MARS BASEBALL
FAST PITCH SOFTBALL

PO Box 630
Mars, PA 16046
www.marsbaseball.com

January 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday 1/17/24(OPEN)

Time: 7:30 pm (Board Only) 8:00 pm (Public)

Location: Adams Township Building

Board Attendees:

Executive Board:
President - VACANT
VP of Baseball Ops - Brad Schmidt
Director of Facilities – Chuck Palasik
Treasurer – Eric Schrecengost
Secretary - Sandy Sanderson

Board of Directors:
Opening Day Chairperson - VACANT
Assistant VP of In-House Ops – Ron Shebek
Assistant VP of Travel Ops – Sean Ranson
Assistant VP of Softball Ops – Shane Malone
Community Outreach Coordinator - VACANT
Equipment Manager – Steve Norris
Field Maintenance Assistant – Ryan Moore/Michael Sirney
Umpire Coordinator - VACANT
Assistant Treasurer of Travel – Joe Derouin
Concessions Stand Manager – Christy Wilson
Fundraising, Signs, and Sponsors – Adam Dunn
Registrar - VACANT
Uniforms and Spirit Wear Coordinator – Jenn Bauman (ABSENT)
Assistant Secretary of Social Media – Priscilla Knieriem
Assistant Secretary of Website Management – Priscilla Knieriem
Immediate Past President – Larry Fox (ABSENT)

Discussion Items:

Brad Schmitt: Open Meeting .

- Will look into Dick's Sporting Goods Day (Larry use to handle).

Sandy Sanderson:

- Exec Board elections: President/Facilities/Secretary – PRESIDENT - Brad is NOT interested in the president role. Sandy was nominated by Eric Schrecengost and other for future longevity with the

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program. Sandy is reluctant to accept due to time constraints but will meet with Brad to discuss role details. FACILITIES - Chuck wants to hand over the role and Ryan Moore's name was tossed out as a possible option. SECRETARY – Sandy is fine remaining as secretary and board feels that should Sandy move to president, the board feels it would fairly easy to replace the secretary role.

- Have we added anything about PONY league to the website? – Yes, there is now open registration for PONY (13+) age on the website.

Sean Ranson (Travel Baseball):

1. Double down on the no gum/seeds at Battleground issue (General) - Can we get back use of Centennial Turf? Email requesting and meeting with MASD has been sent.
2. Spring In-House and Travel "ramp up" schedule *(enclosed is an image if you want to affix to the agenda) (Board only)*

Event	Timeline	
Mars Baseball Registration Opens (In-House and 7U/8U Travel)	12/15/2024	
Mars Baseball Registration Closes (In-House and 7U/8U Travel)	2/29/2024	
Evaluation Communication (8U & 9/10 U In-House and 7U/8U Travel)	NLT 2/29/2024	
8U & 9/10U In-House Evaluations		
8U In-House Evaluations	3/10/2024	NOS 1:30 - 3:00pm
9/10 U In-House Evaluations	3/17/2024	NOS 1:30 - 3:00pm
8U Travel Evaluations		
8U Travel Evaluations	3/24/2024	NOS 1:30 - 3:00pm
8U Travel Evaluations Tallied and placed in master sheet	3/25/2024	
In-House and 8U Travel Draft & Decisions	Week of 4/1/24	
In-House and 8U Travel System Placement & Communication	Week of 4/1/24	
In-House Practice Begins	Week of 4/1/24	
Evaluation Communication (7U Travel)	NLT 4/6/2024	
Mars Baseball Season Begins	4/20/2024	
Travel Practices on field (based on field availability)	Week of 4/22/24	
7U Travel Evaluations		
7U Travel Evaluations	4/27/2024	Adams 1/2 from 1:30- 3:00pm
7U Travel Evaluations Tallied and placed in master sheet	Week of 4/29/24	

3. Update the board on Jersey and Hat orders for Travel (9U-11U ; 9 teams total) (General)
    a. Gold hat mix up - All teams getting a set of gold hats at $4/hat.
4. Enhanced evaluation and measurement process for travel baseball. (Noted for February)
5. Follow up from last meeting with tarps and new pitchers' mounds. (General)
6. Central housing for any and all Jugs machines MBA already has. (General) – New shed at Callery or storage unit?
7. Purchase Catchers Gloves
8. General Public Comments – is winter training required? Some time slots are a waste of money due to conflicts with basketball. What about all teams of one age group practice together? Is that an option?

