

Bear River Little League

Board Meeting Minutes

October 29, 2023, 5:00pm, via Zoom

1. Call to order/roll call/thank you cards
 - 1.1 Call to order: 5:10pm
 - 1.2 Roll call, present: Jenn Lukenbill, Eliza Schissel, Dave Beghetti, Kelly Brewer, Meg Swinney, Rosa Corrales, Matt Zilch, Tara Zilch, Jim Hudson, Bethany Heuseveldt, Scott Parsons, Bob Sharpe, Gianna Cooley, Kat, Zac Quentmeyer, Rayna Hess, Chris Murtey, Holly Williams, Tony Talbott
 - 1.3 Thank you cards needed: none.
2. Review/vote in July minutes: Megan motioned, Bob seconded, none opposed. July minutes passed.
3. Treasurer Report (Rayna): Treasurer Report (Rayna): \$9,387.97 in the account. Rayna analyzed year-over-year numbers. Snack bar made \$6k less this year than last, umpire costs were exactly the same, utilities went up \$5k. We will make it to November because we are not spending the allotted \$7k on fields. New registration would clear us from previous year. If we had made as much on snack shack and sold mandatory raffle tickets we would be \$4k up from last year. We still need money for new bathrooms. Rayna will talk to fundraising chair because she has a great idea for February that could possibly net \$6k, which is significant for one fundraiser but not enough to put in a bathroom. Snack shack didn't open for high school baseball games as it had in years past. We made \$24k on snack shack compared to last year's \$30k, but expenses were \$2k more due to increased cost of food.
4. Presidents Report (Jenn):
 - 4.1 Must vote members into positions for new board term. Reminder that each board position is a year-long commitment. Attendance at meetings is expected.
 - 4.2 Meeting Schedule: We will continue to hold meetings on Sundays. January has two meetings (one regular monthly meeting and one special meeting to select team managers). Potentially no meetings in August and September. Meetings held on Mondays in December.
 - 4.2.1 President, Jenn: Chris motioned, Eliza seconded, none opposed. Jenn elected.
 - 4.2.2 Softball Director, Holly and Lindsay: Meg motioned, Rayna seconded, none opposed. Holly and Lindsay elected.
 - 4.2.3 Vice President, Chris: Lindsey motioned, Tony T. seconded, none opposed. Chris elected.
 - 4.2.4 Secretary, Eliza: Gianna motioned, Kathleen seconded, none opposed. Eliza elected.
 - 4.2.5 Treasurer, Rayna: Bob motioned, Scott seconded, none opposed. Rayna elected.
 - 4.2.6 Player Agent, Charlie: Chris motioned, Zac seconded, none opposed. Charlie elected.
 - 4.2.7 Information Director: Current Director, Wendy, not on call. No one else ran. Position remains open.
 - 4.2.8 Coaching Coordinator: Multiple members ran. Tara won most votes. Tara elected.
 - 4.2.9 Safety Coordinator, Jim: Matt motioned, Rayna seconded, none opposed. Jim elected.
 - 4.2.10 UIC, Scott: Tony T. motioned, Matt seconded, none opposed. Scott elected.

- 4.2.11 Facilities Director, Tony C. and Bob: Meg motioned, Chris seconded, none opposed. Tony C. and Bob elected.
 - 4.2.12 Equipment Director, Matt: Bethany motioned, Tara seconded, none opposed. Matt elected.
 - 4.2.13 Membership Director, Kathleen: Matt motioned, Bob seconded, none opposed. Kathleen elected.
 - 4.2.14 Concessions Director, Rosa: Matt motioned, Rayna seconded, none opposed. Rosa elected.
 - 4.2.15 Volunteer Director, Megan: Kathleen motioned, Matt seconded, none opposed. Megan elected.
 - 4.2.16 Fundraising Director, Gianna: Charlie motioned, Bethany seconded, none opposed. Gianna elected.
 - 4.2.17 Juniors Director, Zac: Charlie motioned, Bethany seconded, none opposed. Zac elected.
 - 4.2.18 Majors Director, Tony C.: Matt motioned, Bob seconded, none opposed. Tony C. elected.
 - 4.2.19 Minors Director: Nobody ran. Position remains open.
 - 4.2.20 Farm and Tee Ball Director, Bethany: Chris motioned, Kathleen seconded, none opposed. Bethany elected.
 - 4.2.21 Spiritwear Director: Nobody ran. Position remains open.
- 4.3 Background checks: Same process as last year. We will need to LiveScan new volunteers. We will offer it at managers meeting, opening ceremonies, and team mom meeting if held in person. Anyone LiveScanned last year does not need to do it again. Everyone has to do a JDP background check every year.
- 4.4 Spring Season Registration: Will open on Black Friday for early registration.
- 4.5 Discussion of unruly parents and fans: There was really bad parent behavior last year, worst of any year. Junior (youth) umpires had horrible experiences at AA tournaments. Jenn suggested a Code of Conduct with a three strike rule. First strike: written warning. Second strike: suspended for one game. Third strike: player is suspended. Board will discuss and vote at next meeting.
- 4.6 Raffle tickets: Should we require the purchase of raffle tickets during registration as we have in past years? We did not require raffle ticket purchase last spring and brought in \$17,000 less revenue as a result. Would take several fundraisers to compensate for that loss. Proposal to require purchase of \$50 in raffle tickets, per child, up to two children per family. Matt motioned, Holly seconded, motion passed. Parents will not be able to complete registration without adding raffle tickets to cart.
- 4.7 By-Laws: Everyone MUST read existing by-laws and recommend changes at next meeting.
- 4.8 Things to vote on:
- 4.9 Registration discount for board members: \$50 for 9 meetings or something else? There are no little leagues that give free registration to board members. Board decided to leave discount as is (\$50 for attendance of nine meetings during term). Does include special meetings, including January meeting to vote in managers. Rayna motioned, Lindsay seconded, motion passed.
 - 4.10 Registration amount: Proposal to maintain last year's amounts for early, regular, and late registration, at all divisions. No board interest in raising fees, especially given that we are

