



*Parkway Little League*  
P.O. Box 320152  
West Roxbury, MA 02132

**PLL BOD Meeting on February 6, at Sprinkler Fitters Hall**

**Present**

Ian Browne  
John Burns  
John Flynn  
Pat Goonan  
Pat Murphy  
Brian Nolan  
Adam Polgreen  
Gary Russell  
John Sarro  
Bob Todd

**Absent**

Mike Barone  
Jim Gallagher  
Matt Maiona  
Rich McLaughlin  
Rich Myers  
Sean Russell  
Rick Treseler

**Please note: There was not a quorum for this meeting.**

**Senior Members:**

Rich Curran  
Joe Gambon  
Mike Gallagher  
Mike McGwire  
Steve Mitchell

**Senior Umpire:**

Mike O'Reilly

**Coach/parent:**

Tarez McNeil

**2:6:17**

Senior Member Mike McGwire discusses the concept of a major renovation of the clubhouse and complex between Bunker Field and Praught - the right-



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field area of Praught. Mike did a similar project for Holy Name, building a playground. For that project, Mike and his group raised \$125,000 in 90 days with a grass roots effort. Mike's idea for PLL would be to have a capital campaign to raise money to build that structure. Mike notes the complex and buildings at the complex have been the same way since the 1970s. A rough outline would include one building that would house Gumby's Grill on one level and then another with some offices and equipment, storage, a meeting room, etc. Mike spoke to some developers who think it is feasible. The board will decide if the project is worth exploring. If so, an exploratory committee will be formed and Mike will get more specific with a proposal.

**Action:** The board to decide whether to assemble an exploratory committee to review whether a feasibility study should be commissioned for the proposed project.

**11:9:3**

**Opening Day update:** John Flynn has done all the paper work and filled out the permits, with help from Tom Donahue. He has two contracts for the bands. Prime will provide one or two cars to go in the front. The police and fire departments have been notified. The Governor and Mayor have both been notified. The Governor is confirmed. The party is booked for Eat and Drink at Jack O'Neill's. There will be more discussion of whether to have Wally the Green Monster. Mike Barone had suggested honoring Marilyn La Rosa, the owner of La Rosa Real Estate. She's let us know this is her 40th year of sponsoring the league and she will be retiring, so we will honor her in some fashion on Opening Day, perhaps as the grand marshal. There is continued talk about sprucing up the scorer's boxes and naming it after long-time volunteer Hank Asmar. Opening Day is on April 8.

**11:9:4**

**Schedule update:** There is a working schedule for all of the projected teams. The Majors schedule can be posted at any time with the dates but without game times. For the rest of the schedule, we need to monitor registrations to verify how many teams we will have.

**Action:** Majors schedule should be posted to the website.

**11:9:6**

**Sponsorship update:** Mike Barone and Rick Treseler have sent out renewal letters for the sponsors. They put Feb. 15 as the deadline. Adam Polgreen mentions continuing to try actively add new sponsors and thinks the entire



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board can do a better job of this. Adam thinks that Mike Barone and Rick Treseler should have more support in soliciting potential sponsors. Adam also suggests more transparency with the current list of sponsors in a PDF file so we can identify more sponsors we can add. He also would like more engagement with the sponsors.

## **2:6:2**

**Recap of rule changes update** from Little League International.

In the tournament, batters will be required to keep one foot in the batters box throughout the at-bat.

During the regular season, teams can adopt a local option rule for automatic intentional walks - the pitcher would not have to throw the four pitches. There doesn't seem to be much interest in Parkway adopting this rule.

Courtesy Runner or Special Pinch Runner in 2016: A player not currently in the lineup may enter the game as a pinch runner without substituting, so long as the same player is not run for more than once a game and this can only occur once an inning.

2017 tournament / local option rule: This can only happen twice a game, but not in the same inning.

General consensus is that Parkway will stick with the 2016 rule in all three cases unless someone on the board wishes to propose a motion suggesting otherwise.

