

# **SCF Softball Club**

## **Meeting Minutes**

November 9, 2021

### **I. Call to order**

President David Markowitz called to order the regular meeting of the SCF Softball Club at 2:02 pm on November 9, 2021 at the SCF Softball Complex infield, with 54 members in attendance.

### **II. New Member introduction**

a) Rich Armstrong and Joe Montello introduced themselves and were welcomed to the Club.

### **III. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

Minutes were posted to the website and emailed to members following the October meeting. Motion to accept the minutes as posted – Joe Schappert; Second – Guy Homoly. Motion passed.

### **IV. Treasurer's report**

Tom Boudreau – No expenses in excess of \$100 have been processed since the October meeting. Income was a combination of member dues and team sponsorships. The deposits totaled \$4,445.

Balance on 12/31/2020 \$9,885; balance 10/31/2021 \$12,849 for an increase of \$2,964. Tom was asked about the total income from sponsor's fees. That amount should be \$3,750 (10 teams at \$375 each).

Motion to accept Treasurer's report – Jude Gosz; Second – Guy Homoly; motion passed.

\*\*\* Prior to beginning the committee reports, President Markowitz recognized and thanked Tom Boudreau for his 3 years' service as our treasurer. Tom is stepping down for 2022.

### **V. Committee Reports**

Membership – Rick Klein thanked the members that assisted him with the Club Expo. Several attendees took membership forms and indicated they plan to join the club.

Field Prep – Joe Cabanaw & Neil Cornell reported that the outfield is doing well. Carescape placed blankets on the sparse locations a couple of weeks ago. This resulted in the areas filling in. Carescape will plan to mow the outfield twice weekly, at a level between 1 ½" to 2". Soil samples have been taken in both the infield and outfield. An informal walkdown of the field was held with Bruce from the HOA and Carescape. Both groups agree that the outfield is in need of attention. No major work has been completed since 2008. Should budgeting be approved, any work next year would result in a shortened summer league season. Joe reported that he has ordered red bulbs as a trial for the scoreboard. Mark Vosta asked if we could incorporate a mini-scoreboard to be mounted on the crow's nest facing the field. Joe replied that we would have to look into that possibility. If we replace all of the lights and windows, the material cost would be \$10K. Estimates for a new scoreboard are running closer to \$40K. There was additional discussion on possibly placing an awning over the scoreboard as it is the sun that causes the difficulty in reading it. Concern was expressed as to how far out an awning would have to extend and whether the scoreboard could handle the additional weight.

Umpire – community league games are being covered by the managers. WV games are being coordinated by the commissioners, many T1 umpiring T2 games and vice versa. A question was raised about training new members wishing to umpire. Joe Rizzi indicated he would conduct an umpire clinic.

Scorekeeper –Loraine Scott indicated that she didn't have team rosters or schedules in some cases so she cross-scheduled between the tiers for the first week. She has now received most of those documents and is working on the schedule for the remainder of the first half season.

Safety –Gary Stonewall indicated that he will be picking up some supplies for the first aid kit. He encouraged everyone to stay healthy and was thankful we had no major injuries for the first two days.

Fireballs – Jack Deming reported that the Fireballs are still looking to play against other T3 members. Seventeen ladies have signed on to play with the Fireballs, not all have returned yet. Jack indicated that he is disappointed that the club did not have a T3 league this year and that only a late afternoon time slot was offered up for the ladies. Since that day is already the T3 WV league day, so many T3 players have indicated they do not feel up to playing 3 games in one day.

Evaluation Committee – Rick Kaylor indicated that a rating session will be held this Saturday at noon. He anticipates having 6 or 7 new members present since there are roughly 10 new members not yet rated. Rick also asked the members present about holding another States Tournament in the spring. The Evaluation Committee organizes the tournament. The membership overwhelming indicated their interest.

Webmaster Updates – John Hoyer reported that the new membership registration form is now located in multiple places within our website and is linked from the HOA Amenities website as well. John received game results from one of the commissioners. He will need this information from all of the commissioners going forward if we want to see a standings list displayed on the website.

## **VI. Old business**

- a) **Banner Update** – Jim Varley reported that the prime locations for the banners were offered to our existing sponsors first. Those prime locations are \$1,500. At this time, we have commitments for 10 of the total 24 locations. Jim encouraged members to provide him contact info for the vendors we have personally utilized, as being able to name a specific client provides for better results when contacting businesses. He thanked those members that have already provided leads towards this process.
- b) **2022 Capital Improvement discussion** – President Markowitz met with the HOA Director of Finance. He found out that the club has to have member approval for dollar expenditures, but not necessarily for the exact projects to be pursued. Some previous suggestions are:
  - a. **Water Bottle Filler** – may be installed by HOA unless the Club decides to move forward sooner.
  - b. **New lights/windows in scoreboard for better visibility** – Joe Cabanaw explained that purchasing red windows to install in the scoreboard would cost approximately \$10,000.
  - c. **Reel Mower to better cut outfield grass** – Joe answered the cost question of a mower and said a used mower would be in the \$5,000-\$7,000 range.
  - d. **Revamp and repair outfield** – Joe is in discussions with a company to provide data on soil composition and will report findings and bid cost as soon as possible.

