



MINUTES OF LYA BOARD MEETING

March 16, 2014

Abraham Feters-White Schoolhouse

Attendance:

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

Other: Allen, Bolger, Byrnes, Eckels, Gardner, Gingrich, Hewitt, Jefferis, Miller, Protesto, Pusey, Webb

Absent: D'Angelo, Dockstader, McFillin, Munnelly,

Others Present: Executive Director-Anne Gehret, Brian Boorman – DEHS Baseball Boosters

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of Minutes: Gehret presented the minutes from the regular meeting on 1/12/14 for approval. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ambrogi and seconded by Foster. Motion unanimously approved.*

III. Treasurer's Report: Munnelly absent. Spallone presented a current P&L statement and balance sheet. *A motion to approve these reports was made by Miller and seconded by Foster. Motion unanimously approved.*

IV. President's Report: Ryan reported on the proposed turf fields at DEHS, which would be located below Zulu field on the lower soccer practice fields behind DEHS. The total cost is estimated to be \$2.5 million. DASD has already spent about \$30K on an engineering study of the proposed location. When the school board voted on whether or not to proceed, the vote was 4-3 against with 2 abstentions but some board members are now saying they will change their vote. Ryan has met with DASD in support of building the turf fields at DEHS. If LYA participates financially in the construction we might get the right of first refusal for field time that is available when school teams are not using the fields. DEHS would only use the fields on weekdays until 5PM. Uwchlan Township has said that it is OK with the turf fields as long as they do not have lights and there is no impervious cover. The fields would not be visible from houses or roads so vandalism could be an issue but other area turf fields have not had a problem.

Ryan would like LYA board approval to speak on behalf of LYA but not actually commit LYA funds to the project. *A motion was made by Ambrogi, seconded by McSherry, to allow Ryan or other Executive Committee members to represent LYA in discussions regarding LYA's participation in the construction of two turf fields at DEHS. Motion passed unanimously.*

McSherry gave the following DASD board meeting dates related to this project:

3/26 – 6PM – Special Public Meeting on budget items

4/9 – Regular DASD School Board Meeting – vote on approving turf fields at DEHS

V. Sports/Operations Report: In order to shorten LYA board meetings and keep them concise and relevant for all attendees, McSherry is now requesting reports from each sport commissioner prior to board meetings and only items that need discussion will be reported at the meetings.

Intramural Soccer – Gardner – no report.

Travel Soccer – Tryouts are coming up soon. They need a coach for the boys U9 team. Since board approval a few years ago, there have been 2 teams at the same age level in some of the 8v8 leagues, and a parent was pushing for 2 teams in one of the 11v11 leagues but D’Angelo told them it was not allowed.

Lacrosse – Miller – Miller has games scheduled on 3/28 and 3/29 but the township parks don’t officially open until 4/1. Gehret will let Bea at DARC know that we need the fields on 4/1. Ambrogi stated that field clean-up day is on 3/29, but that should not be an issue for lacrosse.

Junior Hillcats – Spallone – There will be 9 teams this year.

Softball – Allen – Softball registration is now closed and is slightly lower than last year, as it is in other sports. We had to deal with territory issues this year and some players had to move to DLL to stay in compliance with Little League rules.

Basketball – McFillin – Basketball ends Wednesday and it was a tough season due to DASD not giving LYA as much gym time and also due to the excessive number of weather-related school closings this winter. He is looking for other gyms to use next year to avoid these issues.

Field Hockey – Webb – no report.

Track and Field – Gehret reported that DEHS track is not available this year due to work being done on it this summer. Bishop Shanahan is also not available to us so it will probably be held at the track at Downingtown West this year.

Baseball –Coaches meetings will be held this week. Registration is down from last year. This will be Joe Gallagher’s last year as manager of the Lionville American Legion teams. Steve Reber is looking for his replacement.

VI. Administrative Report: Foster/Ambrogi – 44th Annual Opening Day will be on 4/12/14. Tim Streeter will throw out first softball and Fred Gaines, newly reelected UT Supervisor will throw out first baseball.

