

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 11, 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

These minutes will be approved at the next Board of Directors Meeting

NOTE 1: 11 December two individuals were confirmed to the board, Tim Cromwell, (Public relations), Don Giannini, (External Competition).

NOTE 2: These minutes to be approved at the next regular Board meeting on March 13, 2017.

Commissioner Kevin Conklin called the meeting to order at 18:12 pm following an informal meeting of the Board.

Board members present: Tim Cromwell, Don Giannini, Kevin Conklin, Bill Hettinger, Helen Orr, Jim Greeley, and Carroll Grant

Board members absent: Bob Lathrop

Players/Managers present: Cynthia Gardner and Fred Valenti).

1. SECRETARY'S REPORT

None.

2. PLAYER/MANAGER COMMENTS

Fred Valenti requested the board to consider only allowing one Intentional walk per player, subsequent at bats the player cannot be walked. Discussion occurred, a motion to only allow one intentional walk per player, subsequent at bats cannot be walked and it was seconded. The motion was passed 6 in favor. Cindy Gardner requested reviewing the policy of runners from home. She asked if we could have managers in the beginning of the year provide a list of those needing a runner from home due to medical necessities. No changes allowed after the list is provided. A motion to have managers in the beginning of the year provide a list of those needing a runner from home due to medical necessities. No changes allowed after the list is provided was seconded, and passed unanimously.

Paul Davis asked at the managers meeting in November to have a committee of 3 managers rate the new players and provide a list to the board recommending placement of these new players on teams. Motion was seconded and passed 6 in favor.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Dick Nabel reported the checking account balance to date as \$4400.00 after yesterday's party. No new bills, purchased new softballs. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

4. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Results of Survey, will establish pickup games in A.M.

Assignment of new board members, Tim Cromwell and Don Giannini

The commissioner brought up allowing unlimited bases for all players except those running for a batter from home. A discussion occurred. A motion to allow players to advance 3 bases was seconded. The motion was passed 6 in favor.

Discussion about number of rescheduled games. Possible options to be discussed at next meeting.

5. ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER & HEAD OF UMPIRES

None

6. INTERNAL COMPETITION

See attached. Approved by the board

7.EXTERNAL COMPETITION

None

8.SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Helen Orr reported that the Christmas part went very well with 74 people in attendance.

9.PUBLIC RELATIONS

It was suggested to mount individual sponsor boards on the backstop, under consideration. New banner being printed with new sponsors added.

10.OLD BUSINESS

None

11.NEW BUSINESS

Raising registration fee to \$50.00 for this coming year to help pay for new shirts for all players to keep. Going forward new layers to the league will pay \$50.00 and returning players will be \$40.00. Commissioner will obtain quotes for shirts with numbers on back.

Bill H. discussed runner from home crossing the commitment line causing confusion for the fielders. Motion to have the runner called out if they cross the line and runners on the bases given one base only. Motion was passed 6 in favor.
Bob L. asked to discuss having the unlimited inning to occur for the next new inning after one hour of play. Motion was seconded and passed 6 in favor.

12.NEXT BOARD MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2017, 6:15 pm at Vernon Teen Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:10.

Respectfully submitted,
Carroll Grant

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 10, 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

These minutes will be approved at the December 12, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting

Commissioner Kevin Conklin called the meeting to order at 6:20 pm.

Board members present:Kevin Conklin, Bill Hettinger, Jim Greeley, Bob Lathrop, Dick Nabel, Grant Carroll and Helen Orr

Board members absent: None

Players present: None

1.SECRETARY'S REPORT

None

2.PLAYER COMMENTS

None

3.TREASURER'S REPORT

None

4.COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

New board member Grant Carroll was appointed to the position of Secretary on the board

5.ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER & HEAD OF UMPIRES

None

6.INTERNAL COMPETITION

None

7.EXTERNAL COMPETITION

None

8.SOCIAL COMMITTEE

None

9.PUBLIC RELATIONS

No report

10.OLD BUSINESS

None

11.NEW BUSINESS

None

12.NEXT BOARD MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 14th, 2016, at 6:15 pm at Vernon Teen Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Conklin

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 10, 2016 VSS ANNUAL MEETING

NOTE: These minutes are to be approved at the next scheduled Board meeting in November.

