

Munster Little League
Minutes of the Meeting of Board of Directors
Wednesday, October 19, 2022

The Munster Little League met in regular session on Wednesday, October 19, 2022 via Zoom. The meeting opened at 7:10 pm. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct regular business.

Attendees: J. Castellano, K. Jurcik, G. Gouveia, A. Rubio; J. Palas, R. Rommelfanger, M. McGee, D. Panaggio, S. Spencer, K. Adley

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President J. Castellano at 7:04pm. A quorum was present.
- II. **Approval of Agenda** – J. Castellano presented the meeting agenda. G. Gouveia motions to approve. R. Rommelfanger 2nds. Motion approved.
- III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** – J. Castellano presented the Annual Meeting and Special Meeting minutes. G. Gouveia motions to approve. A. Rubio 2nds. Motion approved.

IV. **Reports –**

President Report – J. Castellano -

Ended 21-22 season strong. Spring and Fall went well. Both seasons had our highest numbers for registration! Hope to see a little higher next season.

District meeting- no one attended this past one. We need to do a better job attending the monthly meetings. Between the board, we will try to do a rotation of who will attend. The next meeting will be Nov. 9th- will also be the District dinner. A little behind in getting a basket together this year. John proposes giving a \$300 donation on behalf of MLL.

M. McGee motions to approve donation; S. Spencer 2nds; motion approved.

Getting \$800 credit from District.

Treasurer Report - S. Spencer–

Most of the expenses are in. Rick sent final ump bill. Cash is stable- at last checking, we are at \$33K. Getting all invoices paid.

Tax issue- Tom (tax attorney) owes us a response on the letter we sent to try and get the late fee waived. Last remaining step. Scott to follow-up.

V. **Annual Meeting – J. Castellano –**

Going back to past years and how many people used to show up, it is comforting to know that we don't have a bunch of people showing up to complain.

We did not have enough for a quorum, which isn't ideal, but we got what we needed done. We did not have any constitutional changes being made. Due to no changes, we were able to update the charter with no changes.

Issues that were brought up:

-Removal of the TOC teams; maybe we come up with ideas to have teams that can play other LL teams with LL rules- not tournament rules. Maybe a North/South game with Dyer/Highland/etc- weekend tournament? There is some interest there. It is beneficial for kids that are on the fringe to have extra baseball experience- helps them as they get older into Babe Ruth and even HS teams. It would need to have either support from Rich or approval from LL international or do it under the table- just not having LL patches on jerseys.

- Intentional Walks- we need to get a rules committee together. This will fall under that committee to discuss and bring their ideas/thoughts to the board to vote on. Possibly put a limitation the rule (maybe once per game)? It is an important baseball strategy that the kids need to learn; hard to remove a rule based on 1-2 kids it might have affected.

-Remote Scoreboard- we need to put this in motion to get done for next year. It will take some time to find out the compatibility and they need to send out a technician to help set everything up and check our signal strength around the fields.

VI. **Fall Ball Discussion – A. Rubio**

We finished the season on the deadline; the championship games had to be shifted around due to bad weather, but we got it all in. The grounds crew did a fantastic job keeping up with the fields.

J. Castellano- Ashley did a great job as the commissioner and ran it well. Fall Ball is important for our financials and the kids love to keep playing. Helps transition many players into higher leagues.

VII. **2023 District Tournaments**

We have been offered to host both the 10s and 12s District Tournaments. We have the facilities to hold both tourneys, but do we have the volunteers? We might just need to put into the budget to pay the grounds crew to run all/most of the volunteer positions that we need for both tourneys. If we host them, it will put the pressure on the town to put the work into the fields that we need done.

-We need to know the dates as soon as possible for people to be able to plan to volunteer

-Site directors: John Castellano, Kristen Adley; would like one more to be a floater in between (Adam?)

-Rich said we can use last year's dates for the 10s and 12s as a guide for when they will be next year; we will get the official dates at the meeting/dinner on November 9th.

- Possibly approach Project X director about those club members wanting to participate and earn volunteer hours.
- G. Gouveia motions to approve hosting both 10s and 12s District Tournaments; R. Rommelfanger 2nds; motion approved.

VIII. 2022 Budget Discussion –

- Would like to do what we did last year; Executive committee and Dan should meet separately to discuss to overall budget for next year; go line by line. We should increase grounds crew budget; also discuss fees for next season and if we keep them as is or raise. With inflation and costs of equipment higher, it might make sense to raise fees, but we need to make sure to do it for not pricing people out of the league.
- Will table discussion until after the budget is completed and presented to the board

IX. 2022 Registration Discussion

- Important dates were sent out by John today; registration will start December 5th and end January 29th. All managers and registration will need to be shut down by Feb 5th so we can approve managers in the Feb. 8th board meeting.
- J. Palas motions to approve important dates/meeting schedule that was sent; M. McGee 2nds; motion approved

X. MLL Constitution –

- not changing anything in the constitution- as of now. We can amend later- prior to the season starting, if needed. M. McGee motions to approve the current constitution; A. Rubio 2nds; motion approved.

