**Hershey Little League**

**Board of Directors**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date: December 15, 2013**

**Meeting Location: MHS Elementary School**

**Members Present:** George Blackall, Chris DeFlitch, Doug Hummer, Myron McCurdy, Pat Meister, Josh Orris, Jeff Schmidt, Terry Singer

**Members Absent:** Dana Best, Chris Painter, Vince Pasquini, Mark Snyder, Stan Sullivan, Dave Umberger, Matt Wildasin

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Myron McCurdy at 6:33 PM.

**Approval of Minutes**: Motion to approve the minutes from November 10, 2013, by Terry Singer. No discussion. Second by Pat Meister. Unanimous approval.

**President’s Report**: Myron McCurdy:

Motion to reinstate Chris DeFlitch and Vince Pasquini in accordance with requirements of the HLL Constitution due to missing three consecutive meetings. Motion by Myron McCurdy. Second Josh Orris, no discussion. Unanimous approval.

We are still in need a Minors commissioner. Please search outside of the HLL for a commissioner for Minors. This needs to be resolved soon.

Myron Spoke to Harry Strawser about leading the Sumner Slam in 2014. Harry’s interest is waning due to lack of full support last year. We need someone to lead Summer Slam and also potentially an 11U tournament. Pat Meister is willing to be a co-commissioner with Harry. Pat will talk to Harry in the coming weeks. Doug Hummer offered to help out in some capacity as well.

Myron will be contacting Jay about the concessions contract. He hopes to have concessions at Koons and Gelder this year. Myron will follow-up over the coming weeks as Jay is settling into his new responsibilities on the DTSD School Board.

Myron reported that he and Chris DeFlitch had a good meeting with DTSD. He feels like we have built a solid collaborative relationship with them.

Field leases are in and done. Founders Field was added this year. This will open up options in the event that some additional playing opportunities for high school aged players come to fruition. Chris DeFlitch spoke about opening up a spring baseball program for kids who don’t play HS baseball. This idea comes from lacrosse to help kids who did not make the HS team. This is early in the thought process. More to follow.

Registration for the 2014 season should be up and running in the coming weeks.

Do we want to run a registration add in the Sun? The cost is around $200. Josh suggested having a hyperlink from the on-line form of the Sun. Myron will follow-up with the Sun.

Coaching Survey: Myron has some concerns about doing individual coaching surveys this year. Perhaps we should start with broader League questions. Should we consider starting with League level questions and see what type of response we get? Chris Deflitch suggested a pre-season and post season survey. Terry Singer suggested doing a more general survey now and see what response rate and results we obtain. Terry said that HYBA did this a few years ago- he will send Myron HYBA’s survey for a starting point.

 Exhibit reviews: Myron felt that reviewing exhibits during HLL Board meetings was not the best way to spend that time. He also felt that reviewing the exhibits is an important activity. He proposed that we each review the assigned exhibits of a particular month and email comments/suggestions/changes to him. Myron will then incorporate the changes, send them to the Board, then at the following month’s meeting we will vote to approve or disapprove the proposed changes. There was general agreement that we should follow this process.

Mike Miller proposed a Challenger Division in HLL. Mike has agreed to be the Commissioner for the Challenger Division. HLL will host this league. The only exception they are requesting is that they have one “Challenger Day” per season. Myron agreed to this. There was strong Board support for the creation of this league. This will require schedule adjustments.

Stan Sullivan will be Opening Day Chair. Thank you Stan

**Vice President’s Report**: Chris DeFlitch:

Chris reported that another Baseball Operations (BBO) meeting will be coming up soon.

Chris echoed Myron’s report on having a good meeting with DTSD. He feels that we have better delineation of responsibilities.

There was a meeting of the Hershey Youth Sports Council a few weeks ago- there was generally good discussion- the future of this endeavor is a uncertain as the role and function of the group is unclear and likely will evolve during future meetings.

**Treasurer’s Report**: Pat Meister presented financial statements from 12/3/13 (attached).

**Secretary’s Report**: George Blackall- nothing to report.

**Old Business:**

Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA): Terry Singer followed up with Jason Pratt- see attached three year proposal. The layout of the workshops in the proposal can be adjusted based on our evolving needs. Terry wanted to create coaching mentor relationships- Jason said that that was possible. Also, Terry said they have tools for coach assessment. Terry felt the pricing was reasonable. This will be put on the BBO meeting agenda for discussion and recommendation. There was discussion about if this was adopted, how to roll it out. There was also discussion about how the skills learned are generalizable to all youth sports. Terry’s recommendation is if we are going to do this, we should start and not wait. Chris mentioned that we need to think through a transition plan.

Sponsorship: Jeff Schmidt. Please proceed with soliciting sponsors. Jeff sent an email to all HLL Board Members with a spreadsheet listing Board members’ contacts and the new Sponsorship Form. Any questions, please contact Jeff directly.

Myron is talking to the President of HYFA about the concession trailer. He is working with them and moving toward resolution.

We have multi-year contracts with concessions and photography. Myron proposed that we have a multi-year contract for uniforms as well. Chris DeFlitch suggested that we stagger these contracts so they don’t all renew in the same year.

Mark Snyder has agreed to be uniform chair. Thank you Mark.

Chris DeFlitch raised the question about our philosophy of all-stars. Should it be: field the best team possible or should it be a reward for the best players of the season? The discussion revolved around all-stars and the need to not water down the teams or process. Myron raised the issue of how our objectives align with our values. There was extensive discussion about the importance of first answering the key question about the guiding philosophy of all-stars before we begin to make any changes to the process. The work group on all-stars is to report to the HLL Board by 2/1/14.

Motion to adjourn by Chris DeFlitch. Second by Jeff Schmidt. No discussion. Unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM

**Next Meeting**: Our next meeting will be on January 12, 2014, at 6:30 PM at the MHS Elementary School.

Minutes submitted by George F. Blackall, Secretary, Hershey Little League.

Date: 12/16/13