Commissioner Kevin Conklin called the meeting to order at 6:20 pm.

Board members present: Rich Andreoli, Kevin Conklin, Bill Gamzon, Jim Greeley, Bill Hettinger, Bob Lathrop, Dick Nabel, and Helen Orr

Board members absent: Tim Cromwell

1. 1.COMMISSIONER'S OPENING REMARKS: Commissioner Kevin Conklin started by welcoming all members to the annual membership meeting of the Vernon Seniors Softball League. He thanked everyone for coming and noted that 35 members were in attendance and therefore the VSS Bylaws requirement of a quorum to conduct business was satisfied (quorum for tonight's meeting was 35). He continued by saying that overall the league improved this season, as evidenced by different teams having won the regular season (Owls) and the playoffs (Falcons). He then mentioned that the 65's travel team won their division at the Cape Cod Classic and showed the group the championship plaque which is to be on permanent display at the Park and Rec Dept office. Winning the championship also brought with it a sponsors' plaque which will be displayed at Paul's Pizza, a long time sponsor of VSS. Lastly, Kevin took a few minutes to recognize 3 Board members who are leaving the Board, Rich Andreoli, Tim Cromwell, and Bill Gamzon. He thanked them for the work they did on the Board and highlighted their individual contributions.

2. SECRETARY'S REPORT: The 2015 Annual Meeting minutes were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and passed by a show of hands. Edson Phelps, as a point of order, said that the Annual Meeting minutes are supposed to be approved at the next regular Board meeting, not at the following year's Annual Meeting. Thus the minutes of tonight's meeting will be approved at the November Board meeting.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Dick Nabel presented the Treasurer's report for Fiscal Year 2016, covering 10/1/2015 - 9/30/2016. In summary, the Beginning Checking Account Balance = \$5,261.95; Income = \$10,365.00; Expenses = \$9,844.53; Ending Checking Account Balance = \$5,782.42. The full report is attached. Motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made, but Edson, in another point of order, said that the Treasurer's report only gets approved as part of the auditing process, meaning it's the Audit Committee report that needs to be approved.

4. AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT: Audit Committee Chairperson Joe Handleman read the report of the Audit Committee (Joe Marsala, Kevin Conklin, and Joe Handleman). The full report is attached. Motion to accept the Audit report was made, seconded, and passed by a show of hands.

5. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Commissioner Conklin reviewed the topics brought up at the informal meeting of the Board with the managers before last Board meeting.- Too many games are being postponed. Rules for getting teams to 10 players need to be enforced so games can be played when originally scheduled.

- On a hit, allow players to get as many bases as they can; no more 2 base limit. - Revisit the courtesy runner from home rule; perhaps grandfather in more players. - After one hour of play in a game, finish the inning being played and the next inning is the open inning. - Board needs to review the process of placing new players on teams and the recruitment of players. Managers need to help evaluate and place players. This topic generated a long discussion of a not so simple situation due to factors such as friendships and players who are still working and thus need to be on a 5 o'clock team.

1. -Purchase new uniform shirts for the entire league. These would be shirts similar to the ones sold to VSS players the last 2 years at a discounted price of \$5. This purchase will require a significant amount of money, so there was discussion of increasing dues to \$50 for next year. A motion for \$50 dues for next year was made, seconded, and passed by a show of hands.

2. -

Kevin stated that there will no rules changes during the season next year. He concluded by thanking Edson for his work on the VSS Website.

6. ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER & HEAD OF UMPIRES: Jim Greeley noted that he tried to put 2 umpires at every game. More people willing to umpire are needed. Each team should have at least 2 players who are willing to be umps.

7. INTERNAL COMPETITION: Bill Hettinger indicated that there are 124 players on the VSS list. Placement of players continues to be a hot topic, as discussed earlier in the meeting.

8. EXTERNAL COMPETITION: Rich Andreoli briefly reviewed the results from the Cape Cod Classic in September. The 65's won their division, while the 70's made it to the semifinals. He made an urgent appeal for new people to get involved with travel team activities.

9. SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Helen Orr reported that the picnic in September was "awesome." The Holiday party is Sunday, December 6th at Georgina's. Edson is making fliers and the cost for the party will be \$20 per person this year.

10. PUBLIC RELATIONS: In Tim Cromwell's absence, Kevin Conklin reported that the league had 19 full sponsors this year. Tim's sponsor list is attached.

11. OLD BUSINESS: None

12.NEW BUSINESS: There are three open positions on the Board of Directors, but only one nominee, Carroll Grant. There were no nominations from the floor. A motion to have Carroll Grant on the Board was made, seconded, and passed by a show of hands. Helen Orr volunteered to stay on the Board, so a motion to have Helen on the Board was made, seconded, and passed by a show of hands.

13.MEMBERS COMMENTS: Limit intentional walks to one per player per game.

- There is indoor softball on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the “bubble” (Star Hill Fitness Center) in Tolland.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

After adjournment, there was a drawing for a free 2017 VSS registration from the pool of members in attendance at tonight’s meeting. The winner was Joe Handleman.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Gamzon

ADDENDUM: Before Board members went home, there was a brief meeting of the Board to discuss a position for Carroll Grant and Helen Orr. By consensus, Carroll Grant was assigned to be Secretary and Helen Orr retained her position as Social Committee chairperson.

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 5, 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

These minutes will be approved at the December 12, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting

NOTE 1: The regular Board meeting scheduled for September 21, 2016, had to be rescheduled to tonight due to another scheduling conflict.

NOTE 2: These minutes to be approved at the next regular Board meeting on November 14, 2016. (VSS website Editor note: The November 14th meeting was not held.)

Commissioner Kevin Conklin called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm following an informal meeting of the Board with team managers.

Board members present: Rich Andreoli, Kevin Conklin, Tim Cromwell, Bill Gamzon, Jim Greeley, Bob Lathrop, Dick Nabel, and Helen Orr

Board members absent: Bill Hettinger

Players/Managers present: Joe Marsala, Mike Smith

1.SECRETARY’S REPORT

The minutes from the last Board meeting on August 15, 2016, were reviewed. (See attached) A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

2.PLAYER/MANAGER COMMENTS

The following comments/issues were mentioned in the informal meeting of the Board and team managers:

-Can the league get new uniform shirts in a style and fabric like those offered to players for \$5 a couple of years ago?

-Too many games are being postponed.

-Grandfather in more courtesy runners from home at the beginning of the season.

-Eliminate 2 base limit on hits, allow players to get as many bases as they can get.

-Should be 2 players on each team that can umpire so there will be a larger pool of umpires.

-Put a time limit on games such that at the one hour mark, the inning being played gets finished and the next inning is the open inning.

-Phase out older players? Players need to be able to jog (at a minimum), throw, and catch. This is in the interest of player safety.

-Who rates the players?

-Lower the age for league entry to 50 and make another 5 o’clock team or 2, and force players who are no longer working to move up.

-The league is supposed to have a rules committee.

3.TREASURER'S REPORT

Dick Nabel reported the checking account balance to date as \$5,782.42. He reviewed account activity which included 2 income items and 5 expense items. (See attached) A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

4.COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Conklin mentioned the following:

-Agenda items are needed for the Annual Meeting on Monday, October 10, 2016. New uniform shirts is one topic that needs to be discussed as it is a big expense. Also 3 Board members are leaving (Rich Andreoli, Tim Cromwell, Bill Gamzon) and need to be replaced.

-The comments and issues raised in the meeting with the managers (see above) were discussed. No action was taken.

-A brief review of the season just ended was done. Consensus was that overall it was a successful year with many competitive games and fewer blowouts.

5.ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER & HEAD OF UMPIRES

Jim Greeley reiterated that each team should have two people who can umpire. This would increase the pool of umpires and spread the burden. It also makes it possible to have more games with 2 umpires.

6.INTERNAL COMPETITION

No report

7.EXTERNAL COMPETITION

Rich Andreoli was very pleased to report that the 65's travel team won its division at the Cape Cod Classic.

