

NHAA Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 6:30 p.m.

Location: Northfield Public Library

Meeting Call to order: 6:31 p.m.

Board Attendance/Roll Call:

Present in Person:

Jim Filisky, President
Kevin Bilkie, Vice President (7:00)
Chase Senk, VP of Equipment
Mike Graham, VP of Fields
Dave Hermann, IT and Communications
Scott Lanzilotta, Treasurer
Cathy Loya, Secretary
Matt Bewley, Board Member
Nicole Gvora, Board Member
Brian James, Board Member
Brenda Kovi, Board Member
Nick Lanese, Board Member
Melinda Malyuk, Board Member (~6:45)
Bobby Reville, Board Member

Present via Telephone:

Kyle Deininger, Board Member
Julie Moran, Board Member (6:45)
Kenny Sanger, Board Member
Marc Sprang, Board Member (7:42)

Absent:

Andy Papile, Travel Coordinator

Minutes in Agenda Format:

I. Review of meeting minutes from October 6, 2021

Motion made by Jim to accept the minutes from the October 6, 2021, meeting.
Motion seconded by Cathy

A vote was taken and the 10.6.2021 minutes were approved.

II. President's Report

Not discussed

III. Current Action Items

1. Strike Force off-season play/clinics for boys and girls Recreation program
 - a. Written proposal/quote for full facility usage and instructors

Jim reported that Bradley from Strike Force has been in email contact regarding winter session clinics at Strike Force. Offering a no charge coaches clinic, as well as four (4) sessions in March/April 2022 (Sundays from 3:00-6:00) to a maximum of 40-50 players. Five (5) stations with five (5) paid instructors would be offered with 90 minutes for boys and 90 minutes for girls. Strike Force quoted roughly \$4,000.00 total for these four (4) player sessions.

Board members discussed Strike Force quoted price and wish to seek options. Chase indicated he will reach out to Ron Deubel regarding clinics and pricing.

Nick suggested NHAA sponsor clinics for pitching and catching, and then offer a separate clinic run by NHAA coaches at a Nordonia gymnasium for additional baseball and softball skills.

Brenda inquired about asking Nordon High School baseball and softball team members to assist with clinics. The Board discussed how this concept has been tried before, but always fell through with a break down in communication.

Scott suggested that a new committee be established to tackle the task of player development. This could serve as a temporary off-season committee to set up clinics. Andy, Marc, and Jim can guide discussion on the work of the new Player Development Committee.

2. Contact with Josh Bieneman for off-season hitting clinics and possible mini-clinics for in-person registration

Scott received a quotation from Josh Bieneman regarding three (3) 90-minute sessions for boys baseball and girls softball. One session for coaches, one session for grades K-5, one session for grades 6-12. A maximum number of participants can be set by NHAA for registration and it was discussed that there would be a maximum of 50 players. Josh Bieneman quoted \$1,350.00 total. Additional instructors for any session(s) would increase the cost.

3. Contact D-BAT regarding presentation to NHAA Board

D-BAT was discussed as a possibility for holding clinics. Pricing would need to be obtained and it was noted that a membership should be obtained. It was discussed that hitting cages are not very conducive to baseball; geared more towards softball.

Goal date to have clinics arranged is February/March 2022.

4. Confirmation of used baseball pick up (re: Nations Baseball in Mentor)

Marc confirmed baseballs have been picked up and in his possession. Need to get to storage unit.

IV. Committee Reports

1. Finance Committee

- a. Treasurer/Chair Report

1. Current financial report

Scott emailed summary financial report to Board members on 11.1.2021.

Balance: \$45,586.72

2. Open invoices

- a. Uniforms

Dave indicated that a \$4,800.00 uniform bill has been received and Scott will review this invoice for payment.

- b. Fields

Not discussed

3. Checks received

Not discussed

4. Expected expenses for completion of Fall Ball

Not discussed

5. Payment to Dan Lingo for Umpire Services

Scott indicated that Dan Lingo has been paid for spring/summer umpiring services. Scott will confirm payment for fall umpiring services.

6. Opened up all new accounts for travel teams to utilize

Scott confirmed creation of new accounts for all travel teams. Coaches will have access to viewing accounts as well as online payment.

