

Minutes from the 11/25/19 VSS Board meeting. DRAFT

AS updated at  
11/27/2020  
meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m.

In attendance were Craig Tanner, Kevin Massey, ~~John Seyboth~~, Bill Hettinger, Kevin Conklin, Dick Nabel, Dave Hutchins, Mary Gracyalny, Keven Busque, Ronny Griffith.

It was noted that items requiring action to be taken will be discussed by the Board and acted upon at the next Board meeting.

This led to a discussion about setting up a 3 year lease payment with Vernon that would cost \$3500 plus \$257 for field usage annually. However, the rate would be locked in for 3 years.

Treasurer – Dick Nabel reported on resolving the problem with the missing checks.

External – Kevin Massey reported that 2019 was a successful season for VSS. He stated that VSS should sponsor another NE Classic as well as the Howie Tournament. He handed out a list of possible tournaments for 2020.

Public Relations – ~~John Seyboth~~ no report

External Competition – Kevin Massey distributed a list of tournaments for the 2019 season which included local and out of state events. Kevin Massey reported that 2019 was a successful season for VSS. He stated that VSS should sponsor another NE Classic as well as the Howie Tournament. He handed out a list of possible tournaments for 2020.

Previous Past Commissioner Kevin Conklin added that he would look for a June date and he would be handling the Yard Goats process moving forward.

Asst. Commissioner – Dave Hutchins stated no report. There was discussion about attending another YardGoats game. After discussion a motion was proposed to again offer the outing to the Yard Goats game to all VSS members. The motion passed unanimously.

The issue of “creating” a rules committee, per league bylaws, was already approved in a past meeting. This meeting simply approved the members of that committee, as noted below. Bill Hettinger had stated that we should have a written record of who those members are.

Dave Hutchins raised the issue of creating a formal rules committee. After a lengthy discussion it was approved that VSS will form a rules committee for the ~~2019~~<sup>2020</sup> season to be led by Dave Hutchins. The committee will be selected by the board and include members of the board as well as team representation. The first meeting is scheduled for Dec. 4, 2019.

Commissioner’s Report – Craig Tanner reported that only 27 people have signed up for the VSS Christmas party and the Lodge can hold up to 60 people so we need more VSS players to sign

up. Craig asked Dave Hutchins to send a reminder email to all the VSS members and families. The cost is \$25 per person as Maneleey's ~~offers us a reduced rate.~~ *AS the league subsidizes The Rest*

Craig also stated that he would be ordering additional game balls for the 2020 season. There was some discussion about the League storing the balls properly as we have several dozen left over from prior years.

Craig also recommends that the league buy additional bats (a minimum of 4 ) for the players. The league bats are very used up and will be donated to the league. All the VSS bats are in storage for the winter and will be inventoried this season.

Craig welcomed 2 new members of the Board – Keven Busque and Ronnie Griffith. Keven will be in charge of recruiting, training, scheduling, and supervising all the volunteer VSS umpires. Ronnie will be in charge of the Social Committee. Sponsorships are down as VSS lost 7 previous sponsors from prior years. His goals are to add at least 6 full sponsors in 2020 by revising our current sponsorship program and offering more choices to our sponsors. Additionally he wants to redo who's on the website and also remake the sponsor banner which has been used for a number of years. At a future meeting, Craig will bring all the current VSS bats we have so the Board can go through them to decide what to keep, sell, or throw away.

#### New Business – Rules Committee

Below is a partial list of candidates for the new Rules Committee. This list will be finalized in December. Pete Gardner., Joe Marcella, Pete Zocco, Kevin Conklin, Dave H., Jack Frascarelli, Mike Smith, John Massey, Fred Valenti.

Bill Hettinger – Reported that the registration material for current members will be mailed out on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Returning players must return their registration papers by ~~March 14,~~ *MARCH 22* 2020 to Bill. Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> he will also offer in person registration at the Community Center.

Other items to be discussed. VSS needs to do more with sponsors and sponsorships. VSS needs to go after bigger sponsors. Some sponsors are very small amounts. Dave Hutchins volunteered to do some research on using VSS shirts to advertise for our sponsors. Business cards could be printed and handed out by players.

The annual meeting should investigate a new site especially one that has ample parking such as the community center. VSS should do a survey of the players to find out more about what the players would like to have.

#### Old Business – Winter softball at the Dome in Tolland.

The VSS league will hold winter softball practice and games starting on 10/1/2019. Practice goes from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Management has requested that the field be left as it was found meaning VSS players need to push the goals back onto the field and pull the netting into position, pick up the bases , etc. Bill Hettinger has created a *updated*