8.SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Helen Orr reported that the picnic was a big success. She is working on fliers and other details for the Holiday Party in December.

9.PUBLIC RELATIONS

Tim Cromwell reported he is working on getting sponsor certificates. After brief discussion, a motion to have Karen Andreoli make the certificates for \$350 was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

10.OLD BUSINESS

None

11.NEW BUSINESS

None

12.NEXT BOARD MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 14th, 2016, at 6:15 pm at Vernon Teen Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Gamzon

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 15, 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

These minutes were approved at the October 5, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting

Commissioner Kevin Conklin called the meeting to order at 6:24 pm. Before proceeding further, Kevin said that he had to leave due to an urgent family matter. A motion for Immediate Past Commissioner Bob Lathrop to run the meeting in Kevin's absence was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Board members present: Rich Andreoli, Kevin Conklin (beginning only), Tim Cromwell, Bill Gamzon, Jim Greeley, Bill Hettinger, Bob Lathrop, Dick Nabel, and Helen Orr

Board members absent: None

Players present: None

1.SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes from the last Board meeting on July 13, 2016, were reviewed. (See attached) A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and passed with seven votes for, zero against, and one abstention (Bill H. was not at the July 13th meeting).

2.PLAYER/MANAGER COMMENTS

None

3.TREASURER'S REPORT

Dick Nabel reported the checking account balance to date as \$6,407.33. He reviewed account activity which included no income items and four expense items. (See attached) A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

4.COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

On behalf of Commissioner Conklin, Bob L. presented the following items:

-Bob has the opportunity to buy two additional bats for the Cape Cod tournament at a reasonable price.

There was a brief discussion. A motion to purchase those bats was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

-The double elimination playoff tournament is underway with an upset or two so far.

-A date for the VSS Annual Meeting is needed. A brief discussion resulted in Monday, October 10th being chosen by consensus.

5.ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER & HEAD OF UMPIRES

Jim Greeley commented that each team should have two people who can umpire. The importance of having two umpires at a game is magnified when it's tournament time. There's already been one tournament game that only had one umpire.

6.INTERNAL COMPETITION

Bill Hettinger noted that teams have 15, 16, or 17 names on their roster, but they still struggle to get 11 players at a game. This needs to be addressed in the off season.

7.EXTERNAL COMPETITION

Rich Andreoli reported that the 65's and 70's travel teams are going to the Cape Cod Classic after Labor Day, but there will be no 60's team. Also, there's another Hot Dog Tournament in Ludlow, MA, on October 15th.

8.SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Helen Orr had nothing new to report.

9.PUBLIC RELATIONS

Tim Cromwell passed out a list of this year's VSS sponsors (see attached). The Board also discussed the addition and removal of sponsor logos on the VSS banner.

10.OLD BUSINESS

None

11.NEW BUSINESS

Ice packs have been placed in the VSS cabinet in the shed at Community Field.

12.NEXT BOARD MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 19th, 2016, at 6:15 pm at Vernon Teen Center. The Board will meet with all the managers first, then it will have its regular Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Gamzon

MINUTES OF THE JULY 13, 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

These minutes were approved at the August 15, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting
Commissioner Kevin Conklin called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

Board members present: Rich Andreoli, Kevin Conklin, Tim Cromwell, Bill Gamzon, Jim Greeley, Bob Lathrop, Dick Nabel, and Helen Orr

Board members absent: Bill Hettinger

Players present: None

1.SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes from the last Board meeting on June 13, 2016, were reviewed. (See attached) A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

2.PLAYER COMMENTS

None

3.TREASURER'S REPORT

Dick Nabel reported the checking account balance to date as \$7,952.33. He reviewed account activity which included several income and expense items. (See attached) A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

4.COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Conklin presented the idea of outfitting all teams with uniform shirts like the VSS shirts that were sold last year at a discounted price of \$5. Discussion ensued. This would be a major expense, it might have to be done over a number of years, and it might impact the registration fee. Consensus was to table this idea for now and revisit at the VSS Annual Meeting.

Commissioner Conklin led a review of the first half of the season. During this discussion it was noted that the Hawks are improved somewhat, the Ravens frequently struggle to have 11 players at their games, and several teams are dealing with injured players.

