



Stratford Minor Baseball Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2017 6:30 PM

Location: Crabby Joe's, Stratford

In Attendance: Dave Graff (Bantam T1), Steve Vaters, Jeff Keller (Bantam T2), Barry Grasby (Junior) Kyle Priestap (Minor Mosquito), Brian Hawley, John McIntosh (Minor Bantam), Anne Vaters, Tom Valcke (Midget T1), Scott Siebert (Mosquito), Corey Bridges, Don Barber (Midget T2), Bruce Grasby (Minor Peewee Select), Stu Tessmer (Peewee Rep)

Regrets: Jamie Frey (Junior Rooke), Don Grasby, Amy Brightwell, Mark Hall, Heike Reiche, Aly Godina, Ben Ehgoetz, Allan Wilker, Emily Priestap

1. Call to Order – Dave Graff

Meeting was called to order 6:31 pm

Quorum of 50% declared

2. No conflicts declared

3. Approval of minutes

Motion: *To approve the minutes from the November 17th regular board meeting with a change to the U.I.C. payment from “per evaluation” to “per game”.*

Motion: Bruce Grasby. Second: Brian Hawley. Carried

4. President's Report – Dave Graff

- a. Covered in new business

5. Finance Committee – Jeff Keller

a). Jeff explained the advantages of using “Plooto” for payments and registration payments. Quicker, can pay umpires more often, fewer cheques. Payments to umpires can be deposited directly to their bank account if requested, or emailed. Will definitely cut time. Fees are approx. .50 per transaction, will negotiate.

Motion: *To use Plooto as per treasurer’s recommendation. Bruce Grasby. Second – Steve Vaters. Carried.*

b.) Jeff presented budget for approval to cover the 2018 season. Budget is balanced.

Motion: *to approve budget as presented: Tom Valcke. Second: Kyle Priestap. Carried*

c). Jeff presented current financials shows a surplus of approx. \$21,000. This is due to large increase in registration. This follows a year with a \$31,000 deficit.

Motion: *to approve financials as presented: Corey Bridges. Second: John McIntosh*

6. Fundraising Committee: Brian Haley

a). Pitch Talk funds have not been received yet. Tom Valcke will be following up with the organizer. The event was well-attended.

b). Summertime Bash slo-pitch tournament date set for July 20th. Coaches were reminded NOT to schedule any tournaments or games for that weekend.

7. Umpire Committee: Barry Grasby

a.) Barry setting up the umpire clinic for April 7th, 2017 at Northwestern School. Alternative date set for April 22nd. Dave to call the school to book rooms.

8. Tournament Committee: Dave Graff

a). All tournaments have been booked and approved by the OBA. They are also posted on the SMBA website.

b). June 15th weekend is a big weekend. Running both mosquito age groups, plus a Junior Rookie tournament. Packham Road ball diamonds are booked. Will need to use

Dufferin or Optimist as well. Barry requested that coaches stay away from booking that weekend due to the high need for umpires.

- c.) July 13 – 15th Bantam and Minor Bantam
- d.) Minor Bantam OBA in Stratford
- e.) Stratford likely hosting Peewee ICBA tournament.

9. League Committee

- a.) Emily was unable to attend, but sent her report to Dave.
- b.) Sports Council Banquet will be held April 28th. We are required to buy 10 tickets for \$250. K to give Emily a cheque. People to tell Dave if they want a ticket. Julia Wilkinson is guest speaker. People also need to think about nominees for January Meeting.
- c.) March 7th and March 21st are in person registration dates

10. Facilities/Equipment Committee: Steve Vaters/Barry Grasby

- a.) Dave was asked by city facilities manager to draw up a letter stating the use of the stadium. Games played, etc. due to comments from a council member. Dave drew up the letter with the help of the secretary. It was stressed how much we rely on the stadium for the season. The letter went to council as they reviewed the lease renewal for the stadium (Steve Vaters was at the meeting). No questions were asked and the lease was approved and signed. SMBA has another 5 year lease for Dufferin and the Stadium.
- b.) Stadium Roof was not approved at the budget meeting – will be looked at again next year
- c.) Dugout roofs are now put off until the spring due to the weather. The company the city is using is behind.
- d.) Steve reported on Black Mesh for behind the back stop for SERC, Dufferin and Optimist. Cost is \$350. Barry asked about Green mesh that was already there. Steve reported that it was in bad shape and would not look good.

MOTION: Steve Vaters. Second Brian Hawley. To approve the purchase of black mesh and installation at Dufferin, Optimist and SERC ball parks. Carried.

- e.) Barry reported that he purchased baseballs for the 2018 season. Prices were about to go up.

- f.) Surplus equipment. Barry and Brian Hawley reported that they have gone through the equipment shed at Dufferin and have a lot of surplus equipment. Old bats, old Indians jerseys, hats, gloves, equipment bags, etc. Barry recommended that we donate these items to the Dominican Republic, Cuba, etc. UPS would help with Shipping and it would cost close to \$1,000. They will follow up in the new year to get updated process and approach UPS and service clubs to see if they will cover shipping. They will report further at the February/March meetings.
- g.) Pinnacle indoor facility. Tom mentioned that Pinnacle would like 50% of the rent in January. This is different from previous conversations that \$20,000 would be required May 1st. Jeff commented that due to the surplus, there is money in the account to cover this. However, that makes it very tight until registrations come in. Tom will follow-up.

11. Coaches Committee: Dave Graff

- a.) Dave is looking into clinics that our coaches need for next year. He will arrange with Tom and OBA to set up required clinics.

12. Registration Committee: Heike Reiche

- a.) Heike was unable to attend the meeting. Jeff Keller has her report.
- b.) Recommend that the deadline for Rep players registration be FEBRUARY 15th, 2017. Since teams are made, early registration would make it easier on registration committee.
- c.) Payments for rep registration fees will be March 15th, April 15th and May 15th.
- d.) H.L. Registration will be due April 15th and Payment due May 15th.
- e.) Steve Vaters asked if we can add shirt size to registration form. K agreed.
- f.) Registration form will be live as soon as Plooto is working.

13. New Business: Dave Graff

- a. Code of Conduct for players and parents.
 - i. Tom gave coaches an example of what he uses. He finds it very effective.
 - ii. Dave asked coaches to look it over. It is not mandatory to use, but highly recommended. They are to feel free to use their own and customize to their own teams.
- b. Pinnacle Indoor Facility update – Tom Valcke
 - i. Starting workouts January 15th
 - ii. Everyone has been plugged into the schedule
 - iii. JK added Pinnacle to the facilities on the website. They are free to put their indoor workouts on the website. HOWEVER, they have to stay to

their assigned date and time. Any additional workouts or changes must go through Tom.

- iv. ½ the turf has been laid out, but needs help with the rest. 12 people volunteered to help out. Tom to set up time and date
- v. Tom reiterated that the owner of the building is not doing this to make money – he is being generous.

14. MOTION TO ADJOURN: Bruse Grasby, Second: Corey Bridges.

Next Meeting: January 16th, 6:30 at Crabby Joe's.