



BLOOMINGTON FASTPITCH ASSOCIATION

Sunday, May 4th, 2014 7:30 PM

Bloomington Center for the Arts- Dakota Room

- I. Call to order
Karen Johnson called to order the regular meeting of the Bloomington Fastpitch Association Board of Directors at 7:30PM on Sunday, May 4th, 2014 at the Bloomington Center for the Arts, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN.
- II. Attendance
The following persons were present:

Board Members: Karen Johnson, Cathy Currier, Sarah Johnson, Craig Johnson, Mark Pearson, Grant Effertz, Carol Effertz, Gary Hanson, Mike Kopischke, Stacy Acketz. Tony Acketz,

Non-board Members: Amy Christiansen, Bob Christiansen ,Tod Deming, Mark Flugstad
- III. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (April 2014)
Motion made by Stacy Acketz, 2nd Sarah Johnson to approve April 2014. Minutes as distributed prior to the meeting. MOTION APPROVED.
- IV. Old Business
 - a. BASH Planning Update -
 - i. Planning update provided by Mike Kopischke
 - ii. 83 of 84 spots filled – open spot is 14U
 - b. BFA Picnic Kennedy / Jefferson
 - i. Approximately 360 hotdogs served
 - ii. Good turn out
 - iii. Field lay out at Kelly works really well allowing for more of a picnic atmosphere
- ability to see all teams at play verus Dred where the HS fields are spread out
 - c. Team Pictures
 - i. Schedules established for June1 and June 2 to address Game and Jefferson Banquet conflicts
 - ii. Location Game Changers
 - iii. Coaches will be notified as well as posting schedule to web site
 - d. FAQ's Status
 - i. Deferred to June
 - e. 8U League
 - i. 8U league director Bloomington candidate search
 1. Candidates identified – will be prepared to bring recommendation to June meeting

f. Parent Meeting

- i. All agreed - Revert back to one session so that parents with players in both *U and higher age level(s) don't have two meeting to attend.
- ii. Primary difference between 8U and other age levels, volunteer hours, can be managed with how volunteer requirements are communicated.
- iii. Recommendation made to use portions of a power point Tony included in coaches meeting at next parent meeting to address parent view vs umpire view of the strike zone and commonly misunderstood rules.
- iv. Need to have 8U teams identified prior to parent meeting allowing each 8U coach to conduct their own parent meeting as we do other levels.

g. Insurance Review/ Risk Assessment

- i. Cathy Currier provided update.
- ii. All coverage in place – Binder provided pending delivery of final certificate of insurance, which will be BFA's "proof of coverage"
- iii. Cathy working with league contact to obtain single invoice to BFA from ASA
- iv. Cathy has image release form that will be distributed to coaches. This form needs to be signed by all parents to insure documented permission on file to use photos on website, newspaper publications, team banners etc.
 1. Gary noted that we will need image releases quickly so that we know what pictures we can utilize in Sun Current for BFA Blast Off.

h. Grant Award

- i. \$3500 process to access – Stacy contacted Johns Stutzman to determine process/criteria to access funds. John does not yet have this information. Stacy will continue to work with John on this time.

V. New Business

a. 16U Player Request

- i. Board was informed of player that elected to drop from 16U team. A former BFA player has decided to return and will backfill the open roster spot.

b. Summer State Tournament Host

- i. Motion by Grant Effertz to host an 8U state tournament June 28-29 if fields can be secured. 2nd by Tony Acketz. MOTION APPROVED.
- ii. Action Items / Next Steps
 1. Mark Pearson will contact John Stutzman to confirm fields available and update Board via email.
 - a. First choice 4 fields in wheel, second choice fields 2, 3, 4, 6.
 2. Cathy Currier will act as tournament director
 3. 8U parents will be asked to volunteer

c. Key Control - Karen

- i. City records show 7 keys issued to BFA for Dred Scott 6 (square key #139 with further number below as follows 4,5,8,11,12,14,16)
 1. Mark Flugstad acknowledge receipt of original distributon of 7 keys. He retained 2 keys and returned 5 to Bloomington Park and Rec contact. This contact no longer with Bloomington Park and Rec.
- ii. Validated that BFA currently has 2 keys to Dred Scott storage. These keys are held as follows: Craig Johnson 1 key, Lock Box 1 key.
- iii. It was also noted that BFA has 3 keys to the Northcrest Storage Shed as follows. Craig Johnson 1 key, Grant Effertz 1 key, Carol Effertz 1 key.
- iv. BFA Key control
 1. Action Item: Cathy Currier will develop form that key recipient and BFA will sign to acknowledge receipt of key and to sign acknowledging key return.

