley / Graff / Gallucci are the people who can open the shed for Sunday games.
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Registration: Acierno

- Week of April 15th for Summer Team Registration
- Closes on May 9th.
- Coaches need to be selected during the Coaches' Meeting
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Equipment: Cole

- Ordering tees & pop-up net
- Extra
- Tarps for the LL Field have been received.
- (100) dozen 100 LL logo balls have been received by A.D. Starr. The balls will be stored at their facility until the spring. The Dick's gift cards (\$2,000 worth) will be applied to the invoice. Wilmus will issue payment for the balance of the invoice.
- Equipment needs to be replaced
 - ML Catchers Gear and PONY Gear will need to be purchased next season
 - Waters suggests having a set of community gear for IL.
- Better control of baseballs

- Provide two dozen balls to the coaches and make sure that they return them?
- Commissioners: Reiterate that slightly used game balls should be reused in the next game.
- IL Field: Mini-metal drag needs to be purchased. Possibly replace with a rubber drag

Uniforms: Milsom

- Presented options
- Coaches uniforms were not included
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- Basic Sunday League uniform. Nothing fancy. Not being used for Summer
- A higher quality jersey will be used for Summer
- There is a 4-6 week lead time for jerseys
 - Therefore, might have to move up selection process
- Travel uniforms
 - The previous travel team uniform vendor might provide a discount to resolve issues from Spring 2023
 - Manufacturer wants to correct the issue, not Milsom's contact.

Field Maintenance: Geiger (Shipley updated)

- Tuesday, April 16th, the IL Field should be laser graded by Thomas Pro Turf
- Purchase of gravel for the stone for the auxiliary parking area behind the LL Field
 - Motion to purchase two triaxles of pea gravel for the space
 - Waters / Milsom
 - Unanimously approved
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- Spring Clean-Up Days should be 3/9 & possibly 3/16
- \$2,209 for IL backstop repairs. Just replacing posts off the side of home plate. Chain link and remaining posts will not be replaced.
 - Motion unanimously approved to repair the posts at the IL Field [Gallucci / Bykowski]
- Water buffalos to be filled in May by Fire Department (Mike Metz is the contact).
- Tarps were purchased for LL in January, but not ML.
- Supplies will need to be purchased in 2024
- Committee:
 - Shipley would love to have a group of 20 people
 - Commissioners should send a message out to the coaches to ask for volunteers
- Old business:
 - Laser grading program
 - IL during the following session (April 2024??? Not during Easter Weekend). Last done in 2019

- LL was the most recent laser grading (in April 2023)
- ML was in 2022

Web Site/Surveys/Player Evals: Garver

- Adding posts to social media
- Will add post about registration

Umpires: Jamison

- Prices are going up.
 - Jamison will send pricing for 2022 & 2023
- Contract with PUA needs to be signed
- NOTE: PUA requires that all umpires have clearances to work for PUA.

Travel Coordinator: Jamison

- Open training session (\$10 per session)
 - Sessions have been well-attended.
- Sunday League future?
 - Shipley will send Ludwig contact information
 - Would like to get this finalized by February meeting
 - Tournament should be planned. Hopefully, Avonworth can host a few.
 - Ludwig working on the Facebook blast from last year
 - Looking for the email addresses from last year
 - Need to compile from the previous head coaches
 - Look for \$150 per team

Clearances: Brown

- 119 coaches. 110 coaches have clearances. 92%
 - IL has one missing clearance
 - LL has one
 - ML is good
 - T-Ball has 7 coaches missing
- Might need to have a computer at the field during Opening Day.
- Needs to make sure that unregistered coaches are included.
- Commissioners need to help with compliance
- Annual “Safe Sport” training may be a requirement for Little League.
- The Board is aware of the issues with some expired clearances. The board is working to correct the problems.

League Reports:

- T-Ball – Picard
 - No update
- IL – Waters
 - Extra gloves? Might be some gloves around
- ML – Shipley / Gallucci
 - No update

- LL – Bykowski
 - No update
- PONY – Fasy Greevy
 - League schedule meeting scheduled for March 18th. Fasy is working on this.
 - Trying to coordinate this registration with MS Team Tryouts
 - 16 teams in spring for Moon League?
- Colt
 - No fall baseball

Other News / New Business:

