



Proceedings of the Amherst Athletic Association
Regular Meeting Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 7:00pm

A regular meeting of the Amherst Athletic Association was called to order by President Kucbel on Thursday, January 14, 2020 at 7:03pm at Amherst Aerie Eagles 1442, 1162 Milan Ave.

Roll Call:

Board of Directors Present: President Jake Kucbel, Vice President Tom Anderson, Secretary Brian Clayman, Treasurer Ben Butkowski

President Address:

President Kucbel addressed the members in attendance regarding recent changes within the board and moving forward. He spoke to the time/effort within the first month of the new board to get up to speed. The concern of needing to run the leagues and finding motivated people to help. He explained the work done to revise the constitution and by laws. He spoke of the importance regarding the need and desire to be open and transparent and increase visibility to the community. A strategic plan for 1, 3, 5 years out will be prepared. This includes establishing a more indepth budget with awareness of expenses. The need to resolve open conflicts and move forward and focus on continuous improvement of the organization with the thought of "Don't let perfect get in the way of better." President Kucbel went over the new mission statement for the association which is as follows:

Amherst Athletic Association, Incorporated is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote, develop, supervise, and voluntarily assist in all lawful ways, the interest of those who will participate in the Amherst Athletic Association program(s).

Through proper guidance and exemplary leadership, the Amherst Athletic Association program assists children and coaches alike in developing the qualities of citizenship, discipline, teamwork and physical well-being. By espousing the virtues of character, courage, integrity, and teamwork the Amherst Athletic Association shall be designed to develop superior sportsmanship, athletic ability, and citizenship.

Our Core Values will be present with every aspect of our governance and will stand as the Primary Pillars for success of the Association, our children and the enjoyment of Baseball/Softball.

President Kucbel closed his state of AAA with The Pillars of Success; Character, Courage, Integrity and Teamwork and how they should be present in everything that we do.

Board Member Reports

President:

President Kucbel explained the need to revise the constitution and how the new board recently reviewed and approved in a work session. The constitution will be given 14 days to be approved. The bylaws are also being revised and should be done near the end of the month. There has been discussion about adding an additional board member. This member will oversee the operations aspect of the association. Also being added will be Officers and Volunteers. This is to ensure a balanced workload with given responsibilities. When action items are determined, each item will be assigned a Board Member or Officer to lead the item. The schedule for the 2020 Board Meetings have been set for the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Main St. Amherst, 255 Park Ave. at 7:00pm. President Kucbel thanked Aaron Dotson for meeting with him to go over the website. Updates to the website as well as social media have occurred.

Vice President:

Vice President Tom Anderson spoke to the work he has been doing with the Amherst News-Times, Sponsorship ideas, Photography benefits (Studio Q Photography), all with the goal of bringing the community back into the association. Tom provided some great ideas/concepts for uniforms and passed around an example to the members in attendance.

Secretary:

Secretary Brian Clayman advised he has received the key to the PO Box, and checked it with no correspondence within. The PO Box will be checked at least 1 time per week, with more frequent checks during high traffic times(player registrations, sponsorships). A meeting minutes template, as well as a meeting minutes notes form were created to streamline the minutes and note taking during meetings.

Treasurer:

Treasurer Ben Butkowski stated he is excited to look into developing league managers, so he can focus on specific tasks rather than managing multiple leagues. A check from Yourcause.com was received, from a program established several years ago that he was unaware that AAA was apart of. He will follow up with the organization to get information about the program and items needed to continue if we so decide. The balance for the association is about 25 thousand dollars, and a diagram was displayed to show where money was received from 2019. Ben explained how he is trying to clean up the finances due to lack of historical

data, and organize a more in depth management so we can see exactly where the funds are coming from/going to and establish a monthly standardized reporting.

Old Business:

President Kucbel moved the meeting to Old Business. The first item discussed was **Boys Travel Baseball Costs**. President Kucbel said he spoke with other travel programs to see where our program aligns. It was figured that once the registration money from all players on the team is received into the league funds, an estimated \$900-\$1000 from all of the registration fees per team will stay with AAA, and the remaining balance will be distributed to that team to use. For the year 2020 the amount to stay with AAA is \$900. President Kucbel broke down the costs per team by items including Field Maintenance (\$500), Capital Improvements (\$350), Portable Restroom (\$50) and Insurance (\$50). If a team chooses to obtain their own insurance, then \$50 would be returned back to the team, once a copy of acceptable insurance was turned into AAA. This topic will be readdressed for season 2021 to ensure the costs are appropriate at that time. The second item discussed was **Financial Management with Travel Teams**. It has been decided that separate accounts for each individual travel team will be set up under the main AAA account with Treasurer Ben Butkowski having ultimate authority. Each team will then be assigned 1 debit card which will be assigned to the Head Coach and can be used for approved expense purchases. All team deposits will have to be deposited and cleared into the main AAA account and then Treasurer Butkowski can transfer the funds into each individual team account. Receipts and other purchase accountability will need to be handed over to Treasurer Butkowski. President Kucbel and Treasurer Butkowski will be setting up the accounts soon, and then the coaches will be able to respond to the bank to initiate their team accounts. With this being a new process some time will be needed to work through issues that arise.

New Business:

While discussing the Boy's Travel costs, the recommendation of adding an additional Portable Restroom for Washington east/west was made. Everyone in attendance was in agreement with this recommendation. President Kucbel stated he would add this topic to the action items and he would lead this issue.

Treasurer Butkowski introduced Tom McMahon Jr. regarding his interest in the position of Umpire Director. Mr. McMahon Jr. spoke briefly of his experience and certifications and his goals going forward for training both baseball and softball umpires. A motion was made by Ben Butkowski to nominate Tom McMahon Jr. as the Umpire Director for the 2020 season, with a second by Jake Kucbel. Vote for Tom McMahon Jr. to the position of Umpire Director. Yes-4, No-0. Tom McMahon Jr is now the Umpire Director.

Member Discussion:

A short discussion was had regarding several issues within softball. The safety concerns brought up were the lack of face masks as typically only 2 are provided in the equipment bag, and first aid kits are not readily available. The next concern was specifically the rookie league and the need for rules to be addressed to the coaches and a copy provided to them for adherence. These issues would be looked at going forward.

For the Good of the Order:

President Kucbel closed with thanking everyone for their patience as the new board only has had one month together, but things are moving smoothly. President Kucbel also presented two President's Awards to Rick Costello and Jay Bingham who were in attendance. The citation for the awards read as follows:

For outstanding commitment and lasting contributions to the Amherst Athletic Association and in maintaining the Core Values of Character, Courage, Integrity and Sportsmanship.

With no further business, a motion by Jake Kucbel was made to adjourn the meeting, with a second from Tom Anderson. At 8:57pm, the regular meeting of January 14th, 2020 was adjourned.

Brian Clayman, Secretary