

# NHAA Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022, at 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom

**Meeting Call to order:** 7:33 p.m.

## **Board Attendance/Roll Call:**

### Present via Zoom:

Jim Filisky, President  
Kevin Bilkie, Vice President  
Chase Senk, VP of Equipment  