- New topics:
 - Sunday League
 - Worked well
 - SportsConnect / GameChanger integration
 - There is hesitation between having double
 - Pirate game
 - 6/23 or 8/4 will be the potential dates. Probably 6/23. Ludwig is working on that.
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- Old business:
 - Solution to Travel Teams (presented by T.O. Alberts)
 - Offer an option for higher intensity
 - Traditional vs. Advanced
 - To be determined after Summer Season
 - Full year selection process.
 - To be selected ahead of Pay-to-Play teams are selected.
 - Two ML & two LL teams
 - Not sure if IL is ready for this
 - 10 training sessions (possibly in the winter)
 - AAA coaches will supervise practices, but Diesel Sports Complex would run the training
 - Coaches will still coach the games
 - Still planning on playing in community-based tournaments
 - \$700 per player (estimated by T.O.)
 - T.O. to provide detail of what is included in this cost.
 - Saturdays have light attendance
 - Might merge teams for a scrimmage
 - Treat it as an “all-star game” feel.
 - Host a community / traditional team tournament
 - Players who don’t make the team, we could provide an “alternate” option
 - Check the notes for the annual meeting
 - Include T.O. Alberts

- This discussion needs to be ongoing throughout the year up to the registration discussion.
 - Schedule might be Spring / Summer
 - Will there be any language in the agreement about Steel City taking AAA players?
 - Has the potential to bring people back
 - Possibly host a travel tournament
 - Committee needs to be put together by February
 - Bykowski
 - Wilmus
 - Alberts
 - Brown
 - Ludwig
 - Waters
 - Provide an update during January's meeting
 - Schedule recurring meetings
 - Still need to determine what to do with Saturday games during this Spring Season
- Fundraising:
 - Ludwig generated \$3,850 of fundraising for his volunteering opportunities through his BNY Mellon employment. Check has not been received.
- Sunday League Status???
 - Provides extra opportunities for competitive
 - "Pay to Play" teams may affect participation in the spring
 - Decisions need to be made soon
 - The decision on the Winter Trainings needs to happen as soon as possible. This provides 6-9 additional practices
 - All community organizations are having this issue
 - Determine what percentage of players in each division / age group will be involved
 - The solution for the 11U & 12U might not be the same as the solution 7U & 8U teams
 - Travel Ball decisions
 - Better instruction by "professionals"
 - Number of reps / number of games / number of opportunities
 - Play all year long. Therefore, possibly consider full-year commitment to families
 - Travel Ball solutions / options
 - Solutions need to be determined on an "age division" basis

- Participation in “pay to play” varies by age group. The solution for the 8U group might not be the solution for the 11U group.
- Option 1: Provide games on M-H
 - Missing Saturday revenue
 - Does it affect Memorial Day?
 - Fennell does not schedule tournaments during Memorial Day weekend
 - Not all organizations leave Memorial Day open
 - Schedule tournaments for Avonworth travel teams
 - Avonworth will still provide a Summer Tournament Team in this scenario
- Option 2: Provide games on M-H & Saturday evening
 - Avonworth will still provide a Summer Tournament Team in this scenario
- Option 3: Provide games Monday through Saturday morning / afternoon
- Winter workouts could be open to ANY registrations for the 11U & 12U
 - Provide special instruction during those sessions
 - Need to make a decision on Winter Workouts soon.
- Winter workouts by high school coaches? Is this possible per PIAA rules?
- Would other options for fields be an option?

Meeting Adjourned: 10:31 PM [Cole / Waters]

Monthly Meeting Attendance Record - 2023 / 2024

Members	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
Date	9/14	10/11	11/9	N/A	1/11	2/8						
Time	8:30	8:30	7:00	N/A	8:00	8:00						
Chris Shipley (President / ML Commissioner)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Jim Graff (VP Off Field/ MDT Chair)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Mike Gallucci (VP On Field/ ML Commish / Concessions, MDT Committee)	Y	N	Y		Y	Y						
Todd Wilmus (Treasurer)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Greg Bykowski (Recording Secretary/LL Commissioner)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Brad Barnes (MDT Committee)	Y	Y	Y		N	Y						
Brad Cole (Equipment)	Y	Y	Y		N	Y						
Mike Jamison (Umpires / Travel Team Coordinator)	Y	Y	Y		Y	N						
Eric Garver (Website/Surveys/Player evals)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Tony Geiger (Field Maintenance Coordinator)	Y	Y	N		N	Y						
Justin Acierno (Registrations)	Y	N	N		Y	N						
Nate Milsom (Uniforms)	Y	Y	Y		N	Y						
Jon Capo ()	Y	N	N		N	Y						
Mike Ludwig ()	N	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Kyle Brown (Clearances)	N	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Bob Waters (IL Commissioner)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Brian Picard (T-Ball Commissioner)	Y	Y	N		Y	N						
Paul Gilbert ()	Y	Y	Y		Y	N						
Jeff Barnyak ()	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						