

Kansas City Metro Senior Softball League

Board of Directors meeting minutes

October 18, 2020

The Kansas City Metro Senior Softball League Board of Directors met at 1:00 pm, Sunday October 18, 2020 at Clint Berger's house in Overland Park, KS. Present at the meeting were Bobby Gregg, Ann Willkett, Barry Gordon, Susan Scholler, Dave Hendrikse, Jeff Harlan, John Mondri, Brad Uecker, Rocky Osborne, Steve Krull, Ray Harre & Clint Berger. Absent were Tim Burkendine, Bob Zimmerman & Chuck Tipton.

Gregg called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Approval of previous September 13, 2020 minutes: Scholler moved to approve, and Harlan seconded.

III. Treasurer report: Presented spreadsheets and the fact that we are going to be operating at a loss for the third consecutive year.

IV. Committee reports:

Marketing – Dave, sent out an email as to what they are trying to get accomplished for next year.

All Star Game/Picnic – NR

Awards – Gordon reported that our conference championship shirts have been ordered and should be here around 10/28. He plans to meet somewhere and give them to the conference coordinators to get distributed.

Board Nominations –

By-Laws - NR

Communications – NR

Competition – NR

Competitive Oversight – NR

Draft Oversight – Gordon would like to see more playing time for the Saturday morning – Roe Park draft teams. He's recommending a 9-inning draft game, instead of the current 7-inning game, following the 9-inning competitive game.

Equip/Safety/Health – NR

Finance –

Long Range Plan – Hendrikse had a meeting with KC Crew, and will have a follow up in December, to see if they can help us as we attempt to continue to expand and grow. He has a possible connection with the Royals.

Membership/Dues – NR

Mission Statement - NR

New Members/Welcome – NR

Ratings – NR

Rules – NR

Special Projects – NR

Sportsmanship – NR

Tournament – NR

Umpires – NR

VI. Old Business:

- A. Board Election Mailer Status – Mondy presented a printout of what our election mailer would look like. Our current suggested annual membership meeting date is December 5, 2020. All mailed in votes need to be received by Thursday December 3, 2020. Online votes will also have to be completed by midnight on that same Thursday. This is so all votes can be counted on Friday – December 4. Mail-in votes will be arranged to be mailed to Ann Willkett. There was a motion to add an at-large nominee, Tom White, to the ballot to run for the board. Motion passed 7 to 6 (with proxy vote).
- B. Update on 2021 softball order – Berger let us know we purchased \$9,385.00 worth of balls for 2021 season. This year's cost per dozen has increased by \$9.00 from just two years ago.
- C. Website Banner change update – Hendrikse talked to Karen Riffle about a couple of different options for the banner. When they have something available, they will present it to us.
- D. Results of Marketing table at Penn Valley Grand Slam tournament – Hendrikse handed out about 10 brochures.
- E. Annual meeting format (Zoom, Microsoft Teams, etc.) With the ongoing presence of Covid-19, an in-person meeting does not present itself as a viable option for this year's annual membership meeting. So, Hendrikse & Scholler are to look into whether or not a virtual meeting could accommodate our size membership, and if it could happen at either of their offices. We will look at the agenda at a later date.
- F. Manager Survey Status – Berger reported that, so far, about 6 or 7 managers have responded.

G. 2021 Tournament plans – We had finally gotten the Wes Weddle tournament moved to a July date in 2020, which did not conflict with any other area tournament. Then Covid hit and the board voted to allow SSUSA to oversee it. It turns out Randy Rowe has now secured that week's date for 2021 for a tournament he's, reportedly, calling the Midwest Qualifier. We, therefore, have to discuss agreeing on an alternate date, and possible alternate location, for the Wes Weddle. Current discussion centered around May 20-23, 2021 at Black Bob.

H. SSUSA team insurance update – Harre reported that there is really no benefit for us to purchase our league team insurance thru SSUSA. Harre got this information from Fran Dowell, in writing. He would like the authorization to obtain a quote from other insurance policy companies for comparison purposes. Motion Passed 13 – 0 (with proxy vote).

