

PLL BOD Meeting, 8/8/2022, 7:30 p.m., Elks Club

Attendance

Kevin Boczkowski
Ian Browne
John Burns
Kevin Cloutier
Rich Curran
Keith Gagnon
Pat Goonan out
Dave Greenwood
Masai King -- out
Mike Liendo
Tim Mills 08t
Matt Pieroway
Dennis Roache
Michael Seaton
Bill Sittig
Brian Taggart

Absent

Pat Goonan
Masai King
Tim Mills

11:9:8

Bunker Renovation Update

Dennis Roache recently was in touch with one of his most trusted contacts when he worked at parks and was building fields. Dennis sent him our plans, we didn't get a number yet. We have a \$450,000 budget. He roughly thinks it would be \$650,000 to build the plan we have in place. He said he would get back to us with a number on what it would take to scale back. He thinks there are a few things in there that we could pull out of the project like reducing the retaining wall, eliminating the bullpen. But we could still have a beautiful and robust field. He will get back to us on if we can feasibly do this for \$450,00. If he does, he's agreed to build it and be our project manager. This man has done fields all over Boston. Dennis has a meeting later in the week with the city. They want a plan from him. At that point, they will either schedule a meeting further in September to get another update or they will extend the grant another year, from March to the following March. If everything aligns, and he is building the field we want, or close to the field we want, Dennis trusts him because he's an expert on this stuff and hopefully he would be building it by next summer.

Action: Dennis to get more info on if we can get Bunker Field renovated within our budget.

8:8:1

Majors Managers recommendations

President Dennis Roach recommends the following managers to continue on with their respective teams for next season.

John Picarello, Giants. Kevin Boczkowski, Cardinals. Rich Curran, Red Sox. Keith Gagnon, Braves. Mike Liendo, Phillies. Chris Rushton, Athletics. Rob Lopez, Yankees.

The board approves all seven recommendations.

Action: Dennis isn't ready to recommend a manager for the Dodgers. He will do that in the coming weeks.

8:8:2

Dates for Tryouts, Draft

The first tryout will be held on Sunday, September 25.

Time are 8:30 a.m. for 12-year-olds, 10 a.m. for 11-year-olds and 11:30 for 10-year-olds

The second tryout will be held on Saturday, October 1.

Times are 1:30 p.m. (12-year-olds), 3 (11-year-olds) and 4:30 (10-year-olds).

If either of the first two tryouts are rained out, the rain date will be Sunday, Oct. 2, 8:30, 10 and 11:30.

Draft will be at the Elks Club on Monday, Oct. 3.

1:10:1

General Ledger update

Earlier in the day, treasurer Brian Taggart sent out a general ledger update, giving an up-to-date account of the league's finances. Brian discussed it with the board and answered a couple of questions.

12:13:2

Sponsorship Update

Dave Greenwood says that last year at this time, we had 67 sponsors for \$49,825. This year we have 61 sponsors for \$40,450. We are still missing a few checks, so we should be right on target.

8:8:3

Musco Light Project

The Musco Light project would put the lights on automated timing that would be run by an app. It would get us 10 years of service. If the system goes down, they take care of it. You can schedule things to shut off automatically. This upgrade would cost \$13,450, for 10 years.

The board approves this project by majority.

8:8:4

Other capital items

Dennis recommends putting off other capital items with the Bunker issue still pending.

1:10:2

Summer Banquet update

Mike Liendo is running the banquet for Summer League teams. He is setting up tickets. It's going to be Friday, Sept.9, from 7-11 at the Elks Club. This will be just for the 10, 11 and 12-year-old travel teams. Tickets are \$50 per person. Food is set. They are under budget. Mike wants to get some raffle prizes. Mike Liendo will send Mike Seaton a link so he can put on the website.

8:8:5

10 and 11-year-old All-Stars

Mike Liendo wonders why we have a district All-Star team for 10 and 11-year-olds. He says some of the other top leagues aren't doing it. He says the level of competition isn't good compared to tournaments.

