

WPLL BoD Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, December 10, 2024 @ 6:36 PM Approved: 1/21/25

BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE: (13 of 15)

Chris Hurtado, President. Lindsay Hloska, Vice-President. Mark Kistler, Safety. Doug Mercurio, Sponsorship & Fundraising Manager. Mike Shihadeh, Umpire-in-chief. April Sterner, Player Agent. Dan Tipton, Treasurer. Heather Way, Secretary. Amanda Demarest, Justin Hooten, Brian Roakes, Anthony Sanders, Jon Watson.

Not Present: Mike Linares, Equipment. Kyle Wood. _____.

GENERAL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: None.

Minutes: Dan Tipton made a motion to approve the prior meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Lindsay Hloska. Discussion: N/A. All board members were in favor and NONE opposed. Prior Meeting minutes APPROVED.

Treasurer's Report: WPLL bank account is at \$80,076. Discussion: Paid spring Little League fee, spring and fall insurances, trophy fees paid. April Sterner made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Mark Kistler. ALL board members were in favor and NONE opposed. The WPLL Treasurer's report is APPROVED.

Special Business: All BoD's are requested to remain after the conclusion for a very brief discussion.

Meeting Agenda:

Old Business:

9-18-24 was the WPLL General Annual Membership Meeting, Board of Director elections, Officer Elections.

9-3-2024:

- Provided an update on Pine Hill Park construction update as of 9/3/2024 - more to come in new business.
- A motion made, seconded, and approved unanimously by the WPLL BoD's to address teams not providing the league's umpire requirement. Noted in WPLL Bylaws. (Currently: Article IX, 43.b.i.)
- WPLL will consider participating in future District 12 travel team tournaments.
- The check for Rays Day at the Trop had not been received but after contacting the Rays the \$1,550 check was received and deposited. Along with the \$255 sponsorship from the NPR Rotary for player sponsors.
- Gave an update on 2024 Fall as of 9/3/24 registration was slightly down but ended up with 13 more registrations and exceeded 2023 Fall registration numbers despite displacement to Veterans Memorial. Another positive growth year over year!!
 - At this time the 3 players that opted to register at SLL in 2024 Fall have reached out to request a waiver to remain at SLL. So far I have not signed any waivers as the proper channel is SLL reaching out.
 - Provided 2 new mounds and the 4 existing mounds at Veterans and Mitchell for our program. In addition, the snow fencing was purchased as the price was very reasonable and spray painted lines were not an option (discussion later). Fencing was purchased for \$397. All from donation monies through the WPLL concessions as BoD voted not to purchase due to the safety concerns of the items discussed at that time.
- Umpire Clinic ended up being very late in the season due to weather and scheduling but attained 4 junior umpires. Need more staff umpires and Saturday availability.
- Sponsorship (fundraising) went exceptionally well. Doug raised approximately \$9,000 to help cover uniform and hat costs for the 2024 Fall season. This was exceptionally helpful given the higher cost for field reservations at Mitchell Park. Awesome Job!!
- Mentioned taking an annual photo of our board of directors to have posted at the park so families see our faces and can associate. Board approved for spring. Pictures set for 3/28 and 3/29 (Friday/ Saturday).
- Provided information from the prior District 12 President's Meeting specifically Regulation II update regarding

LL boundaries for players league age 4 - 7 which is now in effect. We also modified our Annual Meeting to ensure elected BoD's received at least 50% of all votes cast to be eligible to be elected.

- Discussed the 2024 Annual General Membership Meeting and set all structure up for a seamless Annual Meeting. Thank you to those who took their time with the nomination committee, reserving the clubhouse, communicating with our voting members, etc as it resulted in another successful annual meeting.
- Discussed WPLL Bylaws - more to come in New Business.
- Revisiting from "Around the Horn" - Need Pesce equipment bag, received medical kits from Mark, appreciation to GHLL for allowing WPLL to use their big field for WPLL home games.

New Business:

