**Kansas City Metro Senior Softball League**

**Board of Directors meeting minutes**

**August 18, 2019**

The Kansas City Metro Senior Softball League Board of Directors met at 1 p.m., Sunday, September 15, 2019, in Overland Park. Present were Randy Rowe, Susan Scholler, Donna McGuire, Dave Hendrikse, Barry Gordon, Bob Reynolds, Bobby Gregg, Tim Burkindine, Clint Berger, Rocky Osborn, Jeff Harlan. Attending by phone: John Mondi. Absent: Larry Hightower, Mark Splettstaszer.

President Rowe called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** Scholler moved to approve the July minutes. Harlan seconded. Motion passed 12-0.

**Treasurer’s report:** Hendrikse asked whether we’ve paid Olathe for our second session on Mondays at Black Bob. (Scholler said yes.) Rowe asked whether Independence or Lee’s Summit have billed us this year. Rowe didn’t think Independence had billed us. Scholler said Lee’s Summit has billed us for first session only. Hendrikse moved to approve the treasurer’s report. Reynolds seconded. Motion passed 12-0.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**By-laws:** See old business.

**Long-range planning:** Burkindine asked when we normally send out the annual managers’ survey. Berger said whenever all conferences are over.

**Membership/dues:** Berger said we currently have 977 or 978 members, depending on whether one person has paid.

**Competition/player ratings:** No report.

**Sportsmanship/protests:** No report.

**Rules/regulations:** McGuire said we have received a request to post a link on our website to the Senior Softball USA rule book. (See new business.)

**Advertising/promotions:** No report.

**Awards:** No report.

**All-Star games:** No report.

**Ratings:** Berger talked to Scott Flodin, who said he will have the 75+ lifetime membership notation set up in LeagueSheets for next year so that those members don’t have to pay again.

**Facebook/website:** Mondi said we’ve set up a visitor counter on the website. It looks like we have more visitors (maybe 350 per day) coming to our website than he had anticipated. We don’t know how many are members, he said.

**New member/welcoming:** No report.

**Equipment/safety:** Osborn said from a safety perspective, he saw lightning detectors put in play at Heritage on Thursday. The field supervisor pulled teams off the fields about 5 minutes before a huge strike. (See also old business.)

**Field of Dreams:** Burkindine and Hendrikse met with officials last week. Hendrikse said he had two sources tell us about new fields being built at Interstate 435 and Missouri 45 in Parkville. He has a lunch coming up with the master developer, Brian Mertz. These six fields are for baseball players trying to get to the pros. Hendrikse had a conversation about how these things get built. Burkindine noted that Riverside has a huge area available. If we could get something in that area, perhaps we could have tournaments there and use the casino hotel as a place for players to stay. All options for future park sites are still open, including Raymore, Burkindine said.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Dave Barragan update:** Rowe, Gregg and Berger met with Barragan Thursday. He handed over a cashier’s check for $2,350 (the amount he owed the league). Rowe read a letter from Barragan to the board in which he apologized and said he felt ashamed at what took place. He asked for forgiveness. He said he would like to play again. After Rowe finished reading the letter, Rowe said Barragan was willing to set out 2020. After some discussion, the board agreed to wait until the check cleared before readdressing the suspension issue. Burkindine asked where we stand about prosecution. Rowe said the detective so far cannot get Wells Fargo to release Barragan’s statements to show the checks he cashed. The detective said it usually takes time to push it through. Rowe said he has no intent of stopping that process.

**By-laws report:** Burkindine will check into the quorum needed at annual meeting. (Secretary’s note: Our bylaws say 5% of the membership is needed.)

**Sponsorship banner:** Scholler didn’t get it back at O’Fallen because rain canceled the tournament early. So she will bring it back from the SPA tournament in Dalton, Georgia.

**Lightning detectors:** A board member asked if they had been purchased. They have. Reynolds has one. Paul LaVine has one. Larry Hightower has the third, which was used Thursday morning at Roe Park.

