



FINAL Minutes

VSS Board of Directors Meeting March 14, 2022

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM

Board Members Present –

League Commissioner – Kevin Conklin
Internal Competition – Bill Hettinger
External Competition – Ken Hartwright
Treasurer – Richard Nabel
Recording Secretary – Gail Gretzmacher
Public Relations – Brian Battles
Social Committee – Tim Poloski
Historian – Kevin Massey
Umpire Committee – Matt Kellie

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2022 meeting. Motion passed and Bill will post to the league website.

○ *Opening Comments*

- A card was sent from VSS league to a member who has cancer
- Commissioner connected with a local police officer to understand if there would be any interest by the police department in a charity softball games. There seemed to be interest and contact information for a lieutenant in the police department was given to the Commissioner. The police department currently does not have a formal team.

○ *Treasurer Update – Operating account is \$769.40*

- Purchases made:
 - 4 portable home plates - \$93.46
 - 4 new bats (2 regular & 2 Sr) - \$868
 - Insurance - \$1609.92
 - Labels for bats - \$12.71
- Next expense -72 hats ordered (\$720)
- VSS Paypal account transition to a non-profit still in progress.
- Recording secretary received a copy of the filed IRS form 990, an informational tax form that most tax-exempt organizations must file annually. This form gives the IRS an overview of our organization's activities, governance and detailed financial information.
- A motion was made and approved for a 36 month renewal of VSS web hosting with Godaddy for \$323.64 (plus tax) when the hosting expires in May 2022.

○ *Internal competition*

- Rules:
 - Courtesy runner leaving early - A motion was made and approved that the penalty for a Courtesy runner leaving the base BEFORE the ball is hit will be an OUT.
 - Clarification of the #1 substitute language (section B) – A motion was made and approved that “If a team has two or more #1 players present, the substitutes may not be #1 players.”
 - The placement of the courtesy runner plate was discussed and it was determined that the umpire will understand where the plate should be placed (as far back as safely possible) for the Courtesy runner's starting point.
- Registration – through March 12th, there are 63 registered players (last year at this time there were 58)
 - Bill will send managers a list of players for their team who have not registered by the end of the week.
 - Reminders – April 16 – in-person registration ; April 18,19 –new member tryouts 4-6pm (Wed used for any rainout)

- Equipment update –
 - A motion was made and approved to purchase 1 bat holder (can hold 10 bats) for a maximum of \$25 . The purpose would be to attach to the bench area fence and provide a raised, organized holder for our collection of league bats .
 - Bill purchased stickers and printed for all used VSS bats (Green-regular; Orange -senior)
- Field – There was initial brush trimming back along the 3rd base line. The Commissioner is asking for 8-10' trim back to better prevent lost foul balls.
- *Social Committee-Tim*
 - Facebook page to be changed to a group post so that players and player relatives/friends can post appropriately. Tim investigating best means to do this.
 - At a later date, there will be an assessment of member interest in a fall picnic for the league.
 - Tim noted that it might be useful to offer a pre-season conditioning session(s) for those league members who might be interested. This was received well by the board and Tim will continue to explore its viability.
- *External Competition – Kenny*
 - Contact will be made with the local police lieutenant to further explore the opportunity for the department to host a team (possibly with other first responder groups like Fire Dept) and play in a charity game against VSS team. Proceeds were discussed with interest in donating to a local social cause or possible scholarship. Only funding from this game would be the extent of the donation.
 - Once registration is finalized, Kenny can solicit for any tournament opportunities this season.
- *Umpire Update- Matt*
 - Matt has crafted an email that will be sent to league members soliciting for interest in umpiring this season. He is awaiting the registration email information in order to send out.
- *Public Relations – Brian*
 - Brian is seeking any new leads for possible sponsors from the Board and membership
 - Brian and Kevin Massey developed a list of promotion and sponsorship ideas that was sent out via email earlier to the Board. Commissioner asked for list to be prioritized and to focus on a top few.
 - Posting permanent advertising banners along the fence will be explored; depending if the town allows it, and how many sponsors are interested, there may be multiple banners...perhaps vinyl or wooden signs (to be determined)
 - Pricing and details will be gathered for printing sponsor "thank you" cards and business cards to be handed out by members to prospective sponsors
 - Brian will be preparing and sending out solicitation letters to previous season sponsors, and contacting new prospects. All league members are urged to send me contact information for any prospective sponsors you may know of, and please provide the name of the actual decision maker (business owner, manager, etc)
- *Historian update – Kevin M.*
 - Binder completed for 2016
 - Kevin seeking 2013-2018 schedules for needed content

New Business: Covid policy for 2022 season (deferred)

*Next meeting: April 21, 2022 6pm (managers will be invited so they can participate in team assignments)
A motion was made to adjourn the meeting which was seconded at 7:52 PM.*

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Gretzmacher, Recording Secretary
3/14/2022