Scott discussed with the Board ways to build a relationship with Nordon High School players and coaches. Jim indicated he has been in conversations with the Nordon Superintendent and Athletic Director regarding NHAA relationship and how much NHAA does for Nordon school fields. Jim indicated that no modifications can be made to NHS fields for younger players. Scott suggested having NHAA players be announced prior to High School game(s) for partnership.

Scott indicated that taxes have been filed. Scott will take care of signing necessary paperwork and taxes will then be e-filed.

2. Fields Committee

a. VP of Fields/Chair Report

1. Written proposal for Sagamore Hills Trustees (re: NHAA improvements to Sagamore Park)

Not discussed

2. Additional repairs before winter after completion of Fall Ball

Not discussed

3. Equipment boxes

a. Two (2) boxes from Sagamore Park put into storage

Not discussed

4. Bases and other equipment pick up

a. Removed from Magnolia, Smith, and Sugarbush as of 10.13.2021

b. Nordon school fields will be collected on weekends and/or during non-school hours

c. Sagamore fields will be collected after 11.1.2021

Mike indicated that all gear has been picked up and returned to the storage unit. Anchors are still in place at the fields, while feathers have all been removed for the winter. Discussion was had about Sagamore Park fields and the need to keep anchors intact.

5. Additional dirt to fields

a. Estimate/quotation from Sagamore Soils for dirt only

b. Fall 2021 – too late to add dirt

c. Spring 2022 – add dirt as soon as able

Brian reported a quotation for 67 yards of dirt needed to level all fields totaling roughly \$2,300.00. He also indicated conversations with Ohio CAT for use of a machine, plus the trailer, plus two (2) buckets totaling roughly \$1,375.00. Jim indicated that Sagamore Hills Township offered the use of their dump trailer; however, the weather has turned too rapidly for work to be done in Fall of 2021. Work will need to be done as soon as possible in Spring 2022.

6. Removal of wind screens at fields and signs

Mike indicated that all screens and banners have been removed from all fields.

3. Equipment Committee

a. VP of Equipment/Chair Report

1. Fall Ball equipment return status (Return date was 10.30.2021)

Chase thanked Board members who helped with equipment return. He indicated that quite a bit of Fall Ball equipment is still out after 10.30.2021 return date. Personal messages will be sent to coaches with outstanding equipment.

2. Inventory

Dave went over inventory from storage unit with the Board. Score books, feathers, baseballs, softballs, and dig-out tools will need to be purchased. Discussion was had regarding obtaining several quotes from various vendors (example: Primetime, Harry Oschip at Nations Baseball, Beacon Athletics, BSN). Discussion on logos for baseballs/softballs was had and determined to seek out a lower cost. Purchases will need to be made soon so that supply is available in time for spring league play. Chase and Dave will address.

3. Replacement list (i.e. catcher's gear and other broken items)

Dave suggested the purchase of a few items each year in order to rotate/cycle equipment.

4. Winterization of the Toro. Brian James to winterize and get it into the storage unit

Brian indicated he has the Toro, and will winterize it and get it to the storage unit. He requested keeping the trailer at his property due to cumbersome task of maneuvering into storage unit. The Board discussed and Brian will keep the trailer secure on his property. Jim expressed concern for exposure to the winter elements and a tarp may be utilized for protection. Further routine maintenance to the Toro (i.e. fluids and filter) will take place in Spring 2022.

4. Uniform Committee

a. Chair Report

1. Sponsor banners

b. Keep in mind visors for girls softball leagues for spring/summer

Cathy indicated that the Uniform Committee will meet via Zoom Thursday, 11.4.2021 at 6:00. Jim advised the committee that a logo will not fit properly on a visor for the girls and that AAA girls will not wear visors or hats. Instead of visors, girls have received socks. Girls prefer v-neck style shirt with no sleeves. Boys have used a wicking-style shirt with a two-button style in the past. The committee was encouraged to seek out pricing for all options (i.e. jersey, socks, hats, visors) from various vendors. Dave noted that a bid form will need to be sent out. He will supply the committee with this form.

Melinda inquired about travel teams handling uniform purchases. It was indicated that it was tried in the past for NHAA Board to secure uniforms, but as travel teams became established they found working directly with various vendors was more conducive to their needs. Jim indicated a preference for travel teams to match so that a Nordonia presence is clearly seen on and off the field when traveling outside of the district.

