

## Agenda for SEPLL Board of Directors Meeting

Date/Time: Monday, December 14, 2015 @ 7:00 pm

Location: 3406 SE Gladstone St., Portland, OR 97202

A. Call to Order, Attendance and Introductions 2 minutes

*Present:* Matt, Eric, Kerry, Betsy, Janelle, David, Jeff, Julie, Cindi

*Unavailable:* Heather, Marne, Colette, Gary, Rocky

B. Approve Minutes of November 9, 2015 meeting 2 minutes

Minutes are online.

Motion to approve by Janelle

Seconded by David

All in favor; unanimous by 8 votes

C. Treasurers' Reports 10 minutes

1. Powell - Cindi Carrell

We spent some money to buy 10 new umpire sets of gear, all the balls, wiffle balls, etc. It's all within budget, and we are getting prepared well ahead of time. We got the taxes done for Portland; Powell taxes are done in February. Still waiting to divide the funds out – probably in January. All in good shape. Registration is going very well – payments come in quite frequently, which is great. We have some bills to pay, but again, it's all in the budget. All the payments are split between Portland and Powell. If/when the leagues merge soon, we will save some on insurance, league fees, administrative costs, etc.

2. Portland - Janelle Brinda

Cindi has the master sheet; she and Cindi will get together to discuss and review so both are well informed. Is there a date set to separate the books? It will be after the holidays. To date, Portland has paid for certain things, Powell has paid for certain things – it will be balanced documented in the coming month(s). It has worked out fairly well, with an equitable amount of expenses for each league. Registration comes into Portland; Powell gets concessions, for example. But it's really one account; there has been progress. Cindi had suggested the balance/documentation is better to do sooner than later; Matt agreed. It will most likely be sorted out in the coming month(s).

We are waiting on a bill from District 2 for concessions fee. Cindi/Janelle will check on it.

E. Officer Reports 72 minutes (6 each)

1. Secretary - Kerry Beeaker

Matt, Marne, Kerry and Cindi met to review the new flier that Marne designed; talked about what to include, what could be left off, photos to include, etc. Marne got back a revised design which is really great; Kerry will compile edits and suggestions for her.

2. Social Media - Kerry Beeaker

The only recent post is about registration being open. She will do some additional posts about registration and the early-bird discount going away at the end of December. She also reminded the board to send images, ideas, links, etc., to her for Facebook posts – doesn't have to be SEPLL specific. It's about building community and keeping people engaged, especially when we're not in season. All suggestions welcome!

3. Concessions - Gary Gibson

[nothing to report at the moment] Janelle asks that if we are thinking of doing concessions at Woodstock again, let's schedule in a time to get the shack there well before opening day – maybe a week? To get it cleaned, stocked, organized.

#### 4. Equipment Manager - Rocky Smith

Matt confirmed that Rocky is still involved. Heather and Gary have already ordered what we need for next season. Most of the bags are already in good shape for the upcoming season. What is left, before opening day? Heather has a list to refer to – safety bags, scorebooks, ump equipment, for example. Regarding umpire gear, Matt will do an inventory and see what is needed.

What do we think about the balloon style chest protectors, to make parents feel safer and thereby more interested in volunteering? We also have umpire shirts that were donated, for those parents who are interested in umping.

Eric asked about things like pitching machines – would that fall under field equipment? Heather has looked into it – but Eric wants to know if he would be in charge of storage, maintaining the equipment, etc. Anything we can do to take things off Heather's plate would be a good thing right now. Some discussion about pitching machines at Brooklyn and Essex, and Woodstock. Ideally, we'd need 4 (2 for baseball, 2 for softball). Some talk of slingshot and wheel machines.

#### 5. Fields Manager - Eric Herr

He does a drive-by every couple weeks to make sure everything is cool and still in place. We have the locks and galvanized chains for the fences. He asks that we get plugs for the field, to mark the bases and pitchers mound. He will do an inventory to see what we have. Matt says we can just purchase those plugs. Essex for sure, and that might be it. Porta-potties are gone from Essex and Kenilworth; still two at Woodstock – those may be year-round? Eric will follow up with Cindi.

Matt asked about the 2<sup>nd</sup> field at Woodstock – Eric says yes, it will be playable if we get a volunteer group together. We may need some money to be spent – sand, human power. As long as the school is OK with us going in and fixing up the field, we should be good to go. Janelle mentioned some history with the Woodstock school admins about this; Eric will check with Heather. We should pull the lockbox from Kern to move it to Woodstock, since we're not going to be using that field (Kern) if we don't have to.