5.ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER & HEAD OF UMPIRES

Jim Greeley asked about the scheduling of umpires for the playoffs. After brief discussion, he will refer to last year's bracket on the VSS website as a guide.

6.INTERNAL COMPETITION

No report

7.EXTERNAL COMPETITION

Rich Andreoli reported the following: the combined 65's and 70's travel team played at Ludlow, MA, on June 25th against 2 AA teams, winning one game and losing the other; three teams are going to the Cape

(55's, 65's, 70's); there will be a round robin of practice games among the 65's, 70's, and a team from Ludlow on July 23rd; and there will be a practice game between the 65's and 70's on August 13th.

8.SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Helen Orr reported that the end-of-season picnic on Sunday, September 18th, is all set except for ordering the food. She also talked about pricing for the Holiday Party at Georgina's Restaurant and the possibility that it may not be the same as last year. Discussion ensued but no action was taken.

9.PUBLIC RELATIONS

Tim Cromwell reported that he expects the arrival of 2 more sponsors.

10.OLD BUSINESS

None

11.NEW BUSINESS

None

12.NEXT BOARD MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 15th, 2016, at 6:15 pm at Vernon Teen Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Gamzon

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 13, 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

These minutes were approved at the July 13, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting

Commissioner Kevin Conklin called the meeting to order at 6:20 pm.

Board members present: Rich Andreoli, Kevin Conklin, Tim Cromwell, Bill Gamzon, Jim Greeley, Bob Lathrop, Dick Nabel, and Helen Orr

Board members absent: Bill Hettinger

Players present: None

1.SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes from the last Board meeting on May 16, 2016, were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

2.PLAYER COMMENTS

Speaking as a player, Helen Orr remarked that some players are not wearing VSS hats and/or team shirts as required by existing league rules. She requested that managers remind their players of this requirement.

3.TREASURER'S REPORT

Dick Nabel reported the checking account balance to date as \$8,158.33. He reviewed account activity which included several income and expense items. (See attached) A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

4.COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Conklin led a lengthy discussion of ways of achieving parity among the teams in the league. The Board talked about a number of possible schemes to accomplish this goal, among them being: (1) reconstitute each team prior to the beginning of the season; (2) don't reconstitute teams, but assign a pitcher and shortstop to each team, as these are probably the two most important positions to fill on a team;

(3) divide the league into 2 divisions, an “A” division intended to be more competitive, and a “B” division intended to be less competitive and more recreational. Consensus was to have a meeting of the Board and all managers in September to discuss these and other ideas about reorganizing the league.

Commissioner Conklin commented on the number of injuries that have occurred to this point in the season. Discussion ensued. Suggestions for reducing injuries included starting the season slower (e.g. each team plays one game the first week) and reminding players to take it easy and stretch.

5.ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER & HEAD OF UMPIRES

Jim Greeley reported that it is still a challenge to get enough umpires for the games.

6.INTERNAL COMPETITION

No report

7.EXTERNAL COMPETITION

Rich Andreoli reported that a combined 65's and 70's travel team is going to Ludlow, MA, on June 25th to play in a Hot Dog Tournament. He requested the Board to pay the \$5 per player fee. A motion to do that was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. He also mentioned the Pagani Tournament here on July 16th as another opportunity for the travel teams. Lastly, Rich said he has travel team managers: 55's Larry Sherman and John Massey; 65's Dick Nabel and Don Giannini; 70's Paul Davies and Rich Andreoli. (No manager for a 60's team)

8.SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Helen Orr reported that the end-of-season picnic will be on Sunday, September 18th, and she is waiting for the contract from East Windsor to arrive. She also reported that the deposit for the Holiday Party at Georgina's Restaurant in Bolton has been sent.

9.PUBLIC RELATIONS

Tim Cromwell reported that we are at about the same level with sponsors as last year.

10.OLD BUSINESS

None

11.NEW BUSINESS

None

12.NEXT BOARD MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 13th, 2016, at 6:15 pm at Vernon Teen Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Gamzon

ADDENDUM

Subsequent to this Board meeting, the question of assigning John Seyboth to the Ravens or to another team came up. Discussion and voting on this issue was accomplished via email with the result being John going to the Ravens. The votes were 4 in favor, one against, one either way, and one abstention (Bob Lathrop).

