



FINAL Minutes

VSS Annual Membership Meeting October 24, 2022

Meeting called to order at 6:04 PM

Board Members Present –

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

- Proof of Quorum was achieved with 39 members present. Attendance sheet recorded names.
(attendance sheet attached below)
- Opening Remarks by Commissioner – Kevin C
 - Overall, the season went well – there was parity in the league with 5 out of 8 teams within 2 ½ games of each other
 - Congratulations were given to the Blue Jays for beating the Eagles 17-15 in the playoffs
 - Regular season – each team played 27 or 28 games out of the scheduled 30
 - Thank you expressed to the two outgoing Board members – Ken Hartwright (External competition work) & Kevin Massey (Historian and work on one-pitch tournament)
 - Fall Ball- received with positive feedback
 - 5 teams as 70 people signed up, including some new players to the league
 - Format of double-header once a week worked well; games were competitive
 - A draft format was used to create the teams
 - Each game saw 7 innings of play consistently and completed by 6pm
 - Some new rules were tested: pitching screen, no runner from home
 - Rules to be evaluated for season play by the Board
 - Holiday Party – there is membership interest in a holiday party this year. Several dates were noted as possibilities – Dec 3,10,17. A preliminary venue explored is Lena's in South Windsor with good food at reasonable prices. A member asked for a survey to be sent out to the membership on best date.
- Motion was made and seconded to approved the minutes from the October 25, 2021 annual league meeting. Motion passed.
- Treasurer update- Dick (report attached below)
 - The Year-end Treasurer's report for fiscal year 10/1/2021 – 9/30/2022 was distributed
 - Report showed FY 2021 and Dick shared some notes:
 - Sponsorships were down this season
 - Registration monies cover the core expenses to run the league; sponsorships aid with extras (new bats , balls, hats, social activities)
 - 6 new bats purchase this season for \$1302
 - Vernon Parks and Rec fee increased
 - Checking Account ending balance - \$3123
 - Next major expense will be insurance in March 2023; insurance covers any injury during league play

- *Picnic – Wicked Slice pizza donated pizza for the league picnic*
- *Audit Committee Report – Joe Handleman (report attached below)*
 - *Representatives were Joe Handleman (committee chair), Joe Marsala, Mike Lowell & Kevin Conklin*
 - *Process included an examination of the books and records on October 23, 2022 for activity during 10/1/2021 – 9/30/2022*
 - *Findings noted that books and records presented fairly the activity of the VSS league for the fiscal year October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.*
- *External Competition report - Ken*
 - *VSS-sponsored tournament:*
 - *With partnership from Kevin Massey, the second one-pitch tournament was held on Saturday August 27 at Community field*
 - *4 teams participated with Talaga winning the tournament*
 - *Appreciation was expressed to:*
 - *Ed Donofrio – lawn tractor usage on the field*
 - *Dave Hutchins – tribute to Paul Frenette*
 - *Kari Martin– score-keeping*
 - *Tim Cromwell – amplifier for the national anthem*
 - *Matt Kellie & Kevin Conklin - umpires*
 - *A 70s team was sent to the Cape Tournament but tournament was poorly run. Rain forced cancellations and our VSS team only got to play one game on the last day. As a result this year's paid tournament fee will now be applied to next year's entry fee.*
- *Umpire's Report- Matt*
 - *Thanks were given to those who umpired this season*
 - *Early Spring meeting held with umpires to prepare for season*
 - *An umpire contact list was setup so that umpires could work directly with others when substitute coverage needed*
 - *During playoffs, umpires with more experience were assigned*
 - *Keven Busque was thanked for his help to transition role to Matt*
 - *Fall Ball – no umpires were assigned but people just volunteered*
 - *Henry Park – while these games were to be self-umpired, often volunteers pitched in to umpire*
- *Internal Competition – Bill*
 - *7 really competitive teams this season*
 - *20 new players registered; it was noted that the Board did a pretty good job allocating to teams with little time to assess skills*
 - *16 players used Paypal for registration*
 - *There were 125 active members*
 - *\$7700 collected with registrations*
- *Social Activities- Tim*
 - *Fall picnic was well-attended by ~70 guests*
 - *Compliments were received on the new venue of South Windsor (thanks to Mike Smith for securing the venue)*
 - *As noted earlier, Wicked Slice pizza, one of our sponsors, donated the pizza.*
 - *Both Instagram and Facebook were setup for additional communication*
 - *Game results and league standing posted weekly during regular season*
 - *Playoff game results posted daily*
- *Public Relations- Brian*
 - *Letters sent to our previous sponsors in April with 11 sponsors this season*
 - *Some potential new sponsors for next season are a Subaru dealer and Rein's Deli*
 - *Business cards were produced and available in the field shed to be used when visiting a sponsor*



