



SSBL Board of Directors Meeting
December 4th, 2023, 8:30pm
Via Google Meet

Present: Eric Volker, Laura Buccola, Alison MacMillan, Richard Sosa, Seth Goren, Chris Moon, Jimmy DaSilva, Pat McGovern, Drew Spitzer, Kevin Haggard

Missing: Mike Evangelist, Jason Filiberti

Present (General Board): Michelle DeMuth

Present (Others): Jon Aronson and others

- I. Welcome/Introduction – Laura Buccola
- II. Treasurer Update - Drew Spitzer
 - a. Budget overview: SSBL has strong positioning from revenue growth perspective; we have increased expenses for safety reasons; Chris Moon asked about the increase in budget of umpires and the response was that treasury did a grounds up approach to each line item and believes that the umpire budget line item was just under-budgeted last year; some items can be actuals (like insurance) as they are not related to participation.
 - b. Budget vote: Drew Spitzer made a motion to approve the budget. Laura Buccola seconded the motion. The Board unanimously voted to approve.
- III. Softball Travel Update - No additional updates; Jason Filiberti is unable to join
 - a. Tryouts update - last tryout first weekend in December.
- IV. Softball Update - Richard Sosa
 - a. 2024 Calendar - working on dates for clinics etc. and some fun social media introductions from girls involved in softball.
 - b. Rec sign-ups are coming up so please sign up.
- V. Baseball Travel Update – Seth Goren
 - a. Travel teams update - rosters out and registrations has effectively closed (exception of 7u white); 7th grade should be announced this week; winter training is forthcoming- will batch reserve space and allocate to coaches so that winter training is more equitable.

- b. 8th grade – still working through coaches and registration is high at 35; need a tryout date for February/ March and need a second coach.

VI. Baseball Update - Pat McGovern

- a. YMCA partnership update for T-Ball
- b. Registration for rec baseball will be Monday, December 11th, 2023 which will include a recap of rules changes (T-ball for K only because short field space with the construction).
- c. Season length/championship day may change to earlier in June so that there is not as much stress (Ripken, USABL, etc.) the second weekend of June; season may start earlier if we can but weather/field condition, may be an issue; after much discussions, it was decided that Championship Day for softball and baseball will be the same day but that the championship games may not have been played at that point; all-star game could be moved earlier as well; and if games are not completed, trophies can be picked up later.
- d. Recommendations forthcoming about time limits for rec games and pitching rules to keep the games moving; clinic style practices available and travel participation debate continues.
- e. Trying to allow kids to play both town lacrosse and baseball so working through schedule to try to practice on the off days of town lacrosse.
- f. We need an equipment manager for 2024 – please put out an open call for that role.

VII. Marketing Update – Alison MacMillan – website needs to be updated for sponsors and will do social media post regarding registration; and lawn signs details will be coming.

VIII. Personnel Update – Mike Evangelist is unable to join but Laura Buccola provided brief update: Mike is working through baseball coaches logistics; open position remains for baseball equipment manager and work bond person; still looking for coaches - response to “need coaches” post is better than expected (had 5 hand raisers).

IX. Fields Update – Chris Moon

- a. Fall fields clean-up went very well; THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered; everything is locked up and spare locks are in the SSBL shed at Jefferson; added to the budget as a part of the larger projects going on by BOE and DCP is making sure we have the right equipment at the fields (replace L screens and tarps); tractor equipment needs to be checked (Jefferson definitely needs a new nail dragger); Pat wondering if we can have a “maintenance” shed so there might be space there now; Laura reminded that we need baseball balls for 2024-25 season.

X. Capital Expenditures – Eric Volker

- a. Memorial 60/90 field – evaluation the backstop and one option is to look for a new backstop and could end up with additional batting cages.
- b. Lincoln -Hubbard – working through a second area for T-ball – there won't be a back stop but maybe temporary dugout for kids; BOE is supportive as long as SSBL can fund it; (Jimmy DaSilva suggested looking at the Wilson space but BOE has said no

because it's not safe and level and right by the parking lot); SSBL always looking to pick up additional space.

- XI. Outside Director - Jimmy DaSilva - nothing at this time
- XII. Questions /Comments /Concerns - Softball Directors - Tim Yarnall said yes to 7th and 8th League Director
- XIII. Upcoming Board of Directors Meeting: Tuesday, January 2, 2024
- XIV. Upcoming Executive Board Meeting: Monday, December 18, 2023