

PCSL and Illinois Fire Juniors Feb 2019 Meeting Minutes

Present: Kirt McReynolds, Matt Frank, Rich Berlin, Scott Hargus, Alicia O'Malley Chaon, Miranda Frank, John Lambert, Andie Halley, Erika Hunt, Chrissy Mora, Amanda Esparaza, Myron King, Frank Schuler, Chris Downing

Absent: Paul Caldwell, Tim Koch, Sean Dunne, Clint Warren, Pam Bauman

The meeting started at 7:00 pm and concluded at 9:00 pm at Advocate BroMenn Health & Fitness Center.

General Discussion Topics:

President's Topics - Kirt

- Motion was made for Jeremy Kelley to fill the IFJ secretary position by Matt Frank. Seconded by Andie Halley. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Frank brought up the discussion as the board moves forward that duplication of positions could be reviewed with mergers occurring, freeing up board members to work on other key priorities.
 - Referee Training and Mentorship is on March 10th with PCSL funding a portion of the training costs and establishing a bump in pay for higher licensed refs. Additionally there are funds available from CYSL to help promote/coordinate ref mentoring. Exploration of a proposal to fund a position is something the board should consider.
 - Planning Meeting Wrap up documents were shared with the group. Tim is continuing to work on preparing metrics that will be brought before the group at a future meeting and used to follow progress of our work.
4. IFJ/PCSL Merger Next Steps
- Discussion on how to brand and logo the collective organizations. One concept discussed was a patch on all rec and travel jerseys that celebrated both clubs. Frank shared the following logo created:



- Various board members said they liked the logo. A vote on this logo was tabled for the next meeting and further discussion.
- Kirt shared an update on discussion with a lawyer on how to unite the two organizations in legal documents. His findings from the conversation were:
 - Due diligence has been done by working together
 - Merger agreement (under 10 pages)
 - Phoenix would draft this
 - No need to do a letter of intent
 - Each party would look into each other's financials
 - Take two pieces and go to the AG- draft of the agreement that the parties have signed up for
 - Can be on a conference call with committee members
 - Insurance policies will need to be checked- brokers that are involved with both groups
 - Could represent the new entity
 - File with IRS? Need to figure this out. Could seek the same status.
 - Resolution/vote to proceed
- A motion was made and passed unanimously to start this discussion with the lawyer to unite the two organizations in a legal sense.

Marketing/ Fundraising/Sponsorship Alternatives - Jeremy

- Capital Campaign Update – Campaign committee continues to form with over 15 members. A chair should be finalized by the beginning of March. The board approved opening an account with the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation to manage funds from the campaign, allowing donors from across the community to have a clearer understanding that their gifts would be support the sports fields and not a particular soccer club.
- Fields Update – Discussions continue on two possible site locations. Jeremy asked the board to watch their emails in case a digital vote is necessary to move forward with purchase or other actions on a potential opportunity. Additionally, Jeremy noted the funds earmarked in the City of Bloomington’s budget for a sports complex. It is still unknown what affect that would have on the field campaign or the club’s plans moving forward.
- Club fundraisers:
 - Lip Sync fundraiser is scheduled for June 7th at the Castle Theatre from 6-11 pm. Kim and Ben Janvrin are helping Jeremy with the planning. More details will come out in the coming months.
 - Juggling fundraiser is slated for May 22nd. Details are still being finalized
- Other Issue – selective tem fundraising. Given that the club will be headed into a major campaign, and following club protocol, all individual team fundraisers must come before and be approved by the board before occurring. This helps to make sure all legal requirements of the fundraiser are met, funds are held in a manner that the club can ethically and legally approve, and that the actions align with the clubs goals. A reminder of the policy and ask to put a hold on all team specific fundraising ideas until after the fields campaign is complete was approved by the board.

IFJ Spring Shootout – Alicia

- Teams Registered – As of mid-February 35 teams are registered. A little behind pace on 2018, but clubs register in bulk so one club signing up would put us back on pace.
- Planning Update – Ask that all board members contact Alicia to have a particular assignment/oversight of the tourney (Scoring/Parking/Ref/Etc.). Alicia has also worked so that Committee members will be able to step away to see their kids play by having back-ups for each leadership role.

Community Fields – Frank

- Spring 2019 Complex Preparations – Fields received fertilizer in November but cold snap prevented aeration, meaning spring thaw could see large amounts of standing water.
- Equipment Needs/Purchases Status
 - Goals for 15 & 16 – Goal purchase was approved at Jan meeting.
 - Nets – May be additional expenses needed on nets once Frank can get to fields and see winter damage
 - Other Needs –
 - Board approved tear down of small wooden shed with all items stored moving into metal shed.
 - Frank meets with new parks director for City of Bloomington to understand field upkeep
 - Fire needs someone on cart @ fields for Sunday league games to help with parking control/Defib machine available/other issues. Erika will see if volunteers unable to be at Fire tourney can cover this

IFJ Travel Operations Update - Myron/Amanda/Chrissy

- Myron returned from grassroots training and held coaches meeting with over 60 plus in attendance.
- Myron has arranged with Fire's Chris Solomons a number of Fire in the Community camps that will educate travel, rec and other children in the community interested in soccer
- Soccer camps arranged for Dist #87 (24 camps total). Normal parks and rec summer camps established and good relationship formed. Issues with Bloomington Parks with understanding of what camp demands are vs limiting numbers in their summer promotional materials.

PCSL Operations Update - John/Pam

- Spring numbers for rec continue to grow, especially in the new U5 division. Advertising of that division and registration saw a boost in numbers so that approach may be taken again.
- Over 200 players have been placed for the spring season alone
- A coaching clinic for all PCSL coaches featuring Fire coaching professionals is being considered either April 28th or after 40th anniversary event
- 40th anniversary event is approaching for May 4th. Sub committee led by John will start meeting to prepare for the event. Jeremy and Chris offered to join the effort.
- Silent Sunday will occur again in the spring with clearer information to younger age groups on what can be talked about (throw ins, corner kicks, etc.)