XI. Community Park Update –

- Shut the fields down last weekend. It was an efficient process this year. The closets on all of the fields are cleaned up, as well as the garage. The grounds crew worked ahead and shut down a couple of the fields prior to the shut down date, which helped a lot. We still need to get the signs off of D field. All press boxes need to be cleaned; all materials need to be removed away from electrical boxes.
- D Field: at first base- needs to be filled in; Russ and Gordy mentioned they would help get the town involved in getting the field renovations taken care of.
- Rehaul batting cages; possibly getting sponsors to donate and have their business name put on the cages- to help offset the costs. Work the sponsorship of the batting cages into a renewal package for next year's sponsorship- for an increased fee and signage?
- Drainage issue in the batting cages?
- Bullpens- add artificial mounds just do some work on rebuilding the mounds?
- B and D need mound work as well; we need the town to get the fields back up to date (mounds and home plate)

XII. Fundraising – K. Jurcik

- had a great year- over \$26K in sponsorships collected. Hope to increase that amount for 2023.
- will need the help of the board to bring in new sponsorships. Everyone is encouraged to approach businesses to gauge interest in sponsoring.
- will work on the 2023 Sponsorship letter; also need to figure out a gift for all 2022 sponsors.

XIII. Board Assignments – (updated on 10/19/22; new additions in BOLD)

- a. President – J. Castellano (uncontested)
- b. Vice President – A. Keefner (uncontested)
- c. Treasurer – Scott Spencer (D. Panaggio to shadow to take over next year)
- d. Secretary – Katie Jurcik
- e. Player Agent – Gordy Gouveia
- f. Commissioner – Tee-Ball – Justin Palas
- g. Commissioner – Prep – Justin Palas
- h. Commissioner – C-League – Russ Rommelfanger
- i. Commissioner – Minor – Kyle Dempsey
- j. Commissioner – Major – Katie Jurcik
- k. Commissioner – Fall Ball – Ashley Rubio, Michelle McGee
- l. Commissioner – All-Stars – Kristen Adley; Gordy Gouveia
- m. Grounds Director – Michelle McGee
- n. Umpire-in-Chief – John Castellano
- o. Safety Officer – John Castellano**
- p. Charter Officer – John Castellano**
- q. **Scheduling Coordinator – Ashley Ruibio** (Adam Keefner to help)
- r. League Information Officer / Social Media- Kristen , Ashley Rubio;
- s. Webmaster – Katie Jurcik
- t. Coaching Coordinator (2) – Russ Rommelfanger, Dan Panaggio
- u. Insurance Coordinator – Kyle Dempsey w/ Castellano

- V. Membership Coordinator – Ashley Rubio
- W. Fundraising Committee (3+) – Katie Jurcik, Ashley Rubio, G. Gouveia, Justin Palas, Kristen Adley
- X. Equipment Coordinator (2) – Michelle McGee, Justin Palas
- Y. Player Evaluations Coordinator – Kristen Adley
- Z. Special Events Coordinator – Ashley Rubio, Katie Jurcik, Kristen Adley
- aa. Uniforms Coordinator – Russ Rommelfanger
- bb. Trophy/Photo Coordinator – Kristen Adley, Katie Jurcik
- cc. Background Checks Coordinator – J. Castellano w/ help
- dd. IN District # 1 Liaison (2) – Michelle McGee, Ashley Rubio
- ee. Munster Parks/Town Liaison – Justin Palas
- ff. School Town of Munster Liaison – Kyle Dempsey
- gg. Practice Schedule Coordinator – Michelle McGee
- hh. Tournament Director (Non-LL Tournaments)- TBD
- ii. Tournament Director (Dist. # 1) (President, All-Star Commissioner) (2)
- jj. Tournament Committee (Non-LL Tournaments) (Tournament Director and at least 2 other members) (5)
- kk. **Manager Selection Committee (Only members who are not a Manager/Coach or President) (4+) Katie Jurcik, Kristen Adley, Ashley Rubio, Michelle McGee, Justin Palas, Rick O’Connell**
- ll. All-Star Committee (President, Player Agent, Major Commissioner, Minor Commissioner, All-Star Commissioner) (5)
- mm. **Local Rules Committee (5+)- Russ Rommelfanger, Gordy Gouveia, Dan Panaggio, John Castellano, Kyle Dempsey**
- nn. Executive Committee (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Player Agent) (5)

Possibly add Special Projects Committee to research pricing on things we need to get done to present to the town for approval. Will discuss later.

XIV. New Business –

- **Board gear:** approved to look into new jackets/hats/shirts/etc. Will present to the board with findings.

XV. Adjournment – A. Rubio motions to adjourn at 9:00 pm. M. McGee 2nds. Motion approved.

Next regular meeting to be held on Wednesday, November 16, 2022- location TBD

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.