- e. Second batting cage
- f. Picnic Area

Some new ideas discussed were a sound system with wireless microphone, enclosing the crow's nest, and stadium seating. President Markowitz asked for a show of hands on the memberships' priorities. Installing tinted windows to the scoreboard was the overwhelming priority. For this year, we anticipate raising between \$5,000-\$11,000. The club gets 60% of the revenues, after taxes. Joe Schappert motioned to authorize the board to spend the revenues, up to a maximum of \$11,000. Gail Jasper-Wilson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Jack Deming motioned to enclose the crow's nest, to the HOA's specifications, on 3 sides, using the club's operating dollars (as opposed to the capital improvement dollars). Mike Meyer seconded the motion. After lengthy discussion on possible materials and materials already tried in the past, the original motion was withdrawn and Mike Braman motioned to table the decision until the next meeting; this motion was seconded by Brian Ogston – motion passed. President Markowitz was asked to obtain clarification from the HOA on their limitations. The general consensus is that due to the orientation of the crow's nest, placing plexiglass on one side only would be highly ineffective. In addition, since the HOA is requiring that we take it down each day when games are complete, an eight-foot piece of plexiglass would be fairly heavy and difficult to handle, especially if it was windy.

c) Winter League Commissioner Reports –

- a. Joe Cabanaw – the Tuesday Community league started the new season with 3 close games. Joe believes the teams are very balanced. He also reminded members that he has hats for the new members.
- b. Larry Gary is looking forward to the Friday league beginning. The league has 4 teams consisting of all three tiers.
- c. Dave Quesenberry – has sent out emails trying to solicit more T3 members to play against the Fireballs. Discussion on possibly moving this to Monday, as the T2 WV league only has 4 teams instead of the 6 anticipated. Dave will send another email to gauge the interest. Possibly some of the newly rated players from this Saturday can be recruited.
- d. Pete Sluys reported that T1 WV will begin on Wednesday. The games scheduled for 11/17 may be canceled due to a tournament. Pete will notify Lorraine so scorekeepers can be notified.
- e. Steve Kreitzman reported that T2 WV started on Monday, games were okay.
- f. John Hoyer reported that the T3 WV league has 4 teams, 2 Festival, 2 from Trilogy.

d) 2022 Club Officers – Nominations and Vote

- a. President – no new nominations. David Markowitz agreed to stay on for another year.
- b. Vice-President – no new nominations. Rick Kaylor agreed to stay on for another year.
- c. Treasurer – nominations were opened with Laurie Halfpenny and Mike Braman being nominated. A vote by written secret ballot was executed and Laurie won the election. Her duties as the new treasurer will begin January 1, 2022.
- d. Secretary – no new nominations. Robin Shahan agreed to stay on for another year.

## **VII. New business**

- a) HOA Website Update – President Markowitz had had discussions concerning the HOA website and its capabilities. Apparently, the HOA website has survey and voting type capabilities, similar to Groupworks and other software programs used for club organization. He is trying to get our webmaster with the HOA’s webmaster to discuss possibilities.
- b) Saturday League Update – President Markowitz indicated that 33 members indicated an interest in playing on Saturdays. 16 other members indicated an interest in playing in a 70+ league (6 persons on both lists). David would like to see the Club work towards making this a viable league. Consensus discussion was that as younger residents move in with all of the new builds that we will see an increase in Saturday interest due to the number of people still working. For now, interested persons should plan to be at the field, ready to play at 9:00 am. If enough members show up, they will be divided into teams for a scrimmage game. Bill Wacker asked for clarification concerning resident non-club members playing on Saturday. David will clarify guest status with the HOA. All attendees must have signed a waiver form.
- c) Club non-sanctioned events - President Markowitz encouraged members to watch for emails for non-club sanctioned events like the Sidewinders Golf Tournament and the Hiking Club tour of the old Phoenix area. These events are a good way for members to get to know one another in another setting.
- d) The cost of new softballs was discussed. The price had gone up from \$45/dozen to almost \$85/dozen. Recent prices are in the \$60-\$65 neighborhood. Motion by Jude Gosz to purchase 6 dozen 11” balls and 24 dozen 12” balls as discussed. Discussion continued regarding how many balls were needed. A question was asked regarding next summer and do we know if we will close down for repairs. David said there was no way to know for sure at this point. Motion amended to purchase enough balls to cover both winter and summer seasons. Motion seconded by Dave Quesenberry; motion passed.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

Jude Gosz motioned to adjourn the meeting; Jack Di Rosario seconded; motion passed. President David Markowitz adjourned the meeting at 3:40 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Robin Shahan

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. The location is to be determined and will be communicated to the membership via email.