requiring raffle ticket purchase again. Bob motioned, Holly seconded, motion passed to keep registration fees same as last year.

4.11 Volunteer hours and amounts: Proposal to leave same as last year (\$250 or 12 hours).

Matt motioned, Holly seconded, motion passed.

4.12 Legacy vs redraft: This past year, for the majors division only, we adopted a legacy policy wherein players returning to the majors division would return to their previous team/coach. They did not try out and were not part of the draft. It can make sense to have a legacy policy in a year when the majors managers are returning for a second year in majors. This coming year, only Jenn is returning to majors, and Charlie and Tony T. are moving up to juniors. Jenn would prefer to redraft so new majors managers can form balanced teams. Board decided to re-draft this year rather than adopt legacy policy.

4.13 Intermediate (50/70) division: Background context: Majors division serves players up to league age 12. Field has 46-foot pitching distance and 60-foot basepath distances (46/60). Juniors division serves players league age 13-15 and has full size (60/90) dimensions. It is a difficult transition for most 13-year-olds to move from majors directly to juniors, and many players face frustration and drop out as a result, ending their little league careers in disappointment and jeopardizing the robustness of our juniors program. Board is considering beginning an intermediate (50/70) division as a stepping-stone year between majors and juniors. It has not been an option previously because our majors field is too small and BRHS won't allow us to put additional base pegs on their JV (our juniors) field. Now BRRPD has a new turf field and a new director (Miranda) who is supportive of BRL. NC, GV, SF, and Auburn little leagues have 50/70 division and are willing to play against our teams on turf. It is an optional division; players could choose to move directly from majors to juniors. Should we offer intermediate? Considerations: might cut into juniors enrollment numbers too much and make a juniors team untenable. The cost and logistics of buying, moving, and storing a portable turf mound is an obstacle. Would need to determine how to mark foul lines and base paths. But the cost of the turf field rental would be greatly reduced or free. We will discuss and vote by email.

4.14 Porta Potty use for BRRPD: Board decided to rent the use of our porta potty to BRRPD (at our cost to service) at \$50/2hours.

4.15 50/70 director: Board decided that juniors director would also serve as 50/70 director.

4.16 Upcoming Calendar Items:

- Thurs., Nov. 16, 6-9pm, EV Cain Middle School: Vendor Night and Meeting. Secretary, Treasurer, PA, Safety, UIC and President must attend. Walk through and see vendors.
- Sun., Nov. 19, 4pm, Trailblazers: BRL Board meeting.
- Sat., Dec. 2, Auburn LL office: Presidents Training (9am), PA Training (11am).
- Mon., Dec. 11, zoom: BRL Board meeting.
- Thurs., Jan. 11, 6:30pm, St. Joseph's: Presidents meeting, incl. UIC, Safety, PA's.
- Sat., Jan. 13 or 20: Document Collection.
- Sun., Jan. 28 (make-up Tues., Jan. 30), Turf Field: Try-Outs (Evaluations). Draft to follow.
- Feb. 4, 2pm, Auburn LL office: Softball Inter-League meeting.
- Feb. 4, 3pm, Auburn LL office: Baseball Inter-League meeting.
- Feb. 15, 6:30pm, St. Joseph's: Presidents meeting, incl. UIC, Safety, PA's.

5. Softball (Holly): We need to order different bases because we have been using the wrong ones.
6. Fundraising (Tara/Rayna):
 - 6.1 "Fill the Mitt": Was scheduled for Nov. 4 (10am-12pm) and Nov. 5 (12-2pm). Rescheduling at later date because board members are largely unavailable this weekend.
 - 6.2 Need a goal that we can advertise for, such as new bathrooms and new fields, and goal amount.
 - 6.3 New donation letter for the year: Sent to board via email and posted to website under downloads.
7. Open Issues: We need a fundraising director and we must elect an informational director and a minors director.
8. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.