## **11:9:9**

**Equipment update:** Adam and Pat Goonan recently met at the complex and went through the equipment. They need to get with last year's equipment manager Jim Gallagher to see how many bags need to be ordered. Adam said he would soon send an e-mail seeking approval to purchase new equipment. The storage room, according to Adam, needs some more "love". It is loaded with outdated equipment and items that can be dispatched. Pat is trying to



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track down missing Cubs jerseys. They currently have 10 out of 15 jerseys for their 12-player roster. Pat says he has one at his house and another he is going to pick up while also adding that one of the returning players still has his jersey from last year.

Adam talks about options for buying baseballs. He admits he is "semi-maniacal" about baseballs and wasn't happy with some of the vinyl-covered practice balls we had last season. The ball we were using the last few years for the Majors was a Martin ball and they were stamped RS for regular season or RST for Tournament. The tournament balls are superior, according to Adam, than the regular season balls. They have a cushion-corked center and sound much better. Adam doesn't think we should skimp on baseballs. Diamond makes a bunch of different baseballs. Last year, we used the DL-2 for the Minors. It wasn't as good a ball. The nice tournament baseballs are going to cost \$45 a dozen. You can save about \$13 per dozen going with a cheaper ball. The board must weigh pros/cons of saving money versus having better baseballs.

**Action:** Adam to make proposal to the board on baseballs.

2:6:3

**Uniform purchase update:** The board also needs to identify which vendor(s) to use to order new hats and uniforms. Adam has bids from Parkway Boston Design and Super Flash. For the last several years, we have used Parkway Boston Design for all uniform supplies during the regular season. Former long-time Parkway Little League volunteer John Fitzgerald runs Parkway Design. Super Flash provided services to PLL for 28 years before Parkway Design started doing this. Adam says the bids are very similar. From the opening bids, Super Flash's hats are roughly a dollar cheaper than Parkway Design. The shirt prices are similar. Some board members remain upset from some mistakes that were made with All-Star hats last summer by Parkway Design. However, Adam notes that John and Parkway Design have done a nice job with the jerseys and hats the last few years, so it might make sense to stick with him, given the tight turnaround. Adam also wants to get Super Flash involved in some form or fashion, whether it's doing some hats, or umpire shirts.

**Action:** Adam Polgreen to submit bids/options to the board for which vendors to order equipment from.

12:14:2



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**Finances update:** Bobby Todd gave an update on the league's finances.

**11:9:18**

**Summer/Travel ball update:** For many years, Parkway has participated in the Suburban Youth League. The last couple of years, pretty much any Parkway coach could get a group of kids together and form a team. Aside from 9-year-olds, there haven't really been tryouts. Adam says parents haven't been looped in enough on the process of how these teams are formed. He adds that as a board, we need to decide what philosophy we are going to use. If it will be a competitive, merit-based program, we need to treat it as such and we need to form true "A" and "B" teams and put some more organization and communication behind it. Gary Russell mentioned the idea of starting up a House League again for those who don't play travel and offered to help run it. Rick Treseler had previously offered to help coordinate Travel Baseball for Parkway players. John Flynn also offered. Without a quorum, no vote could take place on who will lead the Summer Travel program.

**Action:** Further discussion to take place on how to organize Travel/Summer Leagues.

**2:6:4**

**Deadline for Spring registration:** Board in process of scheduling a walk-in registration at Parkway Hockey on Feb. 25. Perhaps deadline would be March 1. Anyone who registers after that would pay a surcharge.

**Action:** Finalize plans for walk-in registration and setting a deadline for on-line registration.

**12:14:3**

**Safety Officer Update:** John Burns talks of the importance of collecting volunteer/CORI/concussion forms from all potential volunteers. Several board members turned in their forms to John at the meeting.

**Action:** Division GM's to take charge of encouraging potential volunteers to submit their CORI/Volunteer/Concussion forms.

**12:14:4**

**Umpiring update:** Senior umpire Mike O'Reilly was invited to the meeting by Adam Polgreen and talked about his willingness to help the junior umpires improve at their craft. Mike is willing to mentor them by sitting with them in the press box while watching a game, working with them during



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Minors games, and also notes that they should come out and watch Majors games to see the senior umpires in action. Mike also mentions working with umpires in scrimmages. The more the junior umpires can learn, the better chance they have of advancing in the program. The annual junior umpiring training program will take place on Tuesday's at the Roche Center. Information should be posted soon to the website.