

Soderville Athletic Association
Board Meeting Minutes

Date: July 12, 2009

Board Members in Attendance

Greg Zimmer	President
Open Position	Vice President
Mike Laciskey	Treasurer
Derrell Singh	Secretary
Brian Braden	
Dale Blonigen	
Steve Miller	
Brad Hensler	
Tom Dreshar	
Nick Braden	
Steve Rajtar	
Heather Lund	
Justin Dahlberg	

Not in Attendance

Others in Attendance

Nancy Nelson
Michael Stitt – SAA Intern

Meeting called to order by Greg Zimmer at 7pm.

Brian Braden would like to have the paragraph removed from the previous Board minutes about the tournament teams as he says it is not accurate. Steve Miller made a motion to remove the sentence from the Board minutes that Brian requested, Tom D. seconded the motion, motion approved.

Mike L. made a motion to approve the May 19, 2009 meeting minutes, Tom D. seconded, motion approved.

Public forum – none

New Business

Converting a City field to a baseball field – Brian Braden went to the Ham Lake City Council meeting to talk about the need we have for a Baseball field for older boys, he said that Holiday may not want the land around their store anymore and we may be able to approach them about it for an expanded parking lot at Soderville field; from what the citizens of Ham Lake said at the meeting and the City Council it seems there is no hope for us to get a brand new ball field at Ham Lake Park; Brian B. pointed out that we need to get the ball fields better for the older boys as this may help to keep some of the older boys in our program; Steve Miller talked a lot about how changing one of the City fields to a grass infield will hurt our situation when we have tournaments for traveling fastpitch; Brian also talked about that we should be investing more money in the fields that need work, such as Pinger's too. Some research will be done on costs and this will be discussed again at the next Board meeting.

Soderville Field – this field needs a lot of work and money put into it to get it in better shape, Brian brought up the fact that there used to be nice dug outs there and seating for fans, there are too many teams trying to get use of the BHS fields so that is also a problem we are running into, Steve brought up that he talked to a City member about adding a small field at City that would accommodate fastpitch and younger baseball groups; Brian made a motion to look into investing up to \$10,000 into Soderville Baseball field and Steve Miller seconded that, motion approved. Brad made a motion to explore options to talk to East Bethel and Ham Lake to change an existing field into a baseball field, Brian

seconded that motion, motion approved. Steve will talk to Tim Hoffman from East Bethel and Greg will talk to Tom R. about Ham Lake and they will report back to the Board.

MYAS Discussion – Greg will be scheduling a meeting with them to discuss how we are going to form teams for next season, this has to do with the tournament teams and our regular in house teams, we need to pull kids for the tournament teams from just our school district, Greg has been talking to Becky at Blaine Little League also to see what the two organizations are going to be doing so they are not taking kids from each other.

8U/10U/12U/13U/15U tournaments – Nancy introduced Mike Stitt as our summer intern that is helping out, she talked about how he has been doing the brackets for the tournaments and will do it for these tournaments also, Greg and Tom and other Board members will run the tournament for 10U/12U, Greg talked about Mike doing something with rules so we don't have any arguments with the older boys that are used to playing MYAS, it was decided there will be a 90 minute time limit for the 8U boys tournament.

Committee Reports:

Concessions – Pierro – not present

Umpires – Hensler – Gail talked about the fact that we need to make the pay more competitive for the SAA umpires to umpire the games for the older boys, for MYAS they are receiving \$48 per game so it is difficult to ask them to umpire for us for \$30 per game; we have 30 umpires that are certified and only 2 are not and our pay scale is between \$20 and \$30 right now; Greg Z. suggested that we would increase the older boys registration fee a little to help pay for this, we will have to either turn the umpires over to MYAS or increase the registration fee to cover us paying that cost; Greg Z. made a motion to increase the pay for umpires, Steve R. seconded the motion, motion approved. Gail is really trying to decide what to pay our umpires when there is a game cancelled and the umpire showed up, sometimes there is just no game there and sometimes it is a rain out, Derrell made a motion for Gail to make the decisions on how to pay for these situations, Steve R. seconded that motion, motion approved. The discussion then moved to how much work it has been for Gail Hensler to schedule the umpires again this year, it has been more work than last year because of the changes that took place with the tournament teams; Derrell S. made a motion to pay Gail \$1,000 for her umpire scheduling this season, Heather L. seconded, motion approved.

In-house fast pitch – Lund – Heather said that the in-house tournament was last weekend and we discussed the rain situation and Nancy added that Gail did a great job on Saturday dealing with the rain delay. All in all the in house tournament went well.

In-house baseball (Junior) – open position – Zimmer- no report

In-house baseball (Senior) – Blonigen – their tournament is coming up and they were discussed in other areas of the minutes already. Dale said the kids are having a great time playing and that Doug Johnson is planning to coach the older boys again next year, but he is having a tough time getting enough kids to play.

Traveling fast pitch – Miller – Steve said traveling just hosted a 10U and 12U tournament and we are hosting a tournament next weekend too, Lisa Cassidy's 12U team went far enough into the tournament to make a National Berth, they are working on finding a traveling commissioner to replace Mike Nelson, Steve talked about the fact that fall ball information is on the website so interested players know what to do.

Fall ball – Brad Hensler – Brad has agreed to be the contact on the boys side for fall ball.

Traveling baseball – Zimmer – no report.

Field/Game Scheduling – McArthur – not present

Equipment – Braden N. – Nick reported that they had a turn in date last Thursday for 6U Baseball and fastpitch. Dale said that we need to have smaller leggings for the catchers for 10U next year; the next turn in will be in mid August so Nancy will keep in touch with Nick about it and they will set something up.

Treasurer – Laciskey – Mike said we do not have financials for June yet so he is reporting from May, we have a net of \$7,000 for May which is good, concessions revenue is down but so are expenses so we are doing OK.

Fundraising – Braden – Nancy reported that the fundraiser is almost all wrapped up. Prizes have been sent out to all the kids that sold enough cards and pictures of the top sellers are on the website.

Uniforms – Singh – no report

Photos – Nelson – everybody should have them by now, they were sent directly to coaches from Sports Star.

Operations Manager Report – N. Nelson

Fundraiser prizes – they have all been awarded and sent out.

Insurance Renewal done – due 7/11 – Nancy reported that she turned in the insurance renewal and a copy of the certificate has went to East Bethel as requested for using their fields.

Accounting – Nancy did not have time to get June done before this meeting but it will be done by the next meeting. We have a new accountant and Nancy has met with her (Dawn) and she gave Nancy some good input on our accounting.

Old Business –

Tournament teams – Brian said that for the most part the kids had a really good time this year, he heard a lot of positive things and there needs to be a meeting to see what we can do differently to make sure things go well for next year.

Ball field update – covered above

Other

The next meeting is set for August 9, 2009 at 7:00pm.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by, Nick B. Derrell S. seconded the motion, motion approved and meeting adjourned at 10pm.