



Stratford Minor Baseball Association Meeting Minutes

Tuesday January 14, 2020 @ 6:30pm
Stratford Army & Navy

Attendees:

Chris Redfern	Brian Hawley	Dave Graff	Corey Bridges
Sue Smith	Don Grasby	Brian Grasby	Bevan Mathieson
Ashley Mathieson	John Brightwell	Beth Hovius	Steve Vaters

B. Hawley called the meeting to order.

B. Hawley declared conflict of interest on PFTA situation (Agenda Item #17).

Motion to approve the minutes from the meeting dated December 10, 2019.
Moved by D. Grasby, seconded by D. Graff.

Motion to move Budget to end of agenda because of PFTA conflicts of interest.
Moved by C. Bridges, seconded by J. Brightwell.

Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes from the meeting dated December 10, 2019.
Moved by C. Bridges, seconded by D. Graff.

Registration Update:

C. Redfern explained how registration has been going. Quite a few have registered already, mostly Rep. Beth mentioned to make sure the dates on the web site coincide with dates on registration site.

Umpires Update:

B. Hawley suggested forming a committee to analyze prices paid to other sports in town and adjust accordingly and bring report to meeting, in an attempt to attract/attain umpires. D. Grasby motioned to create committee, seconded by S. Smith. S. Vaters agreed to chair this committee. B. Hawley, S. Vaters, D. Grasby and Barry Grasby to form members of that committee.

Hitmen Update:

B. Hawley confirmed HOF's involvement and informed them of the news about the PDHU. S. Vaters gave a new name for tournament to Jim Baker to put on Slo Pitch website.
B. Eghoetz to be another contact for Hitmen tournament.

Concrete for Dugouts:

D. Graff suggested whoever receives new quotes should send them to S. Vaters so we have all quotes in one place.

Facilities:

B. Hawley obtained quote from Stu Tessmer for changing lighting in umpires room at Optimist.
B. Grasby asked that quotes for cement and lighting projects be forwarded to him so that he can take that to sports council.

D. Grasby asked if we are going to put underground sprinkler system at Dufferin. S. Vaters spoke to someone in late fall about a water pipe at Dufferin. S. Vaters to get someone in spring to come out and work on it.

S. Smith inquired about the city providing new clay for diamonds. B. Grasby to speak with Jim at the city regarding the city providing clay. D. Graff mentioned Dufferin should be first priority if we do get new clay from the City.

D. Grasby and S. Smith left the meeting.

B. Hawley spoke about conversation he had when he met with Dave St. Louis about getting a re-work of backstop at Dufferin due to balls flying into houses. B. Hawley asked St. Louis to get work done to backstop or a net/meshing on top.

Tournaments Update:

D. Graff informed that we shouldn't have a problem filling the tournaments for 2020. B. Hawley mentioned he has no convenor for the U13 tournament.

Action Item: B. Hawley requested that D. Graff pass message on to coaches that if they can find 2 convenors for ICBA leagues they will get to host ICBA's.

Sports Council:

B. Grasby mentioned there was no sports council meeting last month. B. Grasby will discuss what SMBA discussed at the December 2019 meeting, at the Jan 20, 2020 sports council meeting.

Motion to nominate Andrew Barber as boy athlete of the year. Moved by D. Graff, seconded by S. Vaters. Carried.

D. Graff nominated B. Hawley for sportsperson. All agreed.

Action Item: C. Redfern to email board asking for girl nomination from board before Sunday the 19th.

ICBA:

Hamilton has been allowed into the league. B. Hawley told ICBA that Stratford games will be weekend games due to long drive.

B. Hawley said first priority is to get 8U and 9U's playing on Mondays and Thursdays. Committee has been formed to run pilot project on a new system of playoffs. First day of ICBA schedule should be May 11th. 15U's will be used as a pilot project for a new playoff format. B. Hawley was appointed to this committee and is open to suggestions anyone has.

B. Hawley mentioned three new rules for 10U and 11U (Mosquito) - bigger plate, no dropped third strike run, and 4 run limit per inning. OBA to meet on 19th to adopt these rules.

Releases Committee

B. Hawley received email from a guy who has two 2009's from Milverton that want to switch from fastball to hardball, because their parents work in Stratford. D. Graff suggested to tell parents to email WOBA president to request release.

Fundraising

B. Hawley discussing sponsorship sign at stadium. Any sign that is facing into park should be okay. B. Hawley suggested selling banners that can be displayed on fences facing into parks (Stadium and Dufferin). B. Hawley suggested \$200 for a banner sponsorship (sponsor pays for banner and gives SMBA the \$200). Can offer full 6 months of display on the fences. J. Brightwell suggested bundling sponsorship to offer both - sponsor the team and the banner. Fundraising committee to firm up details on this.

B. Hawley mentioned city will put scoreboard on top of arena, as long as SMBA purchases scoreboard. Scoreboard would be around \$4,000. B. Hawley suggested 10 year sponsorship/advertising deal for a corporation to sponsor scoreboard.

Uniforms:

B. Hawley informed board that K. Priestap has suggested that all uniforms be purchased through Dunny's.

New Business:

B. Hawley talking to Dean Listman at Optimist about Optimist putting a scoreboard at Optimist. Optimist will put scoreboard up if we fill a bus to go to Jays game April 11th, 2020. SMBA would need to sell 50 tickets to fill the bus. \$95 includes bus ride and seat in section 113 field level tickets. If we fill the third bus, Optimist would give SMBA proceeds for scoreboard. Proceeds to go to a joint scoreboard at Optimist park (B. Hawley mentioned potential for \$3,000 or so in proceeds). D. Graff suggested offsetting the cost of a new scoreboard with a corporate sponsor instead of SMBA contributing.

Motion to agree to sell 50 tickets, moved by B. Grasby, A. Mathieson seconded. Carried.

Tickets to be offered to coaches and board first, and to let board know by Sunday January 19th.

Action Item: C. Redfern to email board and coaches notifying of need to sell tickets.

PFTA Situation: B Hawley notified board that the 4 items on the City of Stratford's notice have been satisfied, or are close to completion. B. Hawley then excused himself from the meeting due to a conflict of interest.

C. Redfern took over meeting. Discussion regarding PFTA issue ensued.

Motion to respond to most recent email from PFTA. Moved by D. Graff, seconded by A. Mathieson.

Budget:

Motion to delay budget till February meeting. Moved by C. Bridges. Seconded B. Grasby.

Adjournment.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday February 11th, 2020

Location: Army Navy