- Prior WPLL Meeting Minutes are now posted on the WPLL website, after BoD approves at the next meeting.
- Need a copy of WPLL 501(3)c certificate.
- Recap 2024 Fall
 - 2024 Fall went better than hoped or expected, even given the weather!
 - 1 player ejection from an upper division game. Punishment will be the 1st game of the 2025 Spring.
 - We had \$235 stolen from junior umpire cash payouts. Changed method. Covered by donation monies.
 - So much praise from coaches and families but all eager to return home to Pine Hill Park!
- 2025 WPLL Bylaws are drawn up as a draft. Emailed to a few BoD's for review.
- Brian Roakes requested to speak on the WPLL draft process.
 - Brian suggested that we implement a fall draft for more equitable teams. **DISCUSSION:** Brian Roakes, Mark Kistler, Mike Shihadeh, Dan Tipton, and Chris Hurtado discussed and tabled further discussion.
- Little League Central Data Registration is now live
 - No significant difference to WPLL operations. Majority exists behind the scenes on the website.
- Looking ahead to 2025 Spring
 - Already 179 players registered (188 by 12/31/23) w/ 43 currently in the shopping cart.
 - Pricing for tee ball is matching lowest neighboring league pricing given the new rule allowing league age 4 - 7 to choose any league. Other divisions are well below neighboring leagues by approximately \$40 per player due to our history of financial responsibility which will continue to lead us to positive registration growth for 2025 spring, which carries a target of 368 registrations or more.
 - School outreach - Lindsay, Amanda, and April please advise of opportunities.
 - Discussed emailing principles to gain insight of access points such as field days or community events.
 - Road signage?
 - **DISCUSSION:** Have road signs made for WPLL registration at an estimated cost of \$300 or less.
 - Mark made a motion to order more signs. Discussion: 25-50 additions signs; consideration of banners in car loops; get more information from BlackJack. Expenses for road signs were **_TABLED_**.
 - Field reservations have been submitted. Charter and Insurance has been submitted.
 - F1 is currently being converted to a 50/70 field but looking to potentially reserve 1 night at Mitchell
 - A Safety Plan will be submitted (Mark).
 - Mark inquired on when to specify the coaches meeting would be held. 1/22/25 is the expected date.
 - Expected return is still 2/1/2025. Tryouts & evaluations will remain at Veterans Memorial.
 - All background checks, abuse certifications, concussion etc. are due to be renewed yearly.
- Pine Hill Park & 2025 Spring discussions for needed expenditures
 - **DISCUSSION:** Concession needs: fridge, 2 pretzel cooker, pretzel warmer, popcorn machine, potential warmer, potential air fryer with an estimated cost around \$1,500 or less.
 - Dan Tipton made a motion to approve \$2000 plus an additional \$500 for discretionary items. Discussion: Adding "healthy bites" and a new cash register. The motion was seconded by Heather Way. ALL board members were in favor and NONE opposed. Expenses for the concession stand were **_APPROVED_**.
 - **DISCUSSION:** Field signage needs: remaking all dented signage and needed field signage decided upon

by the Pine Hill Park committee with an estimated cost around \$5,000 or less.

- Mark Kistler made a motion to approve \$5000 plus \$500 for discretionary items. Discussion: NONE. The motion was seconded by Jon Watson. ALL board members were in favor and NONE opposed. Expenses for field signage were APPROVED.
- **DISCUSSION**: Field equipment needs: field chalk, spray liner, field rakes, potential mound tarps, office set up with an estimated cost around \$5,000 or less.
 - Dan Tipton made a motion to approve field equipment expenses of \$5000. Discussion: NONE. The motion was seconded by Mike Linares. ALL board members were in favor and NONE opposed. Field equipment expenses were APPROVED.
- **DISCUSSION**: Playing equipment needs: catchers gear, helmets, bats, balls, umpire shirts, pitching machine, training equipment with an estimated cost around \$15,000 or less.
 - Lindsay Hloska made a motion to approve the playing equipment of \$15000. Discussion: Including JR umpire kits/shirts for those you are signed off as junior staff umpires. Suggestion to sell old equipment to offset some expenditures. The motion was seconded by Mark Kistler. ALL board members were in favor and NONE opposed. Field equipment expenses were APPROVED.
- The next BoD meeting is expected to be a closed door with PCPRNR in attendance to review final plans and transition for WPLL back to Pine Hill Park. Will open doors to general membership after a closed door.
 - Reminder to discuss the tabled discussion on Mr. Steve Booth with PCPRNR.
 - **DISCUSSION**: Spoke w/ Brian about larger expenditures to include fencing between fields and industrial parking, overhead safety netting, ball returns, fixtures for GC box, and potential playground. All of these must be approved by PCPRNR to go into place but an estimated cost around \$15,000 if approved.
 - Mike Shihadeh made a motion to approve the \$15,000 expense. Discussion: an opportunity to get a fencing company that we can partner with in return for a reduced installation cost, evaluate insurance necessary for the playground and at whose expense, how to get power to the GC box? The motion was seconded by Mark Kistler. ALL board members were in favor and NONE opposed. Expenses for additions were APPROVED.

General Member Questions:

N/A

Board of Director "Around the Horn"

Lindsay Hloska - Discussed opening day Feb. 22nd tentatively - small committee to plan (April, Doug, Lindsay, Amanda); need to ask the county about vendors and if approval will be needed to be onsite for opening day.

WPLL Board of Director meeting next meeting is set for:

- December 17, 2024 - BoD Workshop for Pine Hill Park Transition Committee - CLOSED
- January 16, 2025 - Joined by PCPRNR - CLOSED
- January 22, 2025 or January 23, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Adjournment:

Dan Tipton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Lindsay Hloska. The WPLL BoD meeting was officially adjourned at 8:10 PM on December 10, 2024.