

Meeting: Belvidere Youth Baseball
Date: Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 7:00 – 9:12
Location: Alpine Bank
President: Chad Schwebke
Secretary: Rob Larson

In Attendance:

Board Members: Chad Schwebke, John Fish, Scot Dobbs, John Ross, Kevin Kamholtz, Meridith Nelson, Shana Dobbs, Scot Dobbs, Ludy White, Dan Staton, Vern McElroy, Al Kossman, Shane Laga, Tim Mulhall, Pat Andres

Members: Derek Mathews

7:00 – Secretary’s Report

1. Approval of 11-12-16 Meeting Minutes

Motion – Chad Schwebke, 2nd – Shana Dobbs, Passed Unanimously

2. Gmail account to be managed by Rob Larson – all membership communications to come from Constant Contact/Executive Board
3. Drop Box is primary information share tool for board.

7:06 – Treasurer’s Report

Scot Dobbs reviewed current status with John Morrissey. Likely that BYB will take back the monthly financial items such as payroll, check-writing, deposits, etc. John Morrissey to continue year-end financials and tax returns. Savings of approximately \$2,000.

7:10 – Executive Commissioners’ Reports

1. Shana Dobbs discussed returning coaches and new volunteers. Currently have good interest and a number of returning coaches. Hoping for some expansion.
2. Pat Andres discussed returning coaches and new volunteers. Currently have most of pinto covered, three openings in Mustang, five openings in Bronco, and four openings in Pony. Currently looking for more volunteers at Bronco level, and at Mustang level. Pony has plenty of volunteers for head coaches. Pat and the commissioners will continue to seek interest and report back in January.

7:23 – Registration & Try-Out Dates

1. Proposed registration dates of February 11 (10AM-2PM), February 15 (6-8PM), and February 18 (10AM-2PM) at Belvidere Community Building. All commissioners required to help at each one. Other board members encouraged to assist.

Motion – Chad Schwebke, 2nd – Kevin Kamholtz, Passed Unanimously

2. Proposed try-out dates of March 5 (Noon-5 PM) and March 12 (Noon-5 PM). Chad Schwebke to submit request to CUSD 100 for use of Belvidere High School.

Motion – Chad Schwebke, 2nd – John Fish, Passed Unanimously

3. New online registration will exist this year. Those who register online will need to present birth certificate at try-outs.

4. Jersey fittings will also be held at try-outs instead of at registration this year.
5. Chad Schwebke to check with Todd Humphry on pre-printed returning player registration forms and a player database.

7:37 – Insurance

Scot Dobbs is working on insurance quotes. Asking current vendor, Walker, State Farm, and one other vendor for a quote. Estimated about \$7,500-\$8,000 in 2016 in insurance premiums. Current policies will expire on 1/31/17. Board to vote on proposals at January meeting.

7:44 – 6U Tee-Ball League

1. Proposed 6U league would run from May 22 – July 14, 2017.
2. Most games to be played on Diamond 4 at 50' bases. No umpires.
3. Will allow 4, 5, 6 year old boys and girls to sign up, maximum of 10-11 per team.
4. Will charge \$35 per player, and that includes a t-shirt. Park District currently charges \$50/\$75 for resident/non-resident tee-ball league. Goal is to engage younger kids at BYB and keep them in the organization until HS.
5. Meridith Nelson suggested handing out flyers at day cares. Chad Schwebke to contact Greg Brown about handing out flyers at CUSD 100 again (have not been allowed for a few years).

Motion – Chad Schwebke, 2nd – Pat Andres, Passed Unanimously

8:03 – Proposed New Logo for BYB

1. Will retain 'BYB Baseball' and 'BYB Softball' hat logos as secondary logos.
2. New logo will be branded on new website.
3. Options were reviewed, and the board agreed to vote via email on the final options. Chad Schwebke will email board members the edited options, and board members will have 48 hours to vote. To be completed in December.

8:18 – PMI Photography Date

1. John Fish coordinating with PMI regarding a team photo date for 2017. First option was May 13, but it was noted that is the same day as HS graduation. Photos moved to May 6, 2017, pending PMI availability and availability of auxiliary hall at fairgrounds. John to advise.
2. For \$1 per item, PMI has given us the option to add a coaches' clipboard with the BYB logo on it and lineup card on the back as a coaches gift.

Motion – Chad Schwebke, 2nd – John Fish, Passed Unanimously

3. PMI has also offered a new plaque format that heats the photos on instead of the screws and plastic. Motion to approve the new plaques.

Motion – Chad Schwebke, 2nd – Pat Andres, Passed 14-1

8:25 – Umpire Training, Development, Clinics, and Pay

1. Shane Laga discussed intentions to change from two to three mandatory umpire clinics. Two will be indoors, and the third will be at BYB to go over positioning, situations, and mechanics on the field. Mike Leonard used to run clinics. This year, Shane will run clinics and can hire Mike Leonard (\$17.50/hr) to assist. Dates TBD, Shane will report back to board in January.
2. 8U umpires for softball and baseball. Motion made to add one umpire per game (max \$16/game) for all 8U games. Player fees may go up accordingly based on Executive Board's evaluation of financials on December 19. Board agrees to support this potential fee increase in accordance with adding umpires on games.

Motion – Chad Schwebke, 2nd – Shana Dobbs, Passed Unanimously

3. More discussion is needed about training and positioning of umpires. Chad Schwebke feels as though 8U umpire is best served by being positioned in the B/C positions (in the infield) all game. Stateline puts umpires behind the plate to call balls and strikes. Discussion continued in January after Shana Dobbs attends Stateline meeting on 12/12/16.

8:50 PM – Meeting Format – Topic will be discussed in January

8:50 PM – Coaches Application, Aptitude Test, Code of Conduct, Clinics, and Background Checks

1. Board has reviewed new aptitude test and code of conduct. Will vote to approve in January.
2. Coaches' application to remain online.
3. Background Checks need to be done on head coaches. Board supports the idea. John Fish and Shana Dobbs to gather pricing info and report back in January for voting/approval. Shana mentioned that Stateline pays only \$12/application.

8:55 PM – Sponsors Update

1. Al Kossman to visit Wal-Mart and secure \$1,000 donation.
2. Al Kossman states that Cosmo has \$2,000-\$3,000 to help support a specific cause. Discussion began about upgrading restroom facilities and the need for donations to make it happen. Al to attend Cosmo meeting and inquire.

8:58 PM – Player Agent Updates

1. Al Kossman requests \$100 for permit to hang banner advertising BYB Registration on State Street from February 6-20, 2017.

Motion – John Fish, 2nd – Shana Dobbs, Passed Unanimously

2. Al Kossman would like to set a marketing budget in January. Also, Al will bring quotes from at least two vendors for flyers to print as registration reminders in late January/early February. Board will review/vote in January.

9:04 PM – Softball League Updates

1. Shana Dobbs expressed concern for the drop dead rule applied in Stateline League due to their restrictions on lights after a certain time at night. The board discussed recommending only using at rule at Stateline facility, and that an 80 or 90 minute time-limit should be enforced elsewhere.
2. Shana Dobbs noted that Beloit teams are requesting moving base paths in to 50' at 8U. Her recommendation is not to do this, and it was supported by other softball commissioners.
3. Shana Dobbs and Dan Staton are attending the Stateline meeting on 12/12/16 to discuss rules and other items about the league. She will report back in January.

9:12 - Motion to Adjourn – Chad Schwebke, 2nd – Kevin Kamholtz