

## MYBA Monthly Meeting April 9, 2013

February monthly meeting called to order by Mike Blumenfeld, Travel Director at 6:40 p.m. at McRae Park and Recreation Center.

Present at the meeting are Alicia Skow, Scott Beazley, Elise Fine, Christine Jackson, Guy Cierzan, Kristie Woelfel, Bryan Barnes, Bill Garrison and Mike Blumenfeld (via phone). Sean Laird joined us.

Not present at the meeting are Brent Gregerson, Scott Zosel and Lori Mittag.

Motion made by Mike Blumenfeld to accept the minutes of March 5, 2012 monthly meeting. Barnes seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### Memorial for Art Harlow:

Members discussed the following tributes for Art. The desire is to create something simple honoring his love of baseball and dedication to the organization, realizing that not all members/teams knew Art:

- Arm bands or patches added to the uniforms – would take 3-4 weeks to get the patches. Change to a sticker for the batting helmets. Barnes will work on the graphic incorporating the “miller’s man” and Art’s favorite number - #5.
- T-shirts – create an opening day t-shirt similar to a 1951 Opening day flyer for the Mpls Millers with a tribute to Art. Barnes will work on the graphic.
- Picnic bench at Bob Casey Field. Could work with Park Board members to get approvals.
- Wiffle Ball Tournament – Art loved playing wiffle ball. Could make this a fundraiser for the family. Could make arrangements at the Annuciation and schedule in August/Fall.
- Garage Sale – perhaps a portion of the proceeds could go to the family.

### Treasurer Update:

Garrison update:

--Balance in Operations as of April 9, 2013 is \$48,496.

--Balance in Travel Director’s as of April 9, 2013 is \$5,000.

--Balance in Cooperstown as of F April 9, 2013 is – \$47.

Uniforms paid \$10,000 and have a balance of \$14,000-15,000 to pay. Baseballs, catcher’s gear and bags have been paid. Pitching machines and L-screens have been purchased (\$8,589). The Grant will reimburse \$7,900 for this equipment. Upcoming expenses – umpires and fields.

Mark Anderson will file the 990 this spring. Garrison has asked him to change the address from Judy’s to Mike’s. Anderson needs to turn over previous MYBA files to Garrison.

## **Travel Director Update:**

### --MPRB Fields Update:

Skow has received fields from MPRB. Skow and Beazley divided fields between teams and team calendars will be completed for the Scheduling meeting April 13<sup>th</sup>.

### --MYBA Coaches Meeting:

Travel Directors and Blumenfeld met with 2013 Coaches on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

### --MYBA Tournament Update:

Tournament posted on MYBA Website.

## **Registrar Update:**

Working with Garrison on refunds to 10 White (mini mites) team families.

## **Asset Management Update:**

### --MYBA Equipment Update:

Seven equipment bags have been picked up so far. New gear bags have not arrived. Each team has one new set of catcher's equipment. Total of 17 (or 18) were purchased. Waiting for DDL balls (for up to age 12U) to arrive.

### --MYBA Uniform Update:

Uniforms should be in the week before the first games. Then names and patches are added. Coach shirts are here. Some families have not paid for their extras and will not get their uniforms until accounts are settled.

### --MYBA Grants Update:

3 pitching machines and 15 L-screens are being stored in the equipment locker. Some coaches are not wanting to use L-screens.

### --First Aid Kits Update:

Are in and will be included in gear bags.

## **Risk Management Update:**

### --Insurance Update:

Total of 15 teams, plus the 10 white development team. Cierzan will update the insurance accordingly.

### --BCA/Concussion Certificates Update:

Cierzan has received many BCA forms and Concussion Certificate via email and mail. Some coaches are concerned about giving out this information and the security. Cierzan will assemble a pdf of certificates for each team and for the Travel Directors.

## **Coach Coordinator Update:**

11A coach is Todd Wendlandt with some assistance from Brent Greggerson.

13AA Orange – Hansen is moving to California. Cierzan will be the new head coach.

## **Opening Day Update:**

Purpose for this event – to get players in one place for pictures; help with the field crunch; a fun way to kick off the season. Can schedule the photographer around the games. Options for a rainy day – Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

The 10 White team can participate with the team photographs and schedule a game.

Will there be an opening ceremony?

PA system – Connection behind the backstops for a microphone. Would also need to bring speakers – one system per field? Will announce the players and possibly play the National Anthem before games; also announce the players as they come up to bat. (Will need volunteers at each field)

Food Options: Convenience (vendor)/Cost for Food (we do it)?

Cost for Food – purchase at Costco (hot dogs, chips, water) – roughly \$1.00/person.

Convenience – Neiman Vendor would be there to provide full concessions. He could offer a meal (hamburger/brat or hot dog, with chips and drink) for \$3.00.

Board does not feel that we need to cover food for this event. Have the Concessions Vendor come in and sell his products. Hopefully he will cut us some deals since we will be providing many people in this event for him. There was further discussions regarding requesting a kick back or discount from this vendor, but the final resolution was not to ask for a kick back, but request deals.

Game ideas? Radar gun with pop ups, sausage races (sim to Brewers), forehead on bat/twirl around bat then run the bases, a home run derby with wiffle balls (commemorating Art)...looking for ideas.

## **Marketing Update:**

--From Dick's Sporting Goods update:

(16) \$50 vouchers have been given to us. These vouchers should go to our families with financial assistance/scholarships and need to be used by the end of April. Fine will send an email to these families.

(30) \$20 Vouchers were given to us for our coaches. Skow will hand out at Scheduling Meeting.

## **Fundraising Update:**

--From Fundraising Committee update:

One person attended the meeting to help with fundraising. 2-3 other people are interested in helping. Set up a table on Opening Day to recruit families to help with Fundraising.

--From Garage Sale update:

Possible date is Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Coach Olive is looking for an open lot/building that we could use in a prime location.

## **10 White Team Update:**

Practices at YWCA and Phelps park. They are looking for help with batting instruction. 5 dads have stepped up to help Zosel. 1 person will help manage. They are scheduled for 1 tournament.

Need to register with Park. Mike has the paperwork set. Would they split into 2 teams? Could practice together then split for games.

Looking for hitting help – Alan Arthur has volunteered at Pearl in the past...could reach out to him.

## **New Waiver/Age Requirement Language Update:**

New language was presented by Garrison (see attached). It was agreed to delete item 'V' from the document, since it would be difficult to execute.

Discussions ranged from:

Yes, kids were cut at all levels, except 12U this year and some were former MYBA players.

Debate on whether there is ever a good reason to grant exceptions or whether it is acceptable to for highly skilled players to move up a level if requested. This language would further define that a "talented" player would only move up.

Blumenfeld motioned to table the discussion, Cierzan seconded. It will be tabled until the next meeting so all members may vote on this.

## **New Business:**

There is a 12AA team that found a sponsor to purchase their warm-up jackets – is this acceptable?

Sponsor are allowed within the criteria outlined in the MYBA Bylaws, Article IX, section 10.

Fall Tryouts – Skow raised the question as to whether we wanted to conduct Tryouts in the Fall? Could conduct in August? Will discuss further in May.

Bryan motioned to adjourned at 8:59, Garrison seconded. Passed.

**Next meeting – Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall Tap, 6:30 pm.**