MINUTES OF THE MAY 16, 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

These minutes were approved at the June 13, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting

Commissioner Kevin Conklin called the meeting to order at 6:20 pm.

Board members present: Rich Andreoli, Kevin Conklin, Bill Gamzon, Bill Hettinger, Jim Greeley, Bob Lathrop, Dick Nabel, and Helen Orr

Board members absent: Tim Cromwell

Players present: None

1.SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes from the last Board meeting on April 18th, 2016, were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

2.PLAYER COMMENTS

None

3.TREASURER'S REPORT

Dick Nabel reported the checking account balance to date as \$8,453.86. He reviewed account activity which included several income and expense items. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

4.COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Conklin reported that the outcome of the April 27th game between the Owls and the Blue Jays was being appealed. It had been declared a tie. Discussion of the end of game circumstances ensued. A motion to change the result from a tie to a win for the Blue Jays was made, seconded, and passed with 6 votes for, zero against, and 2 abstentions (Andreoli and Gamzon).

Commissioner Conklin next brought up the situation where a team is short of players at the field and gets a 10th player. Discussion ensued to allow that 10th player to pitch. Motion to allow the 10th player to catch, play right field, or pitch was made, seconded, and passed with 5 votes for and 3 against.

Lastly there was a discussion of the teams and parity in the league.

5.ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER & HEAD OF UMPIRES

Jim Greeley reported that he will continue to schedule 2 umpires per game if at all possible.

6.INTERNAL COMPETITION

Bill Hettinger reported that he has registration forms for several new players. A motion to assign one of the new players, Bob Wojick, to the Cardinals was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

7.EXTERNAL COMPETITION

Rich Andreoli reported that he still needs managers for all the travel teams. Also, the Cape Cod Classic is September 9, 10, and 11th for the 60's and 65's teams and September 12, 13, and 14th for the 70's team.

8.SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Helen Orr reported that she checked out Georgina's Restaurant in Bolton as a possible site for the Holiday party scheduled for Sunday, December 11th. Discussion of Georgina's offerings ensued. A motion to use Georgina's Restaurant and its Elegant Buffet for the Holiday Party was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

9.PUBLIC RELATIONS

No report

10.OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Conklin reported that use of the pitcher's mask is gaining acceptance by most players in the league.

11. NEW BUSINESS

Bob Lathrop requested some roster help for the Ravens. Brief discussion ensued. A motion to assign Mike Tirrell to the Ravens was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Rich Andreoli reminded managers that at least one day's notice is needed if they want to postpone a game due to lack of players.

12. NEXT BOARD MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 13th, 2016, at 6:15 pm at Vernon Teen Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Gamzon

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 18, 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

These minutes were approved at the May 16, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting
Commissioner Kevin Conklin called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

Board members present: Rich Andreoli, Kevin Conklin, Tim Cromwell, Bill Gamzon, Bill Hettinger, Jim Greeley, Bob Lathrop, Dick Nabel, and Helen Orr

Board members absent: None

Players present: Paul Davies

1. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes from the last Board meeting on March 14th, 2016, were reviewed. (See attached) A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

2. PLAYER COMMENTS

Paul Davies deferred his comments. He commented as part of the discussion of agenda items in the Commissioner's Report (see below).

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Dick Nabel reported the checking account balance to date as \$9,389.26. Account activity included registration and sponsor fees and an insurance payment. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

4. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Conklin gave an update on protective masks for pitchers. He ordered 6 masks with which to begin. The object is to allow players to try them and give feedback. Ultimately more masks will be ordered so there will be one per team. Paul Davies expressed his concern about being comfortable wearing a mask. Brief discussion followed. Consensus was to stay the course requiring pitchers to wear a mask as voted on during the March 14th Board meeting.

