

BRANDON VALLEY BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

April Board Meeting Notes

Sunday, April 14, 2019 – Tailgators

Attendees: Stuart Peschel, Mike Hokenstad, Al Kirkeby, Paul Peterson, Brian Bertsch, Craig Riley, Missy Livingston, Levi Sanders, Dan Wrightsman, Gary Walz, Chris Brown, Torry Sundall, Brandon Lane, Jeremy VanHeel.

Having a quorum present, meeting was called to order by Peschel at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – motion by Bertsch, seconded by Sundall to approve the March minutes. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Peterson presented cash flow document from October 31, 2018 to March 31, 2019. Balances as of 3/31/19 total \$162,377.50. Current balances in our cash accounts as of today are \$116,223 in the main account, \$2,929 in the fundraising account, and \$55,709 in the Field of Dreams account. Insurance was paid in March and was \$194 higher than budget due to having more teams than anticipated. We have all high school and winter workout deposits in and most of the summer registration money at this point. Motion by Sanders, second by Bertsch to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

FIELD OF DREAMS LOAN STATUS – reviewed a schedule from the bank showing the remaining loan schedule. With the payments we have made so far we are essentially \$70,000 ahead on repayment. Board will review again after our first two tournaments of the summer to see if we are in a position to make another additional payment.

Stuart introduced Brandon Lane to the board as our new Director of Small Fields. Welcome Brandon to our organization!

COACH'S UPDATE/LARGE FIELD DOB REPORT – Coach VanHeel suggested some possible dates for team meetings for summer teams ages 13 and up. After discussion Sunday, May 5 was suggested. VanHeel will check on availability of the Intermediate School with the 13/14 year old team meetings first followed by Senior Legion, Junior Legion, and 16U. Numbers for the summer season for these oldest three teams are 51 players. Will need to decide if there will be cuts, or if we will carry numbers of 18, 17, and 16 respectively on the 3 teams. Coaches have been identified for all summer teams and proposed pay is within budget. Evan Steemken is slated to be the senior Legion assistant for 2019 but with his skills and success as a head coach at the Junior Legion level if it becomes necessary to move him to that position in the future both he and Coach VanHeel understand for the good of the program we may need to do that.

WEBSITE – Chris Brown walked the other board members through how to find information on the site, how to run reports, how to send mass emails and messages.

MCHARDY PARK STATUS – the park sustained heavy damage due to flooding and city is uncertain when the diamond down there will be ready for play. Teams scheduled to practice there in the coming week will be able to go to Aspen. Some of the softball teams begin practice this week but baseball teams can use any field that is open.

SPONSORSHIPS – we have \$32,000 in sponsorship dollars pledged for this year and \$18,900 has been received so far. There potentially is about another \$6,000 we are working on getting committed for this year.

FIELD OF DREAMS PLEDGES – there is \$204,493.54 pledged yet. Had an ACH issue in February and March where none of the bank drafts were processed so those donors will have two months added on to their pledge term. Still continue to have a high level of commitment from sponsors with only one pledge that was not fulfilled.

LEGION FIELD IN VALLEY – member Bertsch suggested we begin a “wish list” of improvements for the Legion Field in Valley Springs so we could start budgeting for future projects and reach out to the Legion Post and the Community Club for help with some of these. Please send suggestions to Stuart who will start a list.

SLUGFEST TOURNAMENT – currently have 27 teams, registration closes tomorrow. We anticipate this being a two day tournament starting Saturday morning. DIBs positions are filled. Need help throughout the weekend from board members to ensure this goes well.

LEAGUE REP REPORTS – most topics have been covered earlier in the call. Additional items: LL Intermediate: there have been some straggler registrations still coming in, almost full now with 13 players on each team. Rookies: many of these younger players’ families had a hard time finding how to register. Confusion between baseball and softball, these families are just new to the process. Suggested that next year we do flyers to send home with Kindergarten and 1st graders. Some preschoolers are also age eligible. Fund Raising: total cookie dough sales \$2800, cost was \$1800, our players that sold had \$1,010 credited to their accounts. Our revenue from pancake feeds was about \$1000, down 6% from last year. Legion and VFW were down 22% from last year. Some organizations such as Post 307 are doing a “Find the Queen of Diamonds” raffle that started 2 weeks ago, might be worth looking into. Sundall offered to come up with a board to sell squares tied to the Major League All-Star game and will work out some ideas to bring back to the group.

FERTILIZER – we have a bid to fertilize FNB Field, Legion Field, and the Little League Field with 5 applications each this summer but the cost is about \$1500 over what we budgeted for fertilizer. The golf course could do FNB Field but not the two in Valley. Chris will reach out to see what the cost would be if we cut to 4 applications each field in the summer. We feel the diamonds can be put into a much better situation with weed control and thickening the grass using a professional rather than trying to do it ourselves.

With no further business to discuss Brown motioned the meeting be adjourned. Walz seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

The next board meeting will be May 24, 2019 at 8:00 p.m. at Tailgators. Please note the one hour later start – board meetings in May, June, and July will be at this later time to allow members time to get back from out of town tournaments this summer.