

**St. Anthony sports Boosters Softball Association (SABSA) Minutes  
November 17, 2013 Meeting**

Call to Order:

President Al Bates called the meeting to order at 6:39 pm.

Attendees:

Al Bates, Dirk DeWester, Jerry Welch, Rick Ballot

Meeting Ending Goal:

Al shared a goal of ending the meeting at 8:00 pm/ continuing a 'path' to meetings of 1 ½ hours.

Approval of the Prior Meeting's Minutes:

Minutes from the November 2 meeting were discussed, including a report from Rick on the Boosters Baseball meeting he attended, (which included a bit more of an overview of the main subject of the Nov 2 SABSA meeting – the proposed C2 & C3 field improvements):

Project total is for ~\$33K, \$9K of which is for batting cages & fencing. The grant proposal to the Twins Community Fund is for ~\$16K and St. Anthony would raise \$17K. St. Anthony organizations contributing will be SABSA, Huskies Diamond Club, SAVHS Softball, Boosters Baseball, Dugout Club, & SAVHS Baseball. Boosters Baseball is contributing ~\$7,500. Grant approval notification is expected to be released around Dec. 1.

Motion to approve the minutes of Nov 2 meeting by Rick, second by Jerry; motion passed.

Budget Review of 2013 Actuals and 2014 Budget Rough Draft:

2013 Actual spending was shown in rough form, described as relatively accurate, but not as accurate or as detailed as the 2014 budget categories presented, which we would like to move towards. 2013 resulted in a net increase to the ("bank") account of approximately \$1,300 (a decrease from last month's reporting as some costs trickle in, with final numbers pending 12/31/13 Boosters Treasurer's reporting).

These 2014 Budget items were discussed in some detail, and agreements were reached on:

- Jerseys – last year's jerseys were good. The split between 't-shirt-type' jerseys for Instructional and Slowpitch – and – 'real' Jerseys for 10U/12U/14U was affirmed. SABSA will continue to pay for t-shirt-type jerseys for the younger teams, and will continue to pay for a Player's first 10U Jersey. The numbering scheme (to not duplicate numbers across years) will be maintained, and players will not need new jerseys each year. As a player outgrows their 10U (SABSA provided) jersey, they will need to purchase their own (subsequent) jersey(s). This will enable us to stay with a higher quality jersey. Cost of adding names will be researched, with the idea of moving to 'real' (10U/12U/14U) Jerseys with Last Names (in addition to numbers).
- The value of playing an 'in-season' tournament, in addition to the Qualifier and State Tournaments was discussed, and it was decided to begin this for 2014.

- Our current “bank” balance, coupled with uniform savings and potential careful management of equipment replacement funds, should enable the addition of an in-season tournament without an increase in Registration Fees for 2014.
- There was agreement that Head Coaches should be provided a SABSA-paid Coach’s Shirt, and that Assistant Coaches would be allowed to purchase the same shirt “at cost”.
- It was decided to strongly encourage the Player purchase of a (personal) batting helmet, and to move to black “baseball” pants for uniform consistency. There was interest in finding what was available from vendors we have used in the past, or other close vendors with good reputations.
- We should have a “final Budget” for the next meeting.

#### Clinics Scheduling Progress:

Al announced progress in scheduling the Holiday Break Pitching Clinic with MFA (Minnesota Fastpitch Academy) and 6 St. Anthony Pitcher’s initial signups. Skills clinics (at SAVHS) for the January – February time frame are in the works, as are plans to attempt to replicate last year’s HDC-sponsored Slapping and Catching clinics. There was discussion that for the future, because of girls in basketball, Sundays would be better for the Skills Clinics. It is too late to reschedule for 2014. Open gyms are planned for late January – February, at Wilshire Park. Volunteer Coaches will be needed to Proctor the open gyms. April Warm-Up (Tuesday Nights in April) Clinics are again planned for Wilshire Park, to be geared towards 12U and younger. Should we have a 14U offering? Inconclusive discussion ensued. Perhaps; this item is likely to be revisited.

#### Program Elements Discussion:

This item was “tabled” for a future meeting.

#### Reimbursement for Coaches attending Coaching Clinics:

The subject of Coaches training and interest in subsidizing or reimbursing (Head and Assistant) Coaches for attending clinics was discussed. Al presented the MMFL and NSC Clinic offerings for this winter. Rick moved, Dirk seconded, to approve SABSA Head and Assistant Coach reimbursement for attending the MMFL-offered Coaching Clinic series.

#### Bylaws Revision:

Al shared copies of the Bylaws, highlighted with suggested areas for revision, including three major categories of “updating”: Election of the SABSA President, movement away from ‘transition language’ to ‘sustaining language’ for the Board (including disassociation of Board membership from Duties-Based Positions), and minor language corrections. The Bylaws revisions will be considered in the December meeting.

#### Other Business:

Feedback for the HDC regarding the Spaghetti Dinner – there should be some encouragement to move those who have already eaten towards the “bar end” of the Pub, to allow the later-arriving diners places at the tables at the “restaurant end” of the Pub.

Evaluations suggestion – 10Us, including Slowpitch, should have a hitting element.

Slowpitch – contact with Fridley should be initiated, to discuss the “future” of the “Slowpitch league”/offering for Players between Instructional and 10U Fastpitch.

Open Gym attendance should be encouraged via emails, for Player preparation prior to Evaluations.

Pitching Clinic attendance & Pitching Evaluations attendance could/should? be a requirement for eligibility to Pitch on a Summer Fastpitch Team. This idea will likely be refined at a future meeting.

We should continue to invite all Parents to attend SABSA meetings via email, and share that the minutes have been posted on the website. (Ask for replies if they want to stop receiving emails, too).

Next meeting:

The next meeting will be WEDNESDAY, December 18 at 6:30 pm at the Village Pub.

Meeting adjourned:

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Al Bates, President