

## **St. Anthony sports Boosters Softball Association (SABSA) Minutes**

**2015, May 17**

**St. Anthony Village Pub – 7:30 PM**

### Call to Order:

President Al Bates called the meeting to order at 7:42 pm.

### Attendees:

Al Bates, Rossi Cannon, Dirk DeWester, Jerry Welch, Kirsten Stendahl, Jim Zusan (arrived late).

### Meeting Ending Goal:

Al shared a goal of ending the meeting around 9:00 pm.

### Approval of the Prior Meetings' Minutes:

Jerry moved, Dirk seconded, to approve the minutes from last regular meeting (4/12/15).

Motion passed.

### Budget Update:

Al reported the bank balance at April end was \$13,104.49, but it is not a meaningful number, as many bills are not in yet.

Al reported the 2015 Budget is in Rough Draft form. With many changes this year, it will be more useful once the Forecast columns are filled in, but the Rough Draft will be sent out – it shows us “losing” a couple hundred dollars more than we “made” last year.

### Coordinators Updates:

- Uniforms – Al – Have been delivered, except for a few late orders still coming. Jerry received a donation of Alice G's jersey (withdrew from team) as well as helmet, bag, bat, pants. Al received a donation of Amelia N's jersey. Our thanks! Al will pursue donation receipts for these folks.
- Equipment – Al – all equipment on hand has been handed out. Rossi's team needs to return a set of catching gear. We will be collecting all equipment for inventorying at the end of the Summer season, regardless of whether Coaches will be coaching a HDC fall team.
- Online Store – Al - w Tahoe Sports has closed. Volume appeared good. No report from Tahoe yet.
- Yard Signs – Al – are in storage in the Community Center's Booster Sports Storage area. Contemplated language changes (“Girls” replacing “Youth” and “St. Anthony” being spelled out) will wait until we need to reorder signs.
- Field Scheduling - Rick – unable to attend but sent an update: All field schedules are done and up on the calendar for all fields through June; July will go up when it gets closer and we get some playoff info.

- Umpires - Dirk has an agreement with (Fastpitch) Umpire Scheduler Tim Klein on paying Tim ahead of time (from Dirk's checkbook) and Tim will fill in names of Umpires. Dirk will submit a request for funding about halfway through the season, to limit exposure to SABSA. Dirk has 5 potential 8U Umps; had a training scheduled, but had to cancel and reschedule. 8U Umps will be asked to give explanations as well as call the games. We want these Umps to work the Jamboree, too. For next year, Preseason Games/Scrimmages make good Umpire training sessions, too.
- Facebook – Danielle – no report.
- 8U Tournament – Rossi – Looking to see if we can get the Concessions Stand. We are going to need a lot of volunteers! Al will send out an email to all teams about the Jamboree ... including the \$50/team cost (SABSA covers the STA 8U teams).
- First Aid Kits – Al – have been restocked or replaced. Much leftover restocking supplies for next year, as we had to buy a lot of new kits.
- Villagefest Parade – Danielle – no report.

#### Player & Coach Development Update (Al):

- Coaches Preseason Mtg – We will schedule for May 31 in the Community Center (if we can get the room).
- Requirements for Coaches:
  - Background Check (Sports Boosters)
  - Background Check (Suburban League) ... yes, again!
  - ACE Certification (Suburban League)
  - Concussion Training (within last 3 years)

How are we doing? Will be contacting Coaches again soon for follow-up for those we have not heard from.
- Pitching Clinics for 10Us and 8Us – Wednesday Nights, drew 15 participants, paying their own way. Consensus was not to rebate, as that possibility materialized late. Al will follow-up with Megan, and others, for potential Friday nights clinics in STA, on a field.

#### President's Update (Al):

- Suburban League Coach/Scheduling Meetings were held at the Hopkins VFW on Monday, April 6 for 10U and 12U Coaches – attended by Al & 10U, 12U coaches. The 14U & 18U meetings are next Monday, same venue and times.
- Reminder: SABSA night at SAVHS Varsity in Central Park is scheduled for April 30. Al will contact Baseball's Concessions Coordinator Paul Peterson to set up the traditional popcorn giveaway.

