

WHYBA Meeting Minutes 10/23/24

Board Attendees: TJ Stevens, John Lamberti, Misse Toth, Marcus Ranalli, John Toth, Gregg Wiseburn, Ryan Lance, Mike Ruccio, Stefana Niemo, Jamie Carzima

Public Attendees: Damian Latourette

Officially Called To Order: 7:40pm

Main Topics Discussed: Vote new board members in for open positions: Vice President, Safety Coordinator, Equipment Manager, Sponsorship/Fundraising; adding new board position of Development Coordinator which will work with both

Public Comment:

TJ Steven President's Report:

- Fall ball
 - TJ visited the Minors Level with 6 juniors division players to practice catching/pitching; Tball and Rookies had many parents step up to help out. Next yr thoughts are to split up tball and rookies as too much of an age/skill difference between the two. Goal for minors division would be to have enough players to field a fall ball team
 - Juniors only lost 2 games this fall, had 16 players; TJ boosts that this team was a great group of kids to represent the our league

John Lamberti Vice President's Report (& Safety Coordinator):

Misse Toth Secretary's Report:

Marcus Ranalli Treasurer's Report:

- Have a profit of \$5k
- Wants to know if the fees will stay the same this year
- Wondering if the raffle is going stale; talk from the board is that the raffle is unique as other organizations do not do a similar one and we do still make about \$10k in profit from it—each year we have raised more money from the previous yr. Outlaws make \$20k from cookie sales for comparison. Other suggestions: Colonial does a Slug Fest event similar to ours and they give out prizes to players who raise the most money selling raffles. We could offer a tiered prize incentive—players get a shirt if they sell this much, get a TV to the player that sells the most, etc.

Equipment Manager's Report:

John Toth Field Manager's Report:

- Had estimates by Jason Rega from Sports Field Services of Lebanon, NJ done to have Brocious and the Minor field at Mansfield Elementary school redone. Minors field estimate of \$8,600 and \$11,000 for Brocious field. BF was higher due to the changing of the specs to allow for a 50/70 field instead of a 46/60.00. Talks about what we could afford to do—whether we do one or both. Jason told John that the tractor we have to do the field is too big and the drag we are using with the tractor is doing more harm than good to the field. He suggested selling the tractor and drag, and buying a smaller one to work the fields.
- John has to look into fixing the score board at Mansfield.

Gregg Wiseburn Umpire Coordinator's Report:

- Will advertise for umpires closer to next season and plans to run an umpire clinic as well
- Children as young as 14-15 can umpire, but have to have a parent present
- Gregg thinks we are at the higher end of rates for umps; juniors level get \$75 for plate as well as field

Ryan Lance IT Report:

Mike Ruccio Coaches Coordinator's Report:

- Has to wait until we see numbers of players to determine coaches
- Wants to have an earlier coaches clinic this yr

Stefana Niemo Uniform Coordinator's Report:

- Spirit wear for Christmas—yes, but will look into using a different vendor that can ship directly to the consumer as she still has Spirit wear from last year that has yet to be picked up
- Stefana/Marcus need to check to see if WHYBA paid Joe from All Sports for Fall Ball Uniforms

Pete Paiva Player Agent's Report: *Not in Attendance***Jamie Carzima Fundraising and Sponsorship's Report:**

- Will take down banners—they go to either Mansfield concession stand or can be placed in the Meadow Breeze garage
- Thoughts on changing sponsorship pricing as some of the #s are easily confused, and should possibly get rid of the lowest level of sponsorship: the Walk as no one purchases it. Mike R. suggests doing a Message/FB post level sponsorship i.e. "This post was brought to you by such and such company." WHYBA did not get as many Grand Slam sponsorship levels this year, but many sponsors went with the Triple level, so maybe we can drop the price of the Grand Slam. Suggestions about the shirt given to sponsors—we can have the coach of the team they sponsors directly visit the company to drop off the shirt —OR— we can create a general sponsor shirt that each sponsor will get with our WHYBA logo and the word "SPONSOR" located on the shirt somewhere. Bishops photo gives us a plaque for each sponsor and a check

Additional Comments:

- Talk of adding a Concession's Coordinator and adding a work bond program for next season. Concessions could add a profit for our organization, however, adding a Concession's Coordinator would be a must. Talk of adding a work bond program possibly for only Minors/Majors/Juniors divisions. This work bond program could help with Field Clean Up, Opening Day, Slug Fest, Helping Paint at Mansfield, Uniform Distribution, Hanging Banners, Getting Sponsors, etc. We could use Sign Up Genius to help.
- Possible push for a Seniors Team for next season
- Seek Home Depot for donations for what is needed at Mansfield El. for updates

Board Positions Voted:

- TJ Stevens nominates John Lamberti for President; Mike Ruccio seconds; all in favor
- John Lamberti nominates Damian Latourette for dual positions of Vice President and Safety Coordinator; TJ Stevens seconds, all in favor
- Jamie nominates TJ Stevens for new board position Development Coordinator; Stefana seconds; all in favor

This leaves board positions currently open: Sponsorship/Fundraising, Equipment

Upcoming:

November 20th—Board Meeting 7:30 Township Rec Building

November 29th—Tentative Go Live Early Bird Registration