

SEPLL Board Meeting Agenda
Monday, Dec. 8th @ 7pm
Cindi's home 1624 SE 31st

Attendance: Cindi, Gary, Heather, Kerry, Keith, Leigh, Julie, Jerome, Janelle, Colette

A. Thank you to Cindi for hosting. Introduce any guests.

Time: All future SEPLL board meetings will begin at 7 p.m.

November Meeting Minutes: Please read them online if you haven't already; everyone approved them for November.

B. Treasurers' Reports

1. Powell – Oregon Unclaimed Property department -- \$200-300. Cindi filed a claim; takes about six weeks.
2. Portland – Found some money. Cindi audited them and they look good. Jeff Livermore will audit them. All looks good and she will report in January in full. Spent \$68K; made \$60k. There is an outstanding \$2k

C. Old Business

1. Website – Matt says it is looking good, getting better info all the time. It should be one-stop shopping for all info in the league. A good resource and reduces amount of questions and necessary response. Added video. It is a work-in-progress. Social media is included. Add Kerry and Leigh as admins. We can have five addresses or a universal admin address, although with a universal, we couldn't track who was making what changes.

2. Registration – Photo release may be an issue; parents have to opt in. Some parents already have said they do not want their child in photos. Leigh said we should have a policy that accommodates requests; those parents need to opt OUT and then we notify their coaches/managers. Instead of making it an option with its own check box, we may just include it in the general info that they can opt out.

Should we all get our own email addresses – i.e., treasurer@sepll.com – Yes.

Can we add a check box for a scholarship donation – Powell raised \$1000 last year with this option. Yes.

Volunteer buy-out option – it is now at \$30; it would be honor system and a way to collect more cash for the league. Coaches would get the opt-out list. Would Cindi get a report, to be able to itemize this? Julie said it's a good reminder to people registering that the organization needs people's help; it doesn't run itself, nor should it. Matt wonders if this might be a sort of privilege issue – if you have the money to opt out, then all the volunteer work is left to those who don't have the extra funds. Jeff likened it to paying a soldier-sponsor to fight your battle for you. Keith suggested it might be used as an excuse NOT to donate to fundraisers. Heather suggested we vote on it and come to a dollar figure. Could we figure it into a tax donation? Jerome brings up the situation of hardship (of time or money) for parents who may not be able to contribute in any way except to have their child involved. Keith asked if the buy-in option may contribute to a sense of entitlement -- parents might feel they have a say in coaching or management. What about changing the language to “encourage” – we encourage you to donate your time, but in lieu of that we would appreciate your donation toward our volunteer group. Matt motions to have a volunteer buy-out of \$30 but we will soften the language on the site. Matt's motion seconded by Julie; motion passes. Julie suggested that we specify types of volunteerism – concessions, scorekeepers, coaching, team parent, equipment, etc. Matt is trying to make all this info clear and redundant (in a good

way) on the site. So, checkboxes: keep scholarship, add donation box, keep the amounts blank. Leigh wants to do a survey about registration, as well.

Early-bird discount – Cindi asks what dates to extend it through. Through the end of January? For registration, early bird through 1/15, regular fee 1/16 through 2/15, 2/16 onward is late, add \$5. We can release it online ASAP, pending some small content changes. Motion to change dates by Matt. Seconded; all in favor. Passed.

3. Calendar dates – Matt sent out the dates; any opposition? 2/21 and 22 has been proposed. Last year we donated \$350 to Franklin for use of their space, and the students helped us out. We may also be able to use Marshall. Julie will check on Cleveland. Matt said last year, while tryouts/evaluations weren't perfect, it was "good enough" that it worked out pretty well. The 0-60 point system works OK. Colette is looking for warehouse space. Matt prefers two weekends so that kids don't have to wait around to be evaluated. Two weekends, one day of evaluation each weekend. Add a make-up day as well?

General meeting dates: broken out by divisions. For safety meetings, 3/7 and 3/14 or 3/14 and 3/21, per Jerome? Important to let people know these dates way in advance. Leigh is going to send out an email for a coaching clinic -- \$125 for 8+ coaches through NW Baseball. Friends of Baseball is also a good organization. General meeting team announcements date – will it be at Creston? The dates on Matt's doc look good.

