

Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Bozeman Legion Baseball
August 17, 2017

Board Attendance: Jim, Paul, Jason, & Chris
Missing: Mark

Call to Order

Call to order at 7:00 p.m.

Changes / Additions to the Agenda

None

Minutes from June Executive Board Meeting

Jason moved to approve the June Executive Board Meeting Minutes, Paul seconded. All board members present voted 4-0 to approve the June minutes.

Financials

Update: Ending year in fantastic shape. Paying all debt through December with approximately \$38,000 in the bank. Many thanks to Robin for all her hard work on the budgeting and managing the accounts.

Book Keeper: this position takes a lot of time and the board will look into options to either add support to volunteer or hire this position out. Robin would like some time to consider options and how to make it better.

Budget:

- Please take a look at the budget and provide ideas to the board for changes or ways to reduce costs.
- Umpire costs were higher this year, but teams only paid for 2, as the association now charges a service fee that pays for the third umpire.

Committee Reports

Game Operations –Field

Indoor facility: Jim, Kevin and Andy met with Fair Board, and had a good meeting regarding an indoor facility on current property. Other suggestions for options to building in other locations were provided. Jim feels that building should be near the field so that we can work to manage the building and is within our leased area. Fair board will support us moving forward to do a capital campaign for the indoor building.

- **Next steps:** Kevin has talked with a fabric and line company with regard to indoor facility. Building has a rigid structure with a fabric roof – NOT like the old tennis court. For a facility with the dimensions 80x120, the cost was \$380,000, but with framing and lights the cost will most likely be closer to \$500,000. Inquires are out for metal frame structure and wood frame structure for the building.
- **Going forward:** will need someone to take the lead and form a committee to develop and manage the capital campaign. Will have support from youth sports, Legion program, and parents. Goal is to have bids for all indoor facility options by next meeting.
- **Leasing of indoor facility:** a discussion with Fair Board has been made with regard to lease. We will most likely need a lease for the field and the indoor building, as it will be within the leasing property area.

Lease for Fall Ball: Working on lease expansion. Have requested \$2000 per month for field for fall ball, excluding August.

Signs: those that need to go up are up; those that needed to go down are down. There is some space now available. Also took down signs needing to be replaced due to damage. Chris will send pictures to the EC board to show available space for 2018 season. Spent \$25,000 on signs for this season. Estimated to replace 3 signs, plus 5 new spots. Consider selling premium spots on the dugout as space is becoming more limited.

Kirk Park: there is an need to consider the improvement of this facility and taking over the scheduling to make this field for the B Team. There are some concerns about maintenance and costs associated with another field. We do need to have it; will also consider Field 5 at Softball Complex.

Lights: this year fixed 22 out of 28 lights that were out. The lights that were not fixed were due to extra work needed on the lights beyond a light bulb, currently have about 16 more to fix. Spent approximately \$12,000 for the lighting bill. Further discussion on lights included:

- It is approximately \$265,000 to change bulbs to LED, also possibility to buy used lights.
- Individuals working on a grant to replace lights as we can no longer get parts for the lights that we have. May have to “piece meal” this together. Might need to create a lighting committee.
- It was determined that there are 6 poles and approximately 90 lights. We should do a cost analysis to look at cost for long term. Need to figure out which system we have and what system is now needed. Contact softball league re: lights that were replaced.

Sprinklers and Irrigation: Need to contract someone to assess the irrigation and sprinkler system.

Scoreboard: Signs of Montana was to fix the scoreboard this season. This did not happen. We are also looking to refurbish the old score board for Kirk Park.

Field Maintenance: issues discussion regarding field maintenance included:

- Suggestion to pay an individual(s) for this task as it is a lot of work.
- Irrigation needs some work and understanding spray patterns and turf issues. Need to have our sprinkler/irrigation system evaluated and to be sure that it is someone familiar with our type of system– it is an aging system.
- Need to find someone to aerate the field.
- Spraying and Fungi maintenance will occur in October.
- Clay: We are nearly out of clay, need to reorder enough to repair and fall ball.

State Tourney: Fantastic feedback. Thank you to all those that helped out! We will host a AA tourney and an unsanctioned end of season B tourney.

Concessions: Do we open for fall ball or not? Will need to close it up and winterize. Bibs and CO2 will be picked up in the next couple of days.

Concession and Bone Yard: Clean up is scheduled for Sunday, September 9th from 2-6. Food will be available. Send concession contracts to Mary Fran.

Field Scheduling: EC will create a master schedule of all events/projects etc.

Apparel Sales: consider going to online sales as money was lost (\$1200) and a lot of man-hours were used.

Fiber/Internet: Little Apple has a 2-year contract for Internet. Fiber is still being worked out.

Game Operations

Game Operations – Fundraising

Golf Tourney & Auction: Most profitable year yet; \$15,000 to be split between youth and Legion. Not all money has been collected yet.

Other updates and discussion on fundraising included:

- Another fundraising idea: Night under the lights. This is done in Billings and is typically held on a Friday night from 8-11. Paul will manage.
- Calcutta will be reorganized. Chris will manage.
- We are in the drawing for parking at Stadium Way.

- We will be parking cars at Town & Country for the Cat-Griz game.

Game Operations – Public Relations

- The work this year was good, increased presence on Facebook and got a lot of Twitter activity.
- Website will archive team stats for the season

Game Operations – Transportation

- Looking for storage for Busses. Paul will work on this.
- Big Bus will need brakes on the drive axel and two steer axel. Will get an insurance adjustment to fix damage to windows.

Coaches Report

Coach Poliquin's Report

- Exit interviews and uniforms have been completed for AA and B team. A team will be on done soon.
- Fall Ball Update: tentative plan is 6-7 weeks. Older team: 4 round robin (2 home, Helena, Billings), tourney with CC in East MT and U of O.
- Younger team will have 4 round robins, AZ, U of O.
- Practice looking at TR and play on weekend
- Four coaches: still to be determined
- Winter ball: a gym has been secured.
- Spring/Summer: Omaha
- Will host annual Detroit Tigers tryout in Bozeman.
- Will host MSU-B camp for Coach Sutton.

Old Business

- Contracts: Fall ball contracts utilized current contract and added in a stipend. Coaches are still to be determined.
- UAS & Uniforms: all uniforms will go out to bid for next summer: UAS sand Play it Again Sports.

New Business

- Player and Parent Season Survey: an online survey will be sent to all parents to review the 2017 season.
- Exit and Performance Reviews: the UC board will perform exit interviews and performance reviews of coaches; board is still working on methodology and timing of these reviews.
- Review of 2017 Season: This will be a review of the season between the EC board and Coach Poliquin.

- Possible Changes for 2018: Nothing specific was addressed, just general comments about gearing up for the 2018 season with regard to fundraising and sponsorship packets.

New Item

- The fundraising levels will be changed next year so that plaques will be higher up on the sponsor level. Plaques for this season have been budgeted and will be ordered.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:54 p.m.