



MINUTES OF LYA BOARD MEETING

January 12, 2014

Abraham Feters-White Schoolhouse

Attendance:

Board members present– Executive: Ambrogi, Foster, Ryan, McSherry, Spallone

Other: Allen, Bolger, Byrnes, D’Angelo, Dockstader, Gardner, Hewitt, Jefferis, McFillin, Miller, Protesto, Pusey

Absent: Eckels, Gingrich, Munnelly, Webb

Others Present: Executive Director-Anne Gehret, Frank Giancatarino-Lionville LL President, Joe Chambers-guest (baseball)

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of Minutes: Gehret presented the minutes from the regular meeting on 11/10/13 for approval. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by Foster and seconded by Ambrogi. Motion unanimously approved.*

III. Treasurer’s Report: Munnelly absent. Spallone reported that the balance in the LYA checking account at DNB as of 12/31/13 was \$244,000. \$100,000 was transferred to a CD at First Niagara Bank for better interest. *A motion to approve this report was made by Foster and seconded by Pusey. Motion unanimously approved.*

IV. President’s Report: Ryan – no report.

V. Sports/Operations Report: McSherry requested reports from each sport.

Intramural Soccer – Gardner – no report.

Travel Soccer – D’Angelo – no report.

Lacrosse – Miller – 2014 Lacrosse Budget was presented for approval. *Motion to approve the budget as presented was made by McSherry, seconded by Spallone. Motion unanimously approved.* He reported that he needs more fields for this year, and asked about possible fields but all were already in use for either other LYA sports or GEYA. Board members suggested other possibilities such as the open field by the Eagleview tennis courts on Wharton Blvd, which is now designated as a garden and would need to be fenced to be usable since it is right along the road. Another possibility is the field across from the Eagleview Y on Rice Blvd which currently has an old backstop on it. Miller also discussed the need to raise the concrete block practice wall on Hoffecker Field. Ryan stated that we can’t make the wall higher, but could put up higher slanted cyclone fencing and remove the netting for a cost of about \$1500. Ambrogi will follow up on this.

Junior Hillcats – Spallone - registration is happening now.

Softball – Allen – Softball is trying to mirror baseball’s league structure more than it did in the past, even though the old structure still fit Little League rules.

Basketball – McFillin reported that the schedule has been very erratic this year due the many weather-related school closings and also the 2 week Christmas break. All leagues are now in full swing and are hoping for a smooth rest of the season.

Field Hockey – Webb absent – no report.

Track and Field – no report.

Baseball – Giancatarino reported that he had sent baseball's budgets to the LYA treasurer and Executive Director, but did not have copies with him. Budgets will be approved via email vote. He also presented to the board a baseball signed by the 2013 LL 12U tournament team that won the PA championship that could be put on display at the LYA House. Giancatarino then reported that 9 Lionville teams, 6 baseball and 3 softball, went to District 28 tournaments last year and 5 won. It was a great year for Lionville Little League.

Giancatarino's next item was a request for \$600 for a 6' X 4' memorial sign to be placed on the side of the Foster Field press box. Ambrogi asked about Uwchlan Twps. rules regarding signs, and what would be done for future teams who won championships. Ambrogi will check with Uwchlan Twp about their rules for signs in Lionville Park. *Motion to approve \$750 to purchase a sign commemorating the 2013 Lionville 12U team was made by Allen and seconded by Foster. Motion passed unanimously.*

Giancatarino then reported that the Baseball Committee is in the process of formalizing its rules and regulations and updating its constitution. It is also looking at software that would provide online schedules and statistics. More info to come later. He then discussed the 50/70 program and stated that it is the future of Little League. LYA needs to look at where we are going to be able to have more 50/70 fields, since our current 50/70 fields are not available during the week for practice due to the Hankin softball league. LMS Junior Field is too big to convert, so they are now looking at the lower level field in Eagleview on Wharton Blvd as a possible practice field. The field is short but should be usable for practice. The sod needs to be cut out and the mound needs to be changed to a dual mound with 2 pitching plates. The field also has a drainage problem and Ambrogi will talk to Hankin about what can be done.

