

Meeting Minutes
Bozeman American Legion Executive Committee
February 13, 2017
Morrison-Maierle Office

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting was called to order by chairman Jim Ullman at **7:00 pm**
- In attendance: Robin Roberts, Craig Simcox, Wally Freud, Bryce Scalia, Robin Hubley, Peggy Murfitt, Gayle Frandsen, Connie Evenson, Joe and Jody Ekstrom

II. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Tri-Med Services (drug testing).

III. JANUARY MINUTES

- No changes to the January minutes. Jason moved to approve, Paul seconded. All approved. Motion to approve January meeting minutes **passed with a 5-0 vote.**

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT & PAYABLES

Report included:

- Open AR on sponsorship \$8900
- \$31,180 in the bank
- \$900 income still left to come in from the golf tournament; \$450.00 will go Youth program.
- Outstanding debt: payment to Coach Poliquin has started; other coaches will begin to receive payment on April 1.
- Accounts payable: \$220.30 due for basketball tournament medals; this is still to be approved by executive committee.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Game Operations

i. Field

- Trying to get ahold of Dennis to confirm that field is good to go after Verizon construction. Jim Ullman is heading this up. Jim will ensure that light poles are also fixed post-construction.
- Lights were taken down during the construction. No work needs to be done and lights will be put back up after construction is complete.
- Midway has donated lift to repair the lights. Light been has been put out and given to Jim Ullman by a new company. Waiting to determine which previous company helped with lights to see if another bid exists.

1. Halo Project

- Quotes are in, but waiting on a more local quote. Will be due Friday, Paul will report to Executive Committee.
- There is concrete under the walk-ups and halo. Adhesive is most important to this process.

2. Indoor Facility:

- Need to reconnect with Laurie and Dennis with Fair board.
- Feedback has been received from Coach Poliquin, and Coach Johnerson.
- Bone yard is not good option (due to Verizon). Best option is to go back to where batting cages are, unless property is donated.
- Indoor facility work is ongoing for next season; alternative plans need to be made in case an indoor facility is not ready for next winter.

ii. AA State Tournament

- Review of venue for state dinner
- Grand ballroom at Student Union Building at MSU, bid includes everything.
- Estimated \$4000 for reservation
- Hotel block are done
- Need to restart planning meetings.
- Superman tourney for 2017 is canceled

b. Fundraising

i. Fundraising Update

- **Sponsorship**
 - \$13,150 has come in to date.
 - Good/bad/indifference with regard to changes of level
 - Good to have parents and players involved. Have been some questions that have had to be worked through.
 - Feedback has been given from restaurants – 1st quarter is difficult; end of year is best for gathering sponsorships.
 - Plan to begin sponsorship in September

Q. Golf Tournament – will we have it? Can we begin planning?

A. Will get that figured out and find a time to begin planning.

- **Give Big**
 - Set up giving lounge at Legion
 - ipads, iphones, credit cards will all be available
 - We get 100% of proceeds, minus the transaction fees
 - We will get registered this week for the event
 - Give Big is May 4th and May 5th
- **Apparel**
 - Albie is in charge and ready to go for the basketball tournament and is also working on fan gear for the season.
 - Basketball tournament – apparel will go through Play it Again
- **Pancake Breakfast**
 - Working to align date with Universal Warehouse Sale
 - Meeting with legion to get dates approved

- Jim will go to legion board meeting in March

ii. Basketball Tournament

- Coach Poliquin will help to schedule boys to work
- Concession requests have gone out for people to donate
- 39 teams have registered.
- Mary Fran will head up concessions and sign-up genius for parent work shifts
- Albee Willett and Laurie Faure will manage t-shirts.
- Referee fees will be covered and all refs will be MOA.

c. Public Relations

- Chris to add GIVE BIG to website, Facebook, and Twitter
- Please test these and give feedback – if you are interested in helping contact Chris Tarabochia
- Last year 1-game passes were given to the Library to disperse to families. We will do this again.
- Passes are being printed by Allegra, waiting on final schedule, all three teams schedules will be printed on the passes
- Ron is representative at state level for State Tournament and will coordinate with Jim and Chris regarding website for the tournament.

