

SEPLL Board meeting

October 2, 2014

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

Meeting started at 6:50pm * Ended 8:20pm

Next meeting: Mon., 10/20 at 6:30pm at Meals on Wheels

A. Recap Fall Ball

SOFTBALL

- The season is "going OK; happy overall"; strong infield, short on pitching
- Big team; maybe some should be in minors?
- Coach opting to be more competitive
- Not as challenging

BASEBALL

- Sunday doubleheaders
- One team of 18 players, fresh kids for each game, which is an advantage over other teams
- However, other teams seem OK with it
- Undefeated; but the kids may be getting a false sense of what majors is like
- Hitting well this season; there's a homerun every game

FARM BALL CLINICS Fall 2015

- Clinics on Sundays? Seems like a missed opportunity; Cal Ripken league, Gresham and Clackamas have these types of programs
- Could be free to returning players; small fee otherwise
- Great chance for younger players to get in the swing prior to spring season

Misc

- Bill for fields? \$3300 credit?
- Lost \$ on fall ball; maybe \$200? On uniforms, etc.
- Are we charging enough for Fall Ball? \$25 seems like too much of a bargain; even includes a t-shirt
- Brooklyn Park field reserved 11-5 Sundays
- Could we use the Abernethy gym in case of rain? Or outdoor courts? Checking with John Schrodell on Civic Use of Building (CUB) when he arranged it last.

B. Fall General Meeting agenda

- 1) Voting on officers
- 2) Open officer positions: fields, equipment, concessions, sponsorship, volunteer coordinator, web master, UIC
 - There are a lot of Abernethy parents; need additional participation on the board from other schools; Colette will send out another email with description of available

- positions
 - But how to accomplish this when we're still not officially one league – we need 30-40 people to attend the meeting
 - We adopted the SE PDX bylaws
 - Need to find people to put on the ballot
 - Never had minutes – always used Colette's notes; these are then submitted to the national LL
 - Need to read the minutes, approve the minutes, make it official
- 3) Recruitment for officers, coaches/managers, team parents, umpires, field worker, scorekeepers
- 4) Clinic ideas
- * indoors; warehouse; sublease an existing business? A hitting barn.
 - * Ask the community for ideas, connections.
 - * Cindi's son Tucker suggests batting cages for the league
 - * Any grant possibilities?
 - * Suggestions include 212 Sports, Strictly Softball, Stryder's in OR City, Batting 1000
 - * Ask them about a longstanding rental agreement; we would provide our own insurance.
- 5) Vision of the League:
- * engagement – how to inspire parents to take on roles with the league?
 - * Clearly defined roles are needed – what are moms and dads committing to by signing up to be "Team Parent", for example. These defined roles should be provided both in the email going out, as well as in writing at the 10/20 meeting.
 - * merger update: do people think of us as SEPLL?
 - * Need to build our manager and coaches training; we've been talking about it for a long time
 - * How to set benchmarks at each level so kids, coaches, parents, managers know at assessments and midseason what is expected of players and teams
 - * Matt and Jerry say they have this started
 - * We need someone who is excited and committed to teach fundamentals to the kids; teaching like this is a special skill
 - * Would be great to have an easily updateable LL handbook – printed version as well as an online version
 - * Web page needs to be updated, by someone committed to the work
 - * recruit volunteer or pay someone to build a site that can then be easily managed/updated by a parent volunteer; Keith checking with his brother who is a designer about this.
- 6) Budget:
- * Janelle and Jerry will put this together (in time for 10/20 meeting?)
 - * All costs need to be shared and sorted
 - * Separate budgets? Merged? One merged and two separate?
 - * Are we exempt? No. We do our own taxes.

Update on Merger

- * We are trying to be as transparent as possible since our league is not officially merged; waiting on Georgia from District 2.
- * Submitted a proposal to Georgia; it went to Western Region; they sent it back needing more info.
- * **Georgia says she needs more info? [Ed.: Unclear from notes]**
- * This has been going on for years; lots of politics, drama, disorganization.
- * We will continue as we are until the other teams sort out their issues.
- * Our merger is working well and we are building a strong community. Overall, it has been very positive and “feels OK, no different.”
- * We are moving forward as if we are one league; except we are not...

C. Spring Registration

- * Registration is open 1/1/15 – should it be available earlier?
- * There was confusion last year during registration between the two merged leagues
- * This coming season, we need to merge the process and the databases
- * **It sounds like the SE system works well**
- * Heather and Matt will sort out how to merge their databases
- * We will do online registration as well as a 1-day in-person registration
- * We can start there, see how it goes, then add another in-person day if necessary
- * Player registration forms (concussion, medical, etc.) should all be done online, if possible!
- * Need to post a calendar of events on the website

D. Officer Reports

- * Treasurer:
 - Pizza Roma, Blitz Ladd hasn't paid sponsorship
 - Distributed the SEPLL Balance Sheet
 - Colette will talk with Darby about who to contact at Pizza Roma
 - Colette will contact manager at Blitz Ladd
 - Jeff Livermore will audit Powell
 - Shut down LL phone number; Colette will ask Jeremy to take it off website

Ask about corporate sponsorships at upcoming meeting.
Field fees will undoubtedly increase.