- *It was noted that all league members share in helping to secure sponsors, especially from places a member frequents*
- *The Commissioner noted that he plans to speak with Vernon Parks & Rec about considering the use of 4x8' signs posted in the outfield for our sponsors*
- *Framed "Certificates of appreciation" were produced and handed out personally to this year's sponsors*
- *Historical Record of VSS – Kevin M*
 - *30th year of VSS play*
 - *Status of binders*
 - *18/30 years are complete*
 - *2021 & 2022 seasons are very complete*
 - *League demographics:*

League Avg.	8398	68.25	
Ages	# of Players		
55-59	15		
60-69	61		
70-79	40		
80+	9		
Total	125	**Includes 2 Honorary Dave Coppolletti Dave Hutchins	(6 Females)

- *Facebook page contains pictures and videos*
- *Mike Benjamin captured team/tournament photos*
- *Recent retirees recognized at One-Pitch Tournament*
 - Rich Gessert – 11 years*
 - Joan Youngs – 26 years*
 - Don Graves – 30 years (played in every year of the league)*
- *Update on Don Graves – has good and bad days; Kevin Massey to send out Don's address as he would love to receive cards from league members*
- *Continued documentation and photos from league members*
- *Thanks to the board for the past 4 years*
- *Will continue to support the league with this activity & continues to seek new ideas and, any document/pictures anyone wants to contribute to this endeavor*

New Business/Discussion

- *Election of Board Members*
 - *Board members whose term is ending: Kevin Conklin, Gail Gretzmacher, Kenny Hartwright, Kevin Massey*
 - *Kevin C and Gail expressed interest to continue on the board and the others welcome new blood to take their spots*
 - *The following were nominated, voted and approved to be on the 2022 Board:*
 - *Kevin Conklin (re-elected)*
 - *Gail Gretzmacher (re-elected)*
 - *John Murphy*
 - *Jack Frascarelli*
 - *John Hardy*
- *By-law changes:*

- Gail proposed the reduction from 30% to 25% for a quorum for any league membership meeting as attendance is challenging for these meetings. She expressed that 25% still allows sufficient representation for these meetings and conforms with other boards upon which she served. Membership seemed to support this idea and so a formal agenda item on next year's annual meeting will propose this change to the by-laws for a formal vote.
- Rule Changes:
 - It was noted that the Board Internal competition Chair will hold a Rules committee meeting to discuss potential rule changes for the 2023 season.
 - Volunteers for this committee:
 - Matt Kellie, Fred Valenti, Rich Krajewski, Mike Calabro, Tom Krajewski, Mike Bard, Gail Gretzmacher, Keven Busque, John Hardy
- Member comments:
 - Kari expressed need for personal bats to be evaluated for meeting our league requirements
 - A member wanted to better understand the role that Kari plays in the league. Bill responded that Kari, due to age, cannot be an active league member but is welcome and appreciated to serve as a team manager. The membership gave a round of applause for the contributions Kari makes to VSS.
- Closing remarks –
 - Gail noted the invaluable and significant contributions Kevin Conklin , VSS Commissioner, made this past season:
 - Working with Park and Recs to effect improvements at the field, installing a bar to better evaluate pitching arc
 - Pursuing new players to assure the Owl team did not fold
 - Managing the schedule to assure even number of games played
 - Implementing a Fall Ball league which was well-received
 Kevin received a rousing applause from the membership.
- The winner of the 4 raffle gift cards from Shea's and Wicked Slice Pizza:
 - Bill Hettinger, Kevin Massey, Greg Mirabelli, Mike Smith-