**Quick Books purchased:** Yes, Scholler has purchased the software and set it up. She is still learning about it, as it is different than desktop version. Our bank account information automatically feeds into it, so she can see if the bank account balances with our records.

**Game balls:** Rowe said we need to order 32 cases of men’s balls. Scholler said we don’t need the women’s case, as we have enough left from this year.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**SSUSA Rule Book:** McGuire will send Karen Riffle the link to the rule book and ask her to put it on website.

**Nominees for board:** Rowe said he and Berger need to draw a committee together to work on this. The committee’s slate is due by Oct. 1, according to the bylaws.

**30th anniversary plan:** Gordon noted that if we order 1,000 T-shirts, it will cost about $6,300 (not including shipping). Patches will cost either $1.55 each or $1.70 each, depending on the size. Ambassador jackets are going to be about $1,200 in costs this year. Gordon showed design options for a possible shirt (small or larger designs). Gordon asked for a show of hands, and more board members liked the shirt over a patch.

**End of year swap meet idea:** Gordon said that Reynolds checked and it is against Overland Park’s ordinances for us to do that at Roe Park, so we will not have it there.

**Awards:** Championship shirts: Gordon said Hightower asked him to look into short-sleeve shirts versus long sleeves. The long-sleeve shirts would cost about $530 more than short sleeves. Shirts for the spring conferences cost us $1,700, he said. Summer will be a little more because we add the Saturday conference. So the costs should be about $1,850 (or $530 additional for long-sleeve). Most board members said they favored short-sleeve shirts. Gordon said he would order purple shirts with a gold and white design.

**Wes Weddle and Rookie awards:** Gordon said a week from Monday is deadline to get all names in from conference coordinators for nominees for these awards. If we do the same trophies as last year, the Wes Weddle awards are $16 each and the Rookie awards are $14 each.

**Hall of Honor:** Gordon said his committee met, came up with a list, and culled it down. He expects to have a final list by the next board meeting.

**Ambassador jackets:** We have 17 people confirmed as eligible for jackets and nine or 10 more possibilities, Gordon said.

**Presidential recognition:** Gordon said he is getting nominees for this award. Rowe asked to wait until next month to consider this award.

**Draft conference committee report:** Gordon said he put together a committee of the four draft conference coordinators: Hightower, Reynolds, Hendrikse and Bill Nees. Two coordinators are stepping down after this season (Nees and Hightower). The committee is working on replacements. Nees is looking at whether to keep 70+ conference as a hybrid. Another draft issue is how to find and retain managers. Also, the drafting processes have been different between conferences. The committee is working on a format to make the drafts as uniform as possible. Draft managers will have an end-of-year meeting to re-rate each player while the season is fresh in everyone’s mind. The committee also talked about ideal roster size, how to deal with waiting list players, and possible rules suggestions. The committee also is looking at additional fields in case conferences at Roe grow. That park already is at seven teams on Thursday mornings for the 60+ draft. The committee had a preliminary discussion about a new 70+ draft conference on Wednesday mornings at Hartman. Rowe noted that Paul LaVine also is looking at trying to do a league north of the Missouri River.

**Year-end charitable donations:** Osborn suggested we consider donating to the Alzheimer’s walk in honor of the wife of a player. Gordon suggested that when we donate, we might not want to do it in one person’s honor, as there are others affected by the disease. Osborn said maybe we offer it in honor of all KCMSSL members. (Note: The board will vote later in the year on charitable contributions.)

Rowe set the next board meeting set for 1 p.m. Oct. 20 with the executive meeting at 12:30.

**Motion to adjourn:** Harlan moved to adjourn. Gregg seconded. Motion passed 12-0.

Board members and years terms expire:

**2019** **2020** **2021**

Clint Berger Barry Gordon Tim Burkindine

Larry Hightower Bobby Gregg Dave Hendrikse

Bob Reynolds Rocky Osborn Donna McGuire

Randy Rowe Susan Scholler John Mondi

Mark Splettstaszer Jeff Harlan