

Minutes from the 1/27/2020 VSS Board meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m.

In attendance were Craig Tanner, Kevin Massey, Bill Hettinger, Dick Nabel, Dave Hutchins, Mary Gracyalny, and Ronny Griffith.

Approval of Minutes from Nov. 28th meeting. After making a few corrections to the minutes, Dave Hutchins moved, seconded by Dick Nabel, to accept the minutes as corrected. The motion passes unanimously.

Treasurer - Dick Nabel presented the Treasurer's report which this month includes the expenses for the Christmas Party, cost of emails, and cost of new softballs. Current bank balance is \$413.80.

Public Relations – No report

Internal Competition – Bill Hettinger reported that as of today, January 27, 2020 he has received 50 registrations and a total of \$2250 in payments. So far, no players have opted out. He suggested that we wait and see what happens with some of the players who are considering it.

External Competition – Kevin Massey distributed a list of tournaments for the 2019 season which included local and out of state events. He listed several items to be discussed by the Board under new business.

The first item discussed was the possibility of schedule rotation. Edson who previously handled the schedule and rotated it so that it wasn't the same teams playing the same opponents on the same day in year 2. Additionally there were suggestions about scheduling for 30 games not 28 and other possibilities.

Secondly, the Adhoc Rules committee has met 3 times and will meet a fourth time on 2/13/2020 to finalize its recommendations to be submitted to the Board at its meeting on March 2nd.

Thirdly, there will be a manager's meeting in March. They will have a chance to talk about the players and teams for the 2020 season. There has also been a shortage of umpires the past couple of years. Each team is required to have at least 2 players to umpire. Two teams currently have no umpires. Another issue raised was regarding the electronic scoreboards that are used at both fields (Henry Park and Community Field). One possibility is switching to flip scoreboards. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

There was discussion concerning game times. Currently there are two 5:00 p.m. teams. There is concern that some teams are playing only 5:00 p.m. games and could field a team for 3:30 but maybe a couple of players will be late to the game if they are still working.

Commissioner's Report – Craig expressed his thanks to the Board and the adhoc Rules Committee for their work done on reviewing and rewriting sections of the current VSS Rule Book. These changes will be discussed at the March 2nd VSS Board meeting. He brought up the issue of the Howie Tournament and the suggestion that it be scheduled on a different date this year. One suggestion was that it could be moved to September after the CapeCod Tournament.

There was also discussion about what to name the tournament and after hearing many good suggestions a motion was made by Bill, 2nd by Dave H. that the tournament should continue each season and that it will be officially named the Vernon Senior Softball Memorial Tournament. The motion passed unanimously. Craig said that he has a list of 40 members who passed away since the league was founded and is looking for ideas of how to acknowledge them.

Craig also said that he brought all the "league" bats to the field and this led to a discussion on legal vs illegal bats. Craig asked the Board to look at the individual bats and see if they could tell by the markings. There was discussion about which bats should come out of the bat bags. Dave H. offered to regrip some of the bats. This discussion will continue in the next Board meeting on March 2nd.

Next meeting date - March 2, 2020

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. The motion was passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary L. Gracyalny
VSS Secretary