d. Equipment Purchase Recommendation

- i. Elite tournament grant funds use
 1. Craig Johnson obtained pricing and recommended use of funds as follows. 2 – 4wheel pneumatic chalkers, 4 – 2 wheel chalkers, 1 sponge roller, 2 handpump (water removal), 2 field rakes
 2. Total cost \$1,220 – equipment purchase approved as recommended.
 3. Action Items/Next Steps: Craig will purchase equipment and provide necessary receipt documentation to submit for grant reimbursement.
- ii. YTD equipment spend
 1. Approximately \$400 of \$3300 budget on miscellaneous supplies
- iii. Other Equipment Needs
 1. Craig reviewed list of other equipment purchases needed at a cost of \$783. Craig will make this purchase.
 2. Craig requested a list from coaches of supplies wanted so budget remainder of year can be managed and incorporation into next budget planning cycle. Committee formed: Grant Effertz, Tony Acketz and Mike Kopischke for BFA and Mark Flugstad for Clutch.
 3. Cathy Currier asked if Craig could prepare list of equipment in storage that coaches can check out if/as needed (i.e. sliding pads)
- iv. Action Items/ Next Steps
 1. Equipment committee to prepare a purchase request list and submit to Craig Johnson
 2. Craig to provide list of equipment available for coaches to check out to Cathy Currier and she will make sure coaches are informed

e. BFA Blast Off

- i. Karen Johnson extended thank you to Stacy for planning and organizing the Blast Off event. The event was well received, created the desired buzz

among parents and is a great start in or effort to create a sense of community within the full organization. Parents at event had positive comments and Stacy received a thank you email on Sunday.

- ii. Suggestions received for next year.
 - 1. Team Parade - Announce player names in addition to team and coaches
 - 2. Can we add contest activities – (an example fun coaches contests (i.e spin around bat and run to base). Benefits – keeps kids playing in 2nd set of games busy, and another fun way to add another level of player/coach/parent/team organization bonding

f. 2014 Fundraiser

- i. Use of exterior space between Chipotle and Yogurt Sundae to distribute fundraiser packages worked well.
- ii. Great turn out Very few parents picked up package and didn't stay for a purchase at one or both. . Plaza area gave kids a place to move around while parents waited in line for food purchases.
- iii. Stacy expects to get revenue information from Chipotle and Yogurt Sundae early week (Monday 5th /Tuesday 6th). Will receive 50% of Chipotle proceeds and 20% of Yogurt Sundae proceeds.
- iv. Stacy reported that we received \$115 check from Yogurt Sundae for proceeds after Winter Clinics.

g. Team Selection - Tony/Cathy

- i. 8U post team selection debrief
 - 1. Discussed challenges experienced with 8U team selection this year
 - 2. Agreed a written 8U team formation procedure is needed with teams posted prior to parent meeting.
- ii. 12U A-Team Notification (Inform)
 - 1. Player notification error – as calls were made to pitchers/catchers and a 12U catcher phone was missed, that should have been offered a choice as they moved up list via other pitchers/catchers making decisions to decline A-team spot.
 - 2. Tony Acketz contacted parent when mistake was realized. Karen Johnson spoke to parent at Jefferson-Kennedy game and identified plan of action with parent.
 - 3. Per action plan Tony Acketz met in person with player and 1 parent. Informed player of mistake made, and apologized. Karen Johnson will prepare follow up letter of apology to player, selection committee signs to be mailed to player. This completes response to immediate issue.
 - 4. Longer term action: validate checks and balances to limit opportunities for human error.

- h. June Agenda Items
 - i. Financial Update
 - ii. College Scholarship program
 - iii. HS All Star sponsorship
 - iv. Board Discussion two key questions
 - 1. What is BFA today?
 - 2. What do we want BFA to be?

VI. Director Reports

- a. President: Karen Johnson – no further report
- b. Vice President: Cathy Currier – no further report
- c. Treasurer: Sarah Johnson - no further report
- d. Secretary: Melissa Walter
- e. Commissioner: Craig Johnson
 - i. June agenda item go / no go vote on shed if want built 2014
- f. Facilities Coordinator: Mark Pearson
 - i. Gymn Space - need to budget for spring gymn space to cover some level of indoor practice needs after winter clinics are completed and before fields open
 - ii. In anticipation of continuing weather pattern of cold wet spring we need to identify parameters for more organized method of handling spring indoor practice space requests.
 - iii. Action: November Committee formation to insure process/procedure in place prior to 2015 tryouts and team formation.
- g. Player and Coach Development: Tony Acketz
 - i. Does BFA want to initiate 12U pitching clinics
 - ii. Discussion around past practice and need to engage pitching coach input
 - iii. Tony will follow up with pitching coaches and bring recommendation to June meeting for vote.
- h. Tournament Director: Mike Kopischke - no further report
- i. Communications Director: Grant Effertz – no further report
- j. Member Services & Membership: Carol Effertz – no further report
- k. Marketing: Gary Hanson – no further report
- l. Fund Raising: Stacy Acketz – no further report

VII. Open Comments

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Karen Johnson made motion to adjourn meeting, 2nd Tony Acketz. Meeting adjourned 9:46pm.

The next board meeting will be **Sunday, June 8th** at **7:30pm** at the Bloomington Center for the Arts