

Mathews Little League Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2016
Piankatank Ruritan Club



Members in attendance:

<i>Ryder Cullison</i>	<i>Eugene Jones</i>
<i>Ricky Wiatt</i>	<i>Charlie Crittenden</i>
<i>Vicky Pruitt</i>	<i>Robert Hudgins</i>
<i>Melissa Moughon</i>	<i>Robin Dehoux</i>
<i>Linden Barrick</i>	<i>JJ Ashberry</i>
<i>Darlene Jackson</i>	

Members NOT in attendance:

Carey Hogge
Dawn Lewis
Jakelynn Ellis

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

- Ryder made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes from October. JJ seconded the motion.
- Vicky distributed and reviewed the financial report. Highlights include: \$2,000 from the Ruritan Club was received; \$619 from Fall Ball concession stand receipts; \$13,000 was paid to Chesapeake Bank for the lights (balance ~\$19,000 after payment)
- The BBQ Dinner fundraiser raised \$1,900, compared to \$2,700 in 2015 (all meat donated). The Ruritan Club was happy with cleanup efforts, and they are asking for our assistance in selling their fundraiser tickets next year.
- The power bill should see a significant drop next month, due to the lights being used much less for Fall Ball. Robin will ask Joe if the coolers in concession must run all winter.
- The board discussed raising the amount of sponsorships. Ricky recommended adding Gloucester and Middlesex businesses to our list of potential sponsors. He shared information about a golf tournament (\$100 to sponsor for one day). Charlie said it is difficult to ask for money when we have a large amount in our account. Ryder shared the many items that need to be purchased with the money in the account, such as a groomer, fencing for the machine pitch field, etc.
Charlie moved we raise the sponsorship amount by \$25 for each sponsorship level. It was seconded by Melissa and passed by vote of hands. The current 40 sponsorships would raise an extra \$1,000 with the increase.

The sponsorship letter will be updated with the new amounts, along with email contact information, a notification of how many months the signs will be posted, a notification of how many youth our league serves, and that sponsors will also be shared on the MLL website. Recipients will be asked to consider donating an "other" amount to the league if they cannot support a sign or team sponsorship.

- Opening Day – April 8th and 15th potential dates for Opening Day. Spring break is the week between those Saturdays, and Easter is April 16th. After discussion, it was decided:
Opening Day: April 8th
Closing date: June 3rd
Ricky asked about the 9:00 a.m. start time for opening ceremonies. Ryder agreed that 10:00 a.m. may be better for weather and concessions. That decision was tabled until the January meeting when further details will be discussed.
- Registration dates set as January 21 and January 28, with February 4 as a backup. Online registration can open earlier. Robin noted that we may need to hold registration at both THMS and at MHS if youth league basketball is split because of the gymnasium at LJES. A flyer needs to go home in the LJES brown envelope in December. Carey will provide flyers. Linden can take them to the school. The school could be asked to also have the registration mentioned on the sign in the front of the school. A computer could be accessible at the schools so online registration is available to those who want to use a credit card. Melissa also suggested using Square to allow card payment. (Side note: Ricky suggested that concession sales would increase if credit/debit cards could be used there. Question for Joe...)
- Other dates:
February 18 - cutoff date to play. Uniforms will not be ordered and players will not be put on teams if payment isn't received by then. Any registration after that date will have a late fee added.
February 25 – Skills Day
March 4-5 – Draft
- Fundraisers at Registration: Candy bars and pizza will be offered again, as well as the \$20 opt-out. Some people still owe for candy from last year. They will not be allowed to register/play this year until last year's money is collected.
- Facility update: All signs and fencing have been stored for winter. Trash cans have been dumped. The concession stand has been power-washed and will be painted soon. The restroom floors will be tiled before Opening Day. Water can be turned off now that the power-washing is complete.
- No other new business was discussed.

Ryder moved to adjourn. Robin seconded the motion.

Next meeting: January 2nd