

Munster Little League
Minutes of the Meeting of Board of Directors
Wednesday, April 13, 2022

The Munster Little League met in regular session on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at the A Field Press Box. The meeting opened at 7:11 pm. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct regular business.

Attendees: J. Castellano, J. Wodynski, K. Jurcik, J. Craig, B. Caddick, A. Rubio, A. Keefner, G. Gouveia, M. McGee

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President J. Castellano at 7:11 pm. A quorum was present.
- II. **Approval of Agenda** – J. Castellano presented the meeting agenda. J. Craig motions to approve. A. Keefner 2nds. Motion approved.
- III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** – J. Castellano presented the March minutes. G. Gouveia motions to approve. J. Wodynski 2nds. Motion approved.

IV. Reports –

President Report – J. Castellano

Rich made it known that we need to start making it to the district meetings. Will not send district tournament packet- we need to pick it up. Shared the dates of the meeting- we need to coordinate who will be able to attend. John most likely can attend the next one. If not, Rick or Michelle can usually attend.

Treasurer Report - S. Spencer – We had a couple of last minute registrations came through in April. Summer fees are well above budget- by about \$12,000. The cash balance is healthy- around \$93K. Although we are cash heavy now, still expenses to go out and always good to have a rainy day fund.

Added in the payroll calendar for board visibility and Michelle to share with the grounds crew so they aware exactly when they will be paid. Still need to be paid for the first field clean up day- Scott to pick up time cards and issue payment. Once the latest time cards are approved, they will be paid by next Friday (4/22). Time cards need to be approved by next Tues/Wed.

District 1 Report – J. Castellano

Waiting on if we will be hosting All Star tournaments. We were told we would be hosting 12 YO tournaments, but need verification.

The next district meeting, teams will be pulled to see what brackets/divisions the teams will fall within.

V. Little League International Update – J. Castellano

Waiting on dates/times for district tournaments.

VI. All Stars

- **TOURNAMENTS**

- o In the past, District All Stars get the district tournaments plus 2 other tournaments to play. At some point, all teams (District or TOC) thought they got 3 tournaments paid for by MLL- which became expensive. MLL will pay for 2 tournaments for each team.

- **VOTING PROCESS**

- o In March, Brad proposed we change the way we vote for the 7, 8 and 9 YO All Stars. Have managers and coaches vote anonymously- for 13 total players- by ballot. All teams get the same amount of votes. When you complete a ballot, need to figure out a way to ensure that it is done fairly. Don't shy away from open discussions from managers, so we can try to make sure we have the most competitive teams for our younger divisions.
- o Have a managers/coaches weigh in on players from their team they think are the best players. At that point, can go to a blind ballot.
- o Managers will self nominate to be All Star manager by a certain date.

- **AGE REQUIREMENTS**

- o All players are eligible for their age group All Star team- 8s team and 9s team. If an 8 yo plays on Minors, they can be eligible for the 9 yo team.
- o All kids playing Minors eligible to be on the ballot for the district team?
- o John will follow-up on how to move forward with the process through email.

- **HATS**

- o Difficult to get and a limited selection.
- o Will need to order for all All- Star teams within the next week.
- o Lansing will hold on to the hats until all of the teams are picked and can put the numbers on them once they are set
- o Brad motions to pre order All Star hats, paid for by MLL and reimbursed by players; M. McGee 2nds. Passes unanimously.

VII. Covid Protocol Discussion – J. Castellano

Follow current CDC guidelines. J. Wodynski will draft a Covid protocol for the league.

VIII. Schedules

- Still have to finish TBall schedules and release.
- Challenges with the getting all of the games in prior to the end of the season tournaments begin.
- Majors/Minors- add more games on Saturdays in order to get add'l games; kids would rather play more games than less during the season.
- Target dates for end of season tournaments- **Minors/Majors: June 16, 20, 22? Or June 20, 22, 24- based on district tournament. C League possibly later.**

IX. Uniform Update- B. Caddick

- Majors/Minors/C League uniforms are in and ready to be picked up by managers.
- Prep/Tball will be ready next week. Gordy to pick up to distribute to the Prep and Tball managers.
- 1 manager/2 coaches/1 scorekeeper get a shirt/hat

X. Registration Update – Final player count is 424, excluding volunteers. Kept TBall/Prep open as long as we could to accept whoever wanted to play- up to a certain point. After final registration closed on 2/28, accepted about 15-20 extra players up until 4/1.

XI. Grounds Update/Field Setup Day – J. Castellano

- First field clean up date was not as successful as it could have been. We should have a checklist and supervisor for each field to make sure all is done correctly.
- Second clean up day was much more successful and the fields were correctly set up

XII. Special Events Update – A. Rubio – Opening day- 4/30/22

Town has approved the parade; had to update insurance- all set

Pictures starting at 8a-11a at WWMS Cafeteria

Parade:

- will barricade one section by the pool, by the library; there is a party at the Social Center
- Parade line-up: 11-11:15; Parade start by 11:30ish

Opening ceremonies:

- First pitch: John recommends Rich Arndt; will reach out to him to see if he is available
- All teams make banners; Majors/Minors/C League in one vote and Prep/Tball in one vote- whoever gets voted best banner will get a pizza party hosted by MLL (2 total)
- MGS to walk with us in the parade; not participating in opening day ceremonies
- CCSJ mascot and dance team will be in attendance; have reached out to Railcats and Oilmen; reach out to Mascot Hall of Fame to see if their mascot can come as well

OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS

- Tentatively signed us up for the T-Mobile Home Run Derby- May 14th; can use A Field
- Looked into getting a giant screen for a movie night; can someone get one to use that is cheaper
- Railcats night is 6/10 at 6:45; \$10 each and we get \$5 back.
- White Sox day 8/14; will have a link to buy tickets
- MLL night at MHS Baseball game; working with Dan Gelarden; date TBD

SOCIAL MEDIA

- GameChanger of the week- for all divisions; will ask managers to help nominate kids on the teams
- Sponsor of the week

XIII. Fundraising Update– K. Jurcik –

- we have about \$25k of sponsor commitments so far; about \$6500 collected at this point
- still waiting for more signs to be completed by Largus; will need Board or Grounds crew to help hang add'l signs when ready
- When Gio's 16' banner is done, Largus will rent the cherry picker to hang all of the signs on the big D field fence.
- New Dugout signs-black mesh with MLL logo- 8 total- approved to move forward. J. Craig motions to approve; G. Gouveia 2nds; passes unanimously

XIV. Umpire Update – J. Castellano

- Raise for umpires; **2021-** Majors- \$85; Minors- \$75; C League- \$65; **2022-** Majors- \$95, Minors- \$80, C-League- \$70; **John countered with Majors- \$90; Minors- \$80 and C-League stay the same as 2021.; Respond that the Board overruled the Minors raise of \$5- will stay the same as 2021.**
- **Add a row to the Google doc for all Majors managers to indicate if 2 umpires showed up for each game**

XV. Equipment Update – M. McGee

- Some Prep and Tball still need to pick up their bags; and get their Gift Cards; Gordy will reach out to managers
- There is a baseball shortage; Lansing has asked for us to sell back surplus baseballs; board unanimously voted no

XVI. New Business – J. Castellano

- **G. Gouveia slightly revising 2022 Local Rules and Local Rules Quick Guide to coincide with national Little League rules for pitching/catching.**

XVII. Adjournment – J. Craig motions to adjourn at 9:42 pm; M. McGee 2nds. Motion approved.

Next regular meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at A Field Press Box

**MLL Meetings are open to the membership and held on the second Wednesday of every month.
MLL financials are available upon written request to the Treasurer.**