### Coaches Reports:

- Intro/6U: Al - 13 participants; getting good parent help. Going well.
- 8U: Rossi – going well; preseason’s over; 1-2 weeks of preseason works well; also would be good for Umpire training. Learning a lot; use of the Pitching Machine and 3 strikes and then T hitting is working very well.
- 10U: Kirsten – Tim’s team played a tournament with help from 2 from Kirsten’s team. Kirsten’s team scrimmaged Mounds View today.
- 12U: Jerry – down to 9, maybe 10 players. Other 10U team has 10. Jerry’s team is challenged for infielders.
- 14U: Jim – has been rained out of a lot of practices, but school ball seasons are wrapping up now, so practices should pick up. Lost a player but picked one up from Columbia Heights, so roster stands at 11.

### President’s Update:

- SABSA night at SAVHS Varsity game in Central Park, April 30 was a big success, with over 70 SABSA players in attendance, plus Coaches. Thanks to all, and a BIG Thanks! to the Huskies Diamond Club for presenting us with a check for \$2,000! Suggestions for future consideration included this not being on a double-header night if possible. Also, having the SABSA Players & coaches wait in the Outfield was a good idea. HDC Giveaways were wonderful, including popcorn, cookies, and gift cert. from DQ! Thanks, again, HDC!
- Al presented a SABSA Protocol Document regarding Players missing Evaluations. Discussion ensued, and this was tabled to a future meeting.
- Al presented a President’s Philosophy Document, which was discussed. Sort of a “state of the union” type thing, Al proposed distributing it to the Association. Kirsten suggested it needed to go to the Coaches; Al will email it. Rossi moved, Dirk seconded to have it emailed to the members of the Association and post it on the website. Motion carried.

### 8U Season Development:

- Al – 2 week preseason just ended; season begins May 20.

### Fundraising:

- Basketball Tournament – Al – we have paid the HDC for the December & January funds raised by “softball” volunteers from the HDC.
- Jersey Mike’s – Al: Jamie Larson working with Jersey Mike’s – no other update.
- DQ – Danielle – no report.
- Spirit Wear – Al – arrived, and has been almost completely distributed. Danielle has the few remaining items yet to go.

#### Pitching Assistance:

Pitching assistance should continue for 10Us & 8Us. Try to get something going for Friday evenings; Jim Z. may be able to help.

#### Goodwill gesture to the City/Groundskeepers: Rick – not present, but sent a report:

- City Groundskeepers has their appreciation lunch at Jersey Mike's and were very thankful to the softball board.

#### Potential joint gathering with the HDC:

Consensus was that a joint gathering with the HDC would be best timed after their upcoming elections, and a new HDC Board is in place. We need to get this going to help with Fall Softball.

#### 8U in-season tournament:

Danielle expressed interest in an in-season tournament for the 8Us. As this is unbudgeted, Al suggested that a "pay-to-play" tournament, of interested Players from across the teams, might be the way to approach this. The 12Us did something similar a few years ago, and it worked pretty well. Consensus was to have the Coaches poll the players and get back to us; we can help with the language of a polling of interest, should this come about.

#### Hamann request for a refund:

- Mike Hamann had approached us with a request for a refund for his daughter Sophia, who has not participated with the 12U team she was placed on; she's not going to play this Summer. Discussion ensued. Al pointed out that Mike was a 'founding member' of the HDC, and has supported St. Anthony Softball for quite a while. Ensuing discussion was regarding the timing of the refund request. Dirk moved, Rossi seconded, not to refund, since the request came well after Evaluations had begun, and the policy is posted. Motion passed.

#### Encouraging younger girls to watch older ones play:

- It was suggested that the younger girls should be encouraged to watch the older ones play (home games). Al will follow-up with emails.

#### Next meeting:

The next meeting will be Sunday, June 14 at 7:30 at the Village Pub.

#### Meeting adjourned:

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 pm. Thanks to all for their time!

Respectfully submitted, Al Bates, President