4. Vacant Officer Roles

a. UIC, VP Baseball, Sponsorship & Fundraising, Fields Manager – Cindi is talking to Marnie (whose son plays baseball) about the sponsorship/fundraising role. Heather is also talking with someone about that role. Maybe they could split the role. Is Matt going to take on the UIC role? He would be interested in attending the LL umpiring convention in Williamsport, if the board approved. \$245 for the clinic; Matt offered to pay the plane ticket. He has wanted to do it for a long time. He would keep his current role, as well. Motion raised; seconded, approved. And the same for UIC.

b. Non Board Roles -- Picture Day, fields committee – Is there anything we need to post or let the organization members know that these roles are open and need to be filled? We will table this topic 'til next meeting in January '15. Generally we assign a committee within the board. It would be better to be able to assign this out.

5. Storage -- Matt & Keith? Keith says everything is the same as it was. Most of it is already broken out and clustered but it is not sorted by league. Heather will check in with Rocky.

6. Jerome is going to check into League subscription for the GameChanger app.

7. Warehouse or indoor practice space – Colette is looking into this space. We need start/end dates, etc. We also are already looking to reserve Marshall and/or Franklin and/or Cleveland. March 15 through end of April for indoor practice? Plus winter clinics. We have liability insurance available. Can we charter now with last year's numbers – yes. We could start even earlier than March, as long as it is cost-effective. February 1 would be great – we could even do assessments there and cancel the rental with the high school gyms. 9am 'til 4pm on Saturday/Sundays. We would offer it (at a cost) to other leagues as well to bring the cost down. We'd then budget as to what we need inside – electricity, bathroom, batting cages, netting, etc. We have the pitching machines.

D. Officer Reports

1. Softball – Julie brought up the age discrepancy issue with the new age rules. Do all-girls teams as rookies? No good answers. It won't be an issue 'til next year (2015-16). What about a t-ball softball league?

2. Safety Officer – Jerome reviewed both safety plans; they should be the same for both Portland and Powell. They are currently quite different (i.e., one says we offer CPR classes, missing safety classes gets you banned, online safety course, permits, etc.). We are taking that stuff out and merging the documents (or choosing one) to use for both leagues. We should then add the safety manual to the website and social media.
3. Coaches Coordinator – Leigh said we'll get the coaching clinic(s) going. We want to get the coaches talking together as soon as possible – happy hour, emails, sharing info, talk out new stuff like the age changes. There is a positive coaching techniques session on March 29. Umpire and scorekeeping on March 15. There are also online parent classes, as well – philosophy about being decent parents of athletes. Cindi suggested a mentor program for new coaches – is there someone new parent-coaches could talk to with questions or concerns? There could be a hierarchy of sorts for returning coaches and new coaches.
5. Equipment – See Keith's earlier comments. We will extend the rental another month to get it all sorted.
6. Concessions – Gary has nothing to add. There was a big loss last year – we will use better purchasing power and organization. Set up a merchant account that is billed once a month. We could post a menu online and on social media. Can we look into getting Square for concessions – seems like it would be a big money maker for us, despite the initial organization/execution hurdles.
7. Uniforms – Can we start ordering in January, using last year's numbers? \$14K last year total.
8. Secretary & Social Media – how to drive our following on social media? Hold contests, send photos, add other streams (Twitter, Instagram, etc.)? We also want to use social media (free) to push people toward our website (not free) for all answers to their questions.

E. Announcements

Jenelle, Colette, Cindi and Kerry are signers for Powell. Motion to make Jenelle a signer; seconded, and passed unanimously. Need to add all four for Portland as well. [*Note*: This will happen on Friday, Dec. 12, at 9am.]

We will set up an ABM in the Powell name, licensed for both. Motion passed, seconded, passed.

F. Anything else?

Next meeting: January 12, 7pm, at Jerome's house (3331 SE Schiller St.).