5. Discipline Committee

a. Chair Report

Nothing to report.

6. Marketing and Fundraising Committee

a. Chair Report

Melinda indicated that a Marketing and Fundraising Committee meeting will be coming up.

Melinda inquired about hosting a raffle to pay for registration of a young ball player. Jim indicated that there is a Bernie Hovan Fund to sponsor kids for an NHAA season. Dave indicated that two (2) to three (3) young ball players have utilized these funds over the years. Bobby suggested continuing the Bernie Hovan Fund by seeking further donations.

1. Vector-based logos for printing

Melinda inquired about a contact for logos. It was discussed that Steve's Sports has previous sponsor logos, but not NHAA logos. Badlime Promo and Apparel in Twinsburg may have NHAA logos. It was further discussed that Badlime may be a good vendor for the printing of large banners promoting various NHAA events. (i.e. registration dates, fundraising opportunities, clinics, etc.) Melinda will reach out to these vendors to secure logos.

2. In-person registration with mini-clinics

3. Nordonía schools assistance with reaching new players/coaches

4. Social media updates (Facebook account, Twitter handle, Instagram)

5. Bendix picture and all necessary reporting

Nick indicated all necessary pictures have been received and thanked the Board.

7. Technology Committee

a. IT and Communications/Chair Report

Nothing to report.

Dave indicated that online registration will be set up in December 2021.

Dave indicated that Sports Engine agreement has been renewed for another 12 months.

8. Strategic Planning Committee

a. Chair Report

1. Update regarding additional quote(s) for reworking fields (Marc Sprang update)

b. Please plan a small group meeting to define short-, mid-, and long-term objectives

Nothing to report.

V. Travel Update

1. Travel Coordinator Report

Chase indicated that Boys Travel Teams will be at Strike Force for off-season training.

Jim discussed an invitation for 12U girls to play in Hudson since no 12U Travel Team in Nordonía.

Jim indicated that dates for the Boys Bash and Girls Bash will need to be reserved after January 1, 2022, at Sagamore Park. Dates would be late May 2022 and early June 2022. A deposit will need to be made for restrooms for each weekend. Discussion was had about use of

Longwood Park for the Boys Bash and Girls Bash. Further discussions will be had with the City of Macedonia.

VI. New Action Items

1. Insurance renewal for 2022

Scott will contact Jeff Sindelar to renew policies for active date of January 1, 2022. It was discussed that two (2) policies are in place – one for rec league; one for travel league.

2. Discuss Willie Mays time limit of 2 hours and 15 minutes

Dave suggested making a rule change for the Willie Mays league with having a drop-dead time limit of 2 hours and 15 minutes for games. With unlimited runs the last inning, games have reached almost 3 hours in several instances. Dave indicated that other leagues have drop-dead time limits and suggested making a rule change for Willie Mays.

Motion by Board President: Add a drop-dead time limit of two (2) hours and fifteen (15 minutes).

Dave accepted the motion.
Nicole second.

A vote was taken and the rule change was approved.

Jim suggested looking at all of the different league rules and make these drop-dead time limits tailored for each league. Nicole indicated that umpires will need to understand rules for different leagues before the game starts and enforce drop-dead time limits. Many umpires work multiple leagues where rules are different.

VII. Open Discussion/Comments

1. Further discussions to be had with the City of Macedonia regarding use of Longwood Park.
2. Cathy indicated an 11U Boys Travel Team Fundraiser scheduled for Sunday, November 7, 2021, at CleanLand Car Wash in Macedonia from 9:00 – noon.
3. Melinda indicated inability to be at meetings until after 6:30 p.m. Jim indicated no worries. Jim indicated that keeping meetings at the Northfield Library prevents meetings lasting more than 90 minutes due to facility closing time. Items on the agenda with Melinda's involvement will be placed later on the agenda for full participation.
4. Discussion was had regarding NHAA Board knowledge and approval of all fundraisers (including Travel Teams) relative to 501(c)3 status.

Date of next NHAA Board of Trustees meeting:

Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

Location of next NHAA Board of Trustees meeting:

Northfield Public Library

Meeting adjourned: 7:46 p.m.