VII. Old Business

- 1) *Outstanding Budgets – budgets not yet approved were presented and motions made to approve them as follows:*
Baseball-spring- Motion-Pusey, second-Jefferis, unanimously approved
Fall – Motion-Pusey, second-McSherry, unanimously approved
Travel softball – Not presented
Track & field– Motion-McSherry, second-Jefferis, unanimously approved
American Legion– Motion-Foster, second-Gingrich, unanimously approved
Insurance– Motion- Foster, second-Pusey, unanimously approved
Field maintenance– Motion-McSherry, second-Foster, unanimously approved
- 2) Fence/Field repairs/Hoffecker Practice Wall Update– Ambrogi – Field C repairs will be done first. Netting at the batting cages will also be fixed this week.
- 3) New Fields/Indoor Facility Update– McSherry/McFillin – McSherry reported that the field at Rice Boulevard will be ready for use as soon as we get final approval from Hankin. He will then get the field lined so it can be used for lacrosse practice this spring. He also looked at an indoor training facility near Eagle and me with USTC about a partnership for a new turf field. We are looking to lease rather than own .
- 4) CPR Training Update– Foster – No update - Gehret will follow-up with Joe Chambers
- 5) Concession Stand Managers Update– Spallone – Still need managers to replace those who quit, or to find a different way to run the stand.
- 6) Sponsors Update– Gehret – Sponsor income close to \$14,000 again this year. Winner’s Circle, a long time sponsor, is no longer a sponsor due to financial issues. Sponsor coupons are being posted on the website.

VIII. New Business:

- 1) DEHS Turf Fields Update – Ryan - see President's Report
- 2) Batting Cage – joint purchase with DEHS – Foster - Brian Boorman, President of DEHS Baseball Booster Club, described and showed a picture of a portable Big Bubba batting cage that the new DEHS coach would like to have for the team. The booster club would like to split the cost with LYA. The cage is larger than a normal batting cage to better corral foul balls and costs \$3700. The booster club also wants to purchase and split with LYA an L-screen because the old one is broken. This item costs about \$300. During the season these items will be locked near the first base baseline. A tarp will have to be purchased to cover them during the winter. McSherry asked how the transaction would work and Boorman answered that the booster club would make the initial purchase and then LYA would give a check for ½ the total back to the club. The teams that would benefit from these items are the DEHS JV and Varsity teams and LYA's 2 American Legion teams and 2 Senior Little League teams who use the DEHS Senior Field.

Foster made a motion, seconded by Ambrogi, that LYA split the cost of one Big Bubba batting cage and one L-screen with the DEHS Baseball Booster Club, at a total cost of approximately \$4,000 or \$2000 from LYA. Motion passed unanimously.

Website Updates/New Website – Gehret reported that our current website is very difficult to update and that LYA needs something better. Before we start over with a brand new website, GroupNet Solutions has a new website platform that we could try for about \$300. The board agreed that we should try this new platform before totally starting over, so Gehret will get our GroupNet to convert our current website to the new platform after spring registration is over.

- 3) PA DCED Grant – McSherry reported that, thanks to Gehret's work to finalize the grant, LYA just received a \$15,000 grant from the state of PA to use to update our fields.
- 4) Uwchlan Township Community Day – Ambrogi reported that it will be on July 14th this year and that LYA will be sponsoring a Home Run Derby on Field E rather than the golf/Frisbee game we've had the past few years. He will coordinate.
- 5) Dick's Sporting Goods – *Allen made a motion that the board make Dick's Sporting Goods an approved supplier so that coaches/commissioners can pick up small items locally when needed. Motion was second by Miller and unanimously passed.*
- 6) Former Board Members – discussion was held about what to give former board members as a thank you when they leave the board. The Executive Committee will take up this matter and report back to the full board.

IX. Adjournment: *Motion made by Allen, seconded by Miller to adjourn the meeting at 8:15PM. Motion passed unanimously.*