I. Directors & Officer's Liability policy update – Harre indicated us having the opportunity to purchase a Directors and Liability insurance policy for \$450.00 per year for \$1,000,000.00 coverage. It would protect our board members and directors. It would be thru West Bend Mutual. They do not require individual financial information from the members/directors. Harre made a motion that we purchase, from West Bend mutual, a \$1,000,000.00 dollar liability policy for the directors and officers, seconded by Berger. Motion passed 13-0 (with proxy vote).

J. Need/desire to retain competition committee – Berger made a motion to eliminate the Competition Committee – due to the fact that the Player/Team Ratings Committee criteria/parameters now addresses what the Competition Committee used to cover. Seconded by Gordon. Motion passed 13 – 0 (with proxy vote).

K. Membership dues increase or cost cutting plan – A lengthy discussion ensued as to how we go about reversing our current deficit course. We are on the verge of losing money for the 3rd year in a row. Over these past few years, we've voted to provide Lifetime membership dues benefit to all 75+ year old members once they pay at least one year of dues at the age of 75. We're now providing Ambassador Jackets to all members who have been a KCMSSL member for 20 years. We've increased or annual awards categories. All of this has been added on top of increased costs for the "free" 1 dozen softballs we provide to each team for each session of play each year; our annual All-Star Games/Picnic; storage unit; offsetting of each team's annual team insurance; charitable contributions, website/membership database cost/maintenance, etc. As a board, we'd prefer not to increase membership dues, but we could offset part of our deficit by having teams pay full price for their team insurance. Ultimately, the focus turned to where we could realize our biggest gain towards reversing our present trend – which is the cost of our softballs. Harre made a motion to have competitive teams pay for their own balls. That motion was seconded by Osborne. Passed 12-0-1 (with proxy vote). Harre then made a motion for the Draft conferences pay for their own balls as well. Seconded by Hendrikse. Passed 12-0-1 (with proxy vote).

VII. New Business

A. Another item the board felt should be addressed was the elimination of the board appreciation dinner we've had the last number of years. A gift card for each board member, in lieu of the appreciation dinner, was suggested, but after summarizing that cost it was determined no savings would be realized. Harre made the motion to suspend annual dinner for 2020. Seconded by Hendrikse. Motion passed 13-0 (with proxy vote).

B. Berger inquired as to any alternate future suggestions for the location for our board meetings. With Covid still with us, our last several meetings have taken place on Berger's screened-in deck. With today's meeting day outside temperature in the 40's, the deck conditions are only going to get chillier. Berger does have plastic inserts for the deck....along with heaters, which were in place for this meeting, so the on-deck temperature was comfortably in the upper 60's. Everyone agreed we will continue meetings at Berger's house/deck.....anyone gets chilly, they dress as needed.

C. 2020 Charitable Donation – Again, until we can realize a better bottom-line, a discussion focused on whether, or not, we do our normal annual charitable contributions for 2020. Harre made a motion to suspend Charitable Donations for 2020.....to be reviewed again in 2021. Seconded by Berger. Passed 11-2 (with proxy vote).

D. Since Osborn is not running for re-election this year, he returned his 3-ring board binder. Berger inquired as to which board member (present) may not have one. Uecker did not, so the binder was given to him.

E. Berger reported we now have all 5 of the defibrillators, and 3 Lightning Strike detectors back in our possession. He will take all of them to our storage unit for winter, where they will be accompanied with an inventory sheet, and will redistribute come spring. Berger will also create a men's, and women's, softball inventory chart while at the storage unit.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:05 pm.

Next meeting is November 15, 2020.

Board members and years terms expire:

2020

Barry Gordon
Bobby Gregg
Rocky Osborn
Susan Scholler
Ray Harre

2021

Tim Burkindine
Dave Hendrikse
Chuck Tipton
John Mond
Jeff Harlan

2022

Clint Berger
Steve Krull
Brad Uecker
Ann Willkett
Bob Zimmerman