

Location: Pizza Gallery

Date: 1/5/2020

Elected Board Members in attendance: Nick Galluzzi, Danielle Harper, Lorena Brown, Tracy Crockett, Dan Jordan, Liz Head

Meeting began: 6:07pm

**President updates:**

VRP closed until 1/20, so assessments are being moved to Suntree Fields.

Umpire Clinic to be held on 1/18 @ Suntree Fields. Communication will be sent via blast email and added to our facebook page and website.

T-Ball and A division VPs need to begin putting team rosters together.

Week of drafts will begin on 1/20 and completed by Saturday, 1/24.

Baseball assessments will begin on Monday 1/13.

Softball assessments will also begin on 1/13.

Managers meeting next Sunday 1/12 @ 6pm location to be determined (Post Meeting Update: Meeting will be held at VHS Media Center).

Concussion training recommended for all managers and coaches per county.

**Fields (Bart)-**

Updates on fields for Spring:

Suntree batting cages: New slabs were placed last year. Rubber mulch was to be added in the middle but is no longer a choice due to increase in price and availability. Looking at a new alternative- \$2500 roughly to cover an additional slab (concrete) instead. Requesting elected board vote on approval of this cost to complete the cages prior to Spring season.

Additional project- sunshades need to be reinstalled (previously taken down as Hurricane Dorian prep) on all fields. Last year it was professionally done, and this year it needs to be professionally tied at an estimated cost around \$100 per hour. Estimate around 8 hours of labor (roughly).

It was suggested to reach out to Lowe's for a donation of concrete. Bart stated they would give it to us "at cost" price but could be a liability concern. Selecting an insured company would be a safer option. Discussed obtaining a few bids before making the final decision.

-Laene Keith also stated she would reach out to see if there was anything she could do in regards to donations as the Sponsorship Coordinator.

Cages- At other fields will be updated as parts are needed. Additional bullpens in Suntree will also be updated as needed.

Request for all hands on deck in relation to policing fields this season. Too many people abusing fields across county. League will need to step up on monitoring them.

**Secretary:** Board shirts – requested any board member with an issue or still missing a shirt/hat to please reach out to Lorena. We need to get those ordered and ready before Spring season begins.

Additional shirts not picked up will be located at the press box.

**Treasurer Report:**

At this time, monies are less than this point last year, but we started at \$0; more money coming in as well.

Rob will be back in town on 1/6, and will email board details on current balance as well as a cost/profit analysis from Fall Ball by Wednesday.

**Registration:**

As of 1/5/ 2020, 410 players registered across all divisions.

Historically, registration increases during the next two weeks.

29 people have participated on opt-out (at a cost of \$100) at this time. That is less than last year when the fee was \$65.

**UIC - Brian Iten:**

It will be strongly recommended for coaches and managers in divisions AAA and higher to attend the Umpire Clinic. Board advised that it is too hard to make it mandatory with volunteers.

Ball returns- The question was brought up regarding ball returns to assist umpires, similar to what they have at the Eau Gallie fields. Advised Field Manager to look into it with Dave (at county parks) to see if this could be approved.

**Scheduling:**

Update on field space: We good at this time with current numbers and have enough practice/game slots.

New way to select practice slots for Spring: Every manager is asked to log in email address, division, which location preferred, time, and date via a Google Doc form to make it easier to get that information. Usually slots are first-come-first-serve. This will also be shared during the managers meeting on 1/12. This will avoid having to go through the VPs and directly to Jordan. Confirmation would be sent to managers and shared with VPs via email.

Suggested: Create a form to cancel lights via Google form as well. This is to make it easier to communicate, so it does not fall only on managers. \*\*\*not confirmed if this is something we will provide for Spring\*\*

The thought process to avoid lights staying on longer than needed especially during practices when there is no Board Member on Duty.

## **Sponsorship:**

-At this point, all discount card blocks have been filled and businesses committed.

-During Manager Meeting, team sponsorships and manager expectations will be discussed.

