

SCF Softball Club Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2021

I. Call to order

President David Markowitz called to order the regular meeting of the SCF Softball Club at 1:09 pm on December 14, 2021 at the Senita Center, Grand Canyon Room. Thirty-four members were in attendance.

II. New Member introduction

a) No new members were in attendance.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes were posted to the website following the November 11, 2021 meeting. Motion to accept the minutes as posted – John Hoyer; Second – Guy Homoly. Motion passed.

IV. Treasurer's report

Tom Boudreau reported that the Club checking account balance is \$12,593 as of November 30, 2021. This is an increase of \$2,708 dollars over the December 31, 2020 balance. Expenses in excess of \$100 include \$257 for swing trainers, and \$409 for 11" softballs. Deposits included \$1,020 in dues; \$300 in sponsors fees; and \$2,650 from West Valley fees, for a total of \$3,970. Tom is anticipating additional expenses that will reduce the total balance so it doesn't exceed the HOA's balance limit increase of \$500 per year. If the remaining sponsorship is paid prior to the end of the month, Tom will make a down payment on the spring banquet expenses to offset the increase.

Motion to accept Treasurer's report – Joe Schappert; Second – Guy Homoly; motion passed.

V. Committee Reports

Membership – Rick Klein reported that the rate of new members joining has slowed. After reconciling the members paid, we currently have 152. Rick would like to see the Club purchase a small banner that can be hung at events such as the Club Expo. David mentioned that Rick put together a flow chart that illustrates the process that allows persons to join the club. Once it is fine tuned it will be placed on our website so members and prospective members can review it.

Field Prep – Joe updated the members concerning the fence repairs currently underway. Once the work is complete, he will notify the membership. New field equipment – Joe outlined some

tractor parts that need to be replaced. The parts total \$829. Motion to approve the purchase - John Hoyer; Second - Guy Homoly. Motion carried.

Field Prep still needs additional help. Some days Joe is doing all of the work himself. In particular, more people trained on the tractor is needed.

Scoreboard - Joe has confirmed with the scoreboard company that the new window, ordered as a test, has been shipped. Additional discussion concerning possible replacement of the scoreboard, including estimates, was held. Additional discussion took place over the priority of repairs to the field itself, infield versus outfield. Joe has still not received the results of the soil samples taken several weeks ago.

Scorekeeper – David commented that Lorraine is doing well. The schedule is posted on our website. Lorraine was not present but did message to add that the schedule is posted in the breezeway at the field, too.

Safety – no report, but David did comment that Gary would like to offer a class on using the AED.

Ladies – no report.

Evaluation Committee – no report. Discussion was held concerning the need to have another rating session prior to the Community League 2nd session of the winter season.

Webmaster – John Hoyer reported that things are going well. He encouraged members to contact him if they have suggestions or comments for improvements. He went on to comment that the Club needs to ensure that all members are doing their share (volunteering and following through on their commitments). Discussion was held concerning methods used by other clubs to address this issue. In addition, John asked for guidance on how to recognize the different levels of sponsorship on our website.

VI. Old business

- a) Marketing Update – Jim Varley reported on the number of banners sold. He and David mentioned that several businesses are at varying states of progress. Several have paid, but have not provided their artwork for the printer to use. Jim is still encouraging members to supply him with names of businesses/contractors that they have used in the past. In this day of con-artists and spam calls, it is easier to talk with potential sponsors using a name they recognize. It helps to legitimize our efforts.
- b) Crow's Nest enclosure – the HOA has approved enclosing all sides of the crow's nest, provided the enclosures can be easily removed/stored when the games are over. Joe is waiting on bids for this project.
- c) Fence repairs & field closure – As stated in the Field Prep report, the fence repairs are progressing well. The field should be available around the 21st or so for practice.

- d) Care Fund/Capital Improvements – a request has been submitted asking for monies towards replacing the windows in the scoreboard. The assumption is the club would pick up 50% of the \$10K expense, provided the test window proves to be a valuable change. Discussion concerning whether spending these funds is wise, rather than just replacing the scoreboard. A basic new scoreboard would be roughly \$30K. One with more features could exceed \$40K.

VII. New business

- a) New committee for 2022 – Capital Acquisitions - This new committee will be responsible for taking input from the Club membership, researching possible improvements and in some cases obtaining bids for those improvements. Upon researching these items, they will return their "short list" of recommendations to the membership for a vote to prioritize the items. Keep in mind that any capital improvements require the approval of the HOA, and most items will be pursued as a joint project through the Care Fund process. Tom Boudreau has agreed to chair this vital committee. To serve with Tom, we are looking for volunteers, one from each tier and one from the Fireballs for a total of 5 persons. An email will be sent to the membership to solicit members willing to serve on this committee. The board will then select the committee members from the interested Club members. The target date to present the prepared "short list" from the committee will be at the regular March meeting with the vote taking place at the April meeting. The final deadline to have requests in to the Care Fund is September 30th each year, but the earlier the requests are in the better and our club generally doesn't have meetings during the summer months due to a lack of a quorum. David mentioned that he has already approached the HOA president, Bruce concerning possible improvements previously mentioned by members (a sound system, a mister system, stadium seating for the stands)
- b) New purchases for club – David mentioned the swing evaluators that were purchased for membership use. The devices attach to a bat and provide feedback to the user via a software program. If managers are interested in trying the devices, they should contact David. Also discussed the need for new bat racks and glove racks. The consensus was that we can build the glove racks in-house as the originals were. Inground mounted bat racks were also discussed. The membership present indicated that they were not interested in pursuing those at this time. General discussion surrounded protecting the longevity of the fence by supporting any racks from the fence posts, not the fence itself.
- c) Internet Update – The HOA may provide Wi-Fi for the softball fields. Our area is one of the only HOA amenities that does not have Wi-Fi available. Although

some members stated that they would use it, if available, the general consensus was that this is a low priority.

- d) 2022 Banquet - The Club has been given approval to resume holding our annual banquet. Saturday, February 26th has been reserved at the Saguaro Center from 3:00-9:00 pm. Mark your calendars! More details to come at a later date. Members and a guest will be allowed to attend. Tom Boudreau asked for approval to spend \$1,800 to begin reserving amenities for the banquet (food, music, etc.). Motion to approve up to \$1,800 in initial funds – Jerry Jensen; Second – Guy Homoly. Motion passed.

VIII. Adjournment

Tom Shahan motioned to adjourn the meeting; Guy Homoly seconded; motion passed. President David Markowitz adjourned the meeting at 2:55.

Minutes submitted by: Robin Shahan

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 11th at 2:00 pm. The location is to be determined and will be communicated to the membership via email.