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting which was seconded at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Gail Gretzmacher, Recording Secretary
 10/24/2022

Addendum: attendance sheet:

Name	Initials/Status
Dick Nabel	
Fred Valenti	
Rich Krajewski	
Mike Calabro	
Tom Krajewski	
Mike Bard	
Gail Gretzmacher	
Keven Busque	
John Hardy	
Kari	
Bill	
Kevin Conklin	
Kevin Massey	
Greg Mirabelli	
Mike Smith	
...	...

Audit Committee Report:

Vernon Seniors Softball
 Audit Committee Report
 September 30th, 2022

On October 23, 2022 the Audit Committee of the Vernon Seniors Softball League (VSS) performed an examination of the books and records of the treasurer Dick Nabel for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022. The Audit Committee included Mike Lowell, Commissioner Kevin Conklin and Joe Handelman, the Audit Committee Chairperson.

The Audit Committee examined the receipts and disbursements for the above mentioned period and tied the amounts to external information such as the number of dues paying members, the number of sponsors and various invoices, as well as to the checking account statements.

In our opinion, the books and records referred to above present fairly the activity of the Vernon Seniors Softball League for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
 Joseph A. Handelman
 Joseph A. Handelman
 Audit Committee Chairperson
 October 25, 2022

Treasurer Report:

VERNON SENIOR SOFTBALL		
YEAR END TREASURER'S REPORT		
FISCAL YEAR 10/1/2021 - 9/30/2022		
	FY 2022	FY 2021
Beginning Checking Account Balance	\$4,093.02	\$5,607.43
INCOME		
Sponsorships	\$2,025.00	\$1,975.00
Registration Dues	\$7,657.97	\$3,660.00
Returns, Refunds, Donations	\$380.01	\$770.00
Vernon Senior Shirt Sales	\$140.00	
Tournament Registrations (Veterans)	\$750.00	\$250.00
Total Income	\$10,952.98	\$6,655.00
Total	\$15,046.00	\$12,262.43
EXPENSES		
Internal Competition		
Vernon Parks and Rec Fee	\$4,321.00	\$3,547.00
Hats and Shirts	\$1,541.00	\$698.00
Bats	\$1,302.00	
Balls	\$638.00	
Scorebooks	\$95.00	\$111.61
Internet/Software	\$326.88	\$20.21
Bank Fees	\$33.00	\$36.00
Refunds	\$50.00	\$240.00
Masks	\$164.99	
Photo for archives	\$15.96	\$16.37
Ice Packs		\$12.80
Mailing		\$18.95
Secretary of State		
Rich Andreoli gift	\$112.00	\$67.00
Miscellaneous (New checks/flag/Stickers/Grips/Tape/Keys)	\$113.67	\$35.00
Portable bases	\$93.46	
USAA Registration		
Internal Total	\$8,806.96	\$4,802.94
External Competition		
Tournament Fees & Expenses	\$800.00	\$600.00
External Total	\$800.00	\$600.00
Insurance	\$1,609.92	\$1,624.76
Social		
Annual Picnic	\$494.40	\$1,044.52
Holiday Banquet		
Social Total	\$494.40	\$1,044.52
Public Relations		
Banner		
Certificates For Sponsors	\$154.15	\$97.19
Awards	\$57.40	
Public Relations Total	\$211.55	\$97.19
Expense Total	\$11,922.83	\$8,169.41
Ending Checking Account Balance	\$3,123.17	\$4,093.02