Ron Shebek (In House):

- In-House Commissioners – All set except for Tee Ball

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- Fields (what do we have access to this year?) – Need to request MASD field 8am – 8pm weekends and 6pm – 8pm weekdays - DONE
- Play up management
- Confirm opening day – April 20
- In-House registration numbers

Shane Malone (Softball):

- Status update on Centennial dirt and turf + discuss field availability for the spring. – Can we regain centennial turf for softball teams? New varsity softball coach is an Ally and may be able to go to bat for us to regain use of the field for softball purposes. If so, what about trading Centennial Dirt for Kiwanis so that all softball can take place at centennial? Email to MASD about centennial turf meeting has been sent.
- Field availability on tee ball fields to move 8U games there – Probable but won't know availability till Tee Ball registration is finalized.
- Will softball participate in opening day? - Yes
- 2024 Softball budget – New machine for Kiwanis field
- Registration flyers to schools to give to parents/students Elementary school - Centennial. Does baseball want on the copy? - Digital option vs a printed flyer.
- Create a team for starting the process of getting lights on Kiwanis. – Wes will lead the committee to explore Kiwanis lights.
- New Sponsor - Home Pl8 – Home of softball winter training
- HS Boosters – HS softball youth night is April 5th. Publicize to drive softball players to that varsity home game. Explore $1000 donation to HS Softball Team (centennial turf access?),. What about a youth softball clinic featuring HS softball players?

Christy Wilson (Concessions):

Opening day:

- Loking for a co -chair to help for opening day. it is a ton to prepare for the day of and would be good to have one person assigned to Rotary and one to Vets. then I can manage overall food prep.
- Since we had a rain out last year will avoid doing a pig but thoughts on just smoking pork roasts then if there is a rain out i can freeze and sell throughout the season.
- Still selling the dinners for the opening day (will make sure anything purchased can be used for the rest of the year.)
- Moes- can we still have nachos, queso, meat donated Todd was the contact for Moes
- I will increase the food to be donated so we don't have additional cost
- Need two separate days to do a full cleaning again. one day for Vets and one day for Adams fields. the Adams fields need the freezer cleaned out and defrosted. I never used it and that is a job in itself. the two times I went to do it the dumpster was full and we will need a good amount of space to throw all the stuff out in there. volunteer crew to help it worked out well last year that we had a few

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people clean out the building when opening day was canceled so would like to schedule a day prior to work on it.

Through the Season:

- Vets field if there can be two games back to back is the most profitable.
- Exploring additional food items to rotate in and out. corn dogs and hots dogs sell very well.
- I have a core group of workers that were trained last year that i will send a text and email and see if they are interested to help again. I have had a few others ask but i do want to keep a core group as they kept the stand clean
- Requesting treasurer or someone weekly pick up excess cash so it is picked up on a regular basis.
- Any feedback of things would like to see different?
- I had lots of questions about the lights last year maybe just communication to coaches
- Breakers - wondering if we can ask twp. if we need an additional breaker in the stand or do something differently with electric, it trips every time we have it open.
- There was a lot left over last season as we were to have a fall ball but at the fields there was not two games this need to be evaluated.

Priscilla Knieriem (Website/Social Media):

- Is it okay point the old URL at the new URL? YES!
- Would like a list of job roles/responsibilities to publicize to aide in volunteer search.

Steve Norris (Equipment):

- Need to submit an equipment procurement budget by 2/1 so that it can be approved at Feb board meeting.
- Heart guards are required for 10U and down, but they can't be purchased anymore as they are all incorporated into youth under shirts. Suggest making sure parents know they need to purchase one and that Dick's Sporting Goods Day is a great time to get one.
- Can we purchase a ground ball machine? Modify a pitching machine to throw grounders. Where can we store pitching machines? Can we build another shed at Callery? What about a storage unit? Mars Evans City Storage as a sponsor?

Chuck Palasick (Fields):

- Need to submit a field maintenance budget by 2/1 so that it can be approved at Feb board meeting.
- Turf infields vs adding lights… Twp has always been against it due to ongoing maintenance costs.

Adam Dunn (Fundraising/Sponsors):

- -Our hats were discontinued and I hope to have some other options and pricing from Instant for Wednesday's meeting. – Attendees agreed to go with Navy with white piping.
- -I'd also like to make sure we talk about posting the open board member spots. – Eric Schrecengost has a lead on a possible replacement for Adam.

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- -Last point is the set up of the Sponsor page on the website. I don't see a link to become a sponsor and from talking with Priscilla, the site should be able to do this and accept payment. – Can we add a drop down at registration where people can click they they'd like to be contacted about possibly sponsoring. YES!

Next Meeting: Wednesday 2/21/24 (OPEN)

Minutes Submitted by: Sandy Sanderson - Secretary

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