- Carrabba's and Gio's Italian Ice are partnering with us for Opening Day. Carrabba's will be a pre-order fundraiser, and Gio's will be cash on-site.

-Emails for Hunger Project/ Carrabba's need to be sent out - Communications Officer requested flyer to share with league members.

- Sponsorship Coordinator shared that several thousand dollars have come in as donations so far and more are set to come in at the month continues. Deadline for donations is the end of January.

- Discussed process for banners. Shared that Saving Safari will print the banners- companies asked to provide print ready options to committee, so they are able to print without redesign.

## **Membership-**

As of today, no memberships have been purchased.

Membership table will be set up during Opening Day. Advised to track new members by including name, email and phone number as cards are purchased. Members will be voted in during the next board meeting. We may need volunteers to man the table.

Discussed who can be a member- referenced the Constitution, which stated: anyone can pay to be a member, regardless of where they live.

Membership Chair will provide form to add to website regarding benefits of membership.

Secretary will cross reference background checks to provide list of members receiving cards, who have used the opt out payment, and get it to Liz to begin distribution.

Dave shared District update: During Managers' Meeting, District 2 Umpires will provide someone to advise managers of the rules for the games and any rule changes.

Liz, Dave, and Brian shared they will be heading to Little League Round Table to discuss LL rules and vote on updates.

Board Meeting adjourned at 6:41pm

\*\* 5 minute Break and Elected Board will meet for old/new business.

Meeting began 6:52pm

## **Old Business:**

AEDs have been installed at Viera Regional Park

AED instructions will be shared with managers during meeting on 1/12.

Suntree will also have one added inside the concession stand. Lock Box will be provided for easy access.

Purchased equipment has arrived, and President (Nick Galluzzi) will inventory everything that was purchased to confirm it is in the shed.

Catchers gear was also received and Dick's Sporting Goods will be donating additional gear for the league as part of their sponsorship agreement.

Adapters were also donated for catchers gear following new HS requirements for league to try out.

Liz provided pricing update in comparison to other leagues. Shared current prices for all leagues and expressed her recommendation not to raise prices in the future as a result. No vote or further discussion was held.

### **New Business:**

Ken has approached the league to see if we would like to host All Star States for Girls Softball in July.

- Concerned about volunteers at that time

- it was shared that SB volunteers are hard to get during that time

- Dan/Liz stated we have the volunteers already and this should not be a problem, expectation has been shared and will continue to be shared as the season continues so families know what is expected.

- Liz provided synopsis of tournament process with league and how VSLL would benefit hosting

- Dave shared District will do umpire and score keeping training; district will recruit other leagues to help out during the tournament as well.

- Suggestions made for score books to be used for Spring season. Strongly recommend as many as possible to attend training.

- Nick is planning on meeting with the District and will advise them of the decision on hosting the tournament.

- he will send out email to the board to vote on and decide.

Discussed concessions for Spring –

- Dan has reached out to a couple of people for a softball crew for Spring

- Also has one person who is willing to also run concession at Suntree 1 or 2 nights.

- No vote on Suntree concessions at this time. Discussion tabled.

- Dan also shared in Softball Press Box there is an abundant amount of extra uniforms. He would like to sell during opening day. Dave (Challenger) also has more items to share.

- suggested to use some of that for current teams

- suggested to do a wholesale sale as well

- discussed inventorying what is there to have an idea of numbers and expected monies if done
- Softball has also reached out to other leagues to discuss combining softball teams as an option, if registration numbers do not produce a full team. Rockledge LL has stated they are open to combining players with VSLL. Open communication at this time.
- Discussed the suggestion of adding the slab to the Suntree Field cage. We will need 3 estimates and then board will vote on approval.

Next meeting will be January 26<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm.

Chris Conneen (Pizza Gallery) has been a big sponsor for us. They are having a fundraiser Thursday (1/9) night for their child, who is doing an extended Mission Trip. It suggested to add to our FB page and possible email blast.

Motion to adjourn at 7:35pm