Next topic was defibrillators and CPR training. Little League International is encouraging as many coaches as possible to get first aid/CPR training. Cost is \$35/person for a 4 hour class with 40 people per class and certification lasts for 2 years. Plan would be to get board members trained first and then commissioners, coaches and umpires. Dockstader questioned whether the Uwchlan Ambulance group could provide the training. Joe Chambers and Dorothy Foster will gather more information for the March board meeting, including information about cost of recertification.

Giancatarino's last topic was changes to Little League territory rules. Lionville Little League territory has not changed, but eligibility rules for Little League territories have changed. The new rule is that anyone who lives (old rule) or attends school (new rule) in a Little League territory can play for a team in the Little League. LYA will adhere to this new rule, but will not be advertising it because we do not want to take kids who are already playing in other Little Leagues since we already are looking for more fields for the kids who already play on Lionville teams.

VI. Administrative Report: No discussion

VII. Old Business:

- 1) Capital Budget/Outstanding Sports Budgets – Baseball and lacrosse budgets were previously discussed as noted above. Travel softball budget not yet available.
Foster presented a preliminary Capital Budget and the board discussed the items on it but felt more information was needed prior to passage of the budget. Gehret and Foster will put together a budget that will be sent to the board for an email vote.
- 2) Fence Repairs – Ambrogi would like to start work on these repairs but needs capital budget approval to do so. These items will also be sent out for an email vote.
- 3) New Fields – Update – McSherry and McFillin reported that not much progress had been made since the last meeting. Still looking at the fields in Eagleview on Wharton and Rice Blvds.

VIII. New Business:

- 1) Concession Stand – staff retirements/future operation – three very experienced managers have retired. There are no plans to change the current method of operation, so three new managers are needed.
- 2) Defibrillators/CPR training – previously discussed as noted above
- 3) Memorial for 2013 championship team - previously discussed as noted above
- 4) Bullying policy – Gehret noted that a bullying incident was reported at an LYA basketball game. McFillin stated that one player hit another player in the face after practice. The incident has been handled but the Board discussed whether LYA should add a Bullying Policy to our manual. The Board agreed that we should add a statement on player conduct to the online registration form. Gehret will add for the next registration cycle.
- 5) Little League territory rule changes - previously discussed as noted above
- 6) Indoor facility – Spallone – He reported that LYA needs to find a different venue for our basketball program because DASD school cancellations make it very difficult for our basketball leagues to have regularly scheduled practices and games. He would like to see LYA find an indoor facility with three basketball courts so we no longer have to rely on DASD gyms. Locations to look at are 360 Soccer in Chester Spring and Brandywine Youth Club. McFillin reported that he is looking at some buildings that might work, but has not found any appropriate ones yet.
- 7) DEHS Softball Booster Banner – no discussion
- 8) Picture Day Coordinator – Larry Ward will continue to handle this responsibility
- 9) Sponsors Update – Gehret presented a proposal to increase the cost of team sponsorships because sponsors will now be allowed to post coupons/offers on the LYA website and costs have not been changed for at least 5 years. *A motion was made by Spallone, seconded by Foster to change sponsor costs as follows starting with 2014 sponsors:*
 - One team - \$300 (up from \$250)*
 - Two teams - \$475 (up from \$400)*
 - Three teams –\$650 (up from \$550)*
 - Four teams - \$750 (up from \$600)**Motion passed unanimously.*

IX. Adjournment: *Motion made by McFillin, seconded by Allen to adjourn the meeting at 8:56PM. Motion passed unanimously.*

Email motions – 1/13/14 thru 3/16/13:

- 1) Motion made by Mark Spallone – 1/27/14: to approve capital expenditures of \$14,500 for four wooden benches in Lionville Park (\$1,000) and fencing repairs at Field C, Foster, Senior and Hoffecker Fields (\$13,500)
Results: 20-yes, 0-no, 2-did not vote – Motion passed.
- 2) Motion made by Harry Ambrogi – 1/27/14: to approve capital expenditures of \$3,500 for two new pitching machines from Kelly's Sports.
Results: 20-yes, 0-no, 2-did not vote – Motion passed.
- 3) Motion made by Harry Ambrogi – 2/12/14: that the board approve the Capital Budget for FY 2014 with a total of \$138,850.
Results: 20-yes, 0-no, 1-did not vote – Motion passed.