Matt asked about field permits; Colette did this on her own the past few years. Eric should talk with her about all of this, sometime after Christmas, ideally in mid-January.

#### 6. Player Agent - Heather Adams

[unavailable] Per Matt: Registration on Dec. 1 (actually, early). We have 35 kids registered already, which is great. All we've done to advertise so far is an email and a Facebook post. The discount goes through December 31<sup>st</sup> – Kerry will do a couple more posts about this. The flier will ideally go out in the next few weeks, which will be another big push.

Per Matt, things are going really well. Heather has been doing a great job, very organized. The only foreseeable issue is the age issue – it changed again. Went from calendar year to the newest thing: the new cutoff is August 31, to coincide with the school year. Our issue is that our Team Sideline program, there are limitations (with the software) so that some kids can't sign up for the age group they want to be in – Matt and Heather will handle these cases on a case-by-case basis.

Next event up is Player Assessments. We have dates (2/21 and 2/22) but no location yet. Janelle and Julie will make some calls to find a spot. Last year, we used Cleveland and Marshall. We had good turnout at both. We'd prefer to keep it to just one weekend.

#### 7. Safety Officer - David Munro

The plan is coming together. We need to set dates for safety training, ideally right after the coaches meeting. Or is

it too much to incorporate into the coaches meetings? The coaches meeting are spread out over four evenings in a row in early February – t-ball, farm and rookie, major, minor. The last few years, we’ve brought in a medical expert for the training; we don’t necessary have to do that. We could conceivably set it up online, as we’ve done in the past. But as we saw in the 2015 season, the safety training does have value. David will contact the woman who did the training last year, who indicated she’d be interested. We should consider holding these events at a more hospitable, inviting space that served food and drinks – such as one of our sponsors, Shut Up and Eat? Or Brooklyn Pub? Something like that.

David needs a list of the fields so he can pull the safety info regarding their size for the LL safety plan. Only need fields for games, versus practice.

Still no Umpire-in-Chief or VP, which would be good to include on the safety plan.

8. VP of Softball - Julie Smith

Julie is checking with Richard [Reece]? About clinic dates.

9. Sponsorship - Marne Duke

[unavailable] The flier is in great shape; Kerry will compile the suggestions that the group had to give to Marne for a revision.

10. Uniforms Manager - Betsy Halvorson

Uniforms are underway, will be after Christmas. She is still inventorying bags and piles of random stuff in her basement (things with the old logos, etc.). A lot of that stuff will be a part of the gear swap (which we can also organize for Assessments). She is sorting out how to deal with spirit wear; it is already linked in with online registration, which is really cool. We have added some new items; once registration closes, they ship stuff out. There are three established “buying windows” – registration, mid-season, playoff time.

11. Website - Heather Adams

Per Matt, it is looking pretty good. We were told it would be mobile, but he didn’t think it looks that great. However, it does look OK on Android.

Suggestions from Eric: 1) We need to rotate sponsors in the banners. 2) Too many flashing images, stuff moving around; make some of it solid.

Betsy asked that Matt/Heather look into the LL International age calculator (which our site links to) – no option for current six-year-olds. It is confusing. Most likely it will be case-by-case.

12. Vacant Board Positions - Matt Duckworth

- Coaching Coordinator – Jeff suggested that Friends of Baseball may be a resource; Jeff’s brother would also run a clinic for us, topic/style to be determined. Would be late February, early March.
- Umpire-in-Chief – nothing to report.

E. Committee Reports

1. Merger - Matt Duckworth

5 minutes

Things moved quickly; Taborvilla and Lents are moving around. Matt signed a new border map and our constitution, which was then submitted by Georgia to the league. It is looking good; Matt is optimistic that it will happen. The other leagues are getting together to do the same. Matt feels like it is moving forward and everyone is on board. Cindi asks about population differences – are they basically equitable? The concern is that we would be quite a bit larger than the other two leagues. All divided between Taborvilla and Mount Hood. Southeast Portland will have three leagues, which is a lot, but all good, positive news.

F. New Business

Have a Volunteer Open House in early January – Monday, January 25: provide info about coaching, concessions, umping, etc. Have it at a sponsor where people can relax, get something to eat/drink. Can we approve spending some money for food, or some sort of initiative? Cindi suggests maybe \$300 on this? Cindi makes a motion for Matt to spend up to \$400 on this event from discretionary funds; Eric seconds – unanimously passed.

If we can get the sponsors in early, should we call the teams by the sponsors names, like LL used to?

G. Adjourn

8:45 pm

The next meeting will be held on January 11, 2016 @ 7:00 pm at Round Table Pizza (unless someone wants to host).