Dennis Roache points out that the reason is that winning districts and advancing beyond that has always been our goal. If the 10-year-olds win the state championship, they can go all the way down the East Coast. It's always been our goal to win state championships, whatever age it is.

Rich Curran reminds everyone that we are Little League first, before prioritizing Summer League tournaments, etc.

Bill Sittig thinks more priority should be placed on putting elite 11-year-olds on our Williamsport teams. There is a healthy debate about this. Conversation tabled.

8:8:6

Summer League

Bill Sittig doesn't think our best teams - i.e., our A teams -- should be playing in the Suburban League and thinks they should go with a tournament model and they should be practicing two to three times a week because the Suburban teams don't practice. He thinks this is a placeholder and isn't improving players. Another issue to be tabled. While we are at it, Mike Liendo wants the "A" teams out of the Mayor's Cup. Another issue to table.

8:8:7

President's 2002 recap

Dennis wants to be brief on this. He believes it was a great season, with great help from everybody. Dennis was proud of the way our teams performed in All-Stars, and pleased with the way Mike Liendo ran travel ball. He also wants to thank Dave Greenwood because we want our success be known around the clubhouse. Dennis wanted to be more known by people who walk into the complex. Dave helped Dennis get a little project going where they were able to produce banners of all of our championships that we can roll out on special occasions. We are looking at turning the state championship banners into metal signs that will go on the outfield wall.

8:8:8

Rules for 2023

Dennis wants rules for Minors, Instructional to be memorialized this winter, so we can get it on a document. Mainly rules that are different than what you see in the Majors, not stealing home, etc.

8:8:9

Equipment return

Just a reminder from Rich Curran for the GMs to send out something to all the Summer League coaches to drop off any equipment. Rich is going to get down there soon to go through everything.

8:8:10

Complex close-up

Kevin Cloutier is going to send out a more organized plan for getting the complex closed down on game nights. He will send it via e-mail.

8:8:11

Fall development

Bill Sittig thinks the league should provide more development opportunities. Billy wants to help run this and he has a friend who was a teammate of Packy Naughton's at Virginia Tech. Billy and his friend were both on the staff at Wentworth but they aren't going back there. Bill and his friend are interested in 1-on-1 lessons or small group lessons at the complex until it is closed. Pitching, hitting and some defense. They want to provide an amenity for families of PLL who are interested in doing that. This would come at a cost to families. A percentage would go back to the league. It would not just be for Little League players. We would give chances for older players, alums, also. Dennis sees no downside with this.

Keith Gagnon expressed an interest in doing something similar with a small group of kids. Keith is looking to help kids who might be trying out this coming year.

Bill will come up with a proposal for his plan with a pricing structure, dates, times.

The board approves use of complex for private lessons run by Billy, Keith, etc, pending proposals.

8:8:12

Senior Membership applications

Ian Browne will soon send volunteer applications for all volunteers who put in 20 hours this season which makes them eligible to be 2022-23 senior members. This makes them eligible to vote at the next board election and also makes them eligible to be nominated for a board position. Kevin C. recommends that he send more particulars out to the T-Ball volunteers to get them more involved.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 12, at the Elks Club.

8:9:12

Board position reminders

The following board members have terms expiring and would need to get re-elected to stay on:

Kevin Boczkowski, Kevin Cloutier, Pat Goonan, Dave Greenwood, Mark Loewen (already resigned earlier this year), Tim Mills, Mike Seaton and Brian Taggart.

The following members have one more year on their term:

Ian Browne, John Burns, Rich Curran, Keith Gagnon, Masai King, Mike Liendo, Matt Pieroway, Dennis Roache and Bill Sittig.

8:9:13

Parkway Baseball Apparel

Bill Sittig taking charge of this. Will have more details on some cool items that will be available.