Commissioner Conklin next brought up the fee that VSS pays to the town for use of its facilities. After a brief discussion, a motion was made to pay the Town of Vernon \$1200 this year. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Lastly, Commissioner Conklin had Bob Lathrop go over the placement of players, i.e., new players as well as those returning players who opted out of last year's team to move to another team. Bob pointed out that the overarching object of the process was to work toward league parity while getting all teams to 14 players. He went over the rationale behind each player assignment. Lengthy discussion ensued, during

which Paul Davies mentioned that help was needed on the Owls roster. A motion was made to accept the player assignments as presented and discussed. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

5.ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER & HEAD OF UMPIRES

Jim Greeley reported that he is working on organizing the umpires.

6.INTERNAL COMPETITION

Bill Hettinger reported that the league gained 15 new players. The league also had 15 players who did not return, thus the total number of players in VSS remains at 120.

7.EXTERNAL COMPETITION

Rich Andreoli said that he is trying to line up games for the travel teams in June, July, and beyond with teams in Ludlow and Willimantic for instance, but before those games can happen, he needs to find people willing and able to be managers.

8.SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Helen Orr remarked that she is looking at Georgina's Restaurant as a possible site for the Holiday party.

9.PUBLIC RELATIONS

Tim Cromwell commented that he is working on some more potential sponsors.

10.OLD BUSINESS

None

11.NEW BUSINESS

Bob Lathrop reviewed the situation when a team is at the field with 8 players and the process of getting them to 10 players. He pointed out that this and similar situations are covered in the VSS Rules of Play (see Section B – Forfeiture and Short Team Rules).

12.NEXT BOARD MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 16th, 2016, at 6:15 pm at Vernon Teen Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Gamzon

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 14, 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

These minutes were approved at the April 18, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting

Commissioner Kevin Conklin called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

Board members present: Rich Andreoli, Kevin Conklin, Tim Cromwell, Bill Hettinger, Jim Greeley, Dick Nabel, and Helen Orr

Board members absent: Bill Gamzon and Bob Lathrop

Players present: None

1.SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes from the last Board meeting that immediately followed the VSS Annual Meeting on November 15th, 2015, were reviewed. (See attached) A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

2.PLAYER COMMENTS

None

3.TREASURER'S REPORT

Dick Nabel reported the ending checking account balance was \$3,256.38. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

4.COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Conklin discussed looking into additional promotions. Bill Hettinger advised he will send revised flyer to local recreation departments. Tim Cromwell is looking to recruit the Vernon Diner as a sponsor trading the fee to have flyer on their place mats. Commissioner Conklin advised he would have flyer sent to insurance companies.

Commissioner Conklin is looking into securing 2 time slots a week for 6:15 with the Vernon town Park and Rec. Dept.

Commissioner Conklin discussed requiring pitchers to wear a protective mask. After discussion a motion to require pitchers to wear a mask was made and seconded. Motion was passed 5 for and 1 against.

Manager's meeting is scheduled for April 5th at 6:15.

Registration is set for March 31st and April 2nd.

Tryouts for new players are scheduled for April 6th, 7th and 9th weather permitting.

5.ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER & HEAD OF UMPIRES

Jim Greeley will reach out to last year's Assistant Commissioner, Keven Busque, for advice on scheduling umpires.

6.INTERNAL COMPETITION

No report

7.EXTERNAL COMPETITION

Rich Andreoli received tournament application from the CT Masters. Tournament is scheduled for June 11-14. Registration fee is \$425.00 per team. Deadline for application is April 20th. Decision was postponed until next meeting.

8.SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Helen Orr reported she received a bid to cater the picnic for \$600.00 to include hot dogs, hamburgers and soda/water. Our cost is approx. \$800.00 when we provide the food. One of our sponsors is Paul's pizza where we purchase the pizza for the picnic. We may not want to risk losing them by not buying the pizza for the picnic. No decision was made. Helen is going to look at Georgina's for possible site for the Holiday party.

9.PUBLIC RELATIONS

Tim Cromwell advised we received \$1,975 in sponsor fees to date.

10.OLD BUSINESS

None

11.NEW BUSINESS

None

12.NEXT BOARD MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 11th, 2016, at 6:15 pm at Vernon Teen Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Conklin - filling in for Bill Gamzon