VI. COACHES REPORT – Coach Poliquin

- Given the number of boys that have registered, cuts will have to be made.
- Pitchers have started throwing and are on pitch counts
- Of the 62 players currently registered, 31 are freshman or 8th graders (17 freshman; 14 8th graders)
- Coaches have met about 8th graders, there will be an affiliated 8th grade team, but will not technically be a part of the Bucks program.
- Coaches will meet with youth board to discuss some youth workshops/events.
- There is still no B coach – still looking
- Coach Poliquin has submitted background check for insurance.
- Coaches will be meeting with the State Tournament Committee for updates and planning, as coaches will need to make a report soon.
- Estimated number of games by level:
 - AA = 61
 - A = 65 (note: league has lost an A team, so this increases the number of games).
 - B = 46 (note: B team will play in 5 tournaments).

Q. Where is catcher gear?

A. After discussion, it was determined that the catcher gear is in the shed. Coach P. will take a look.

- Fundraising idea was suggested by Coach Poliquin: A March Madness Calcutta.
- Participants would “buy” teams through a bid process (so better teams would potentially cost more money).
- A portion of the money would go to the players of the Calcutta depending on how their team does, and a portion would go to the Legion program.

- Bidding would have to take place on T. March 14th which is when all the teams will in March Madness will be decided, and prior to the first game of round 1.
- Overall, parents felt that we should give this a try – Coach Poliquin has done it before with success. There was some concern about the gambling element that was discussed amongst attendees and the Executive Committee.
- Motion to approve moving forward with the March Madness Calcutta was made by Mark, seconded by Paul. All approved. Motion to approve the March Madness Calcutta as a fund raising event was **passed with a 5-0 vote**.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

a. Coaching Contracts

- Andy Willett is working on this.

b. Bingo

- Moving forward with volunteers helping out at Legion for Wednesday night bingo
- Anyone interested in helping or playing, Bingo starts at 6:30 p.m.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

a. Revised Committees

- This is in process, will update at next meeting

b. Player Registration – policy and form update

- Transfer policy is done each year. Legion has a form that is used to initiate the transfer process. Jim has this form and will review it.
- It was announced that Livingston will have an A team for the 2017 season
- By-law recommendations will be sent to the Executive Committee for review
- Policies will be discussed and reviewed by Executive Committee

c. Transportation

- Analysis was done on owning vs. renting a bus for the players. Executive Committee did not have this prior to meeting time.
- Comments from the Executive Committee and Attendees focused on these concerns/opinions:
 - Cost of maintenance
 - Drivers
 - Liability and risk issues
 - Insurance issues
 - Storage
- Everyone did agree that past transportation options have not been as safe or as cost-effective as it could be. Changes need to happen
- Paul addressed the potential to rent the bus to another organization in the off-season to help with cost and storage issue. This process is ongoing.

d. MSU Contract for State Tournament

- Contract to host the dinner at the SUB ballrooms at MSU was given to the Executive Committee to review and vote on. The contract looked good. Jason made a motion to sign the contract, Chris seconded. The signing of the contract was approved and passed with a 5-0 vote.
- Jim will sign the contract.

e. **Tri-Med Services** (added to the agenda at start of meeting)

- Coach Poliquin will coordinate with Tri-Med with regard to player and coach drug testing for the 2017 season.

f. **Universal** (added to agenda at end of meeting)

- Uniforms for 2017 season. After a delay in the process, members of the Executive Committee met with representatives from Universal.
- Uniforms have been selected for all three teams. Currently waiting on costs.
- Fitting appointment will be held on February 27th or 28th.
- Shoes will not be included. Players will be able to select their own shoes. More information on color requirements will be forthcoming.
- Oversized backpacks have been selected; as have catcher bags.
- 2 pair of pants will be included in the package – one white, one grey. Parents may pay for additional pants
- Budgeting \$240.00 per player

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Q. What is the practice schedule?

A. Tentatively thinking 4:30-6:30 for 8th and 9th grade, 6:00-8:00 all other age groups for on field practice. This will change depending on weather and availability of indoor facilities. Coaches will keep players/parents updated.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

- Next Meeting: **March 6, 7:00 pm at Morrison-Maierle Office** (2880 Technology BLVD West).

XI. ADJOURNMENT

- Adjourn: Mark made a motion to adjourn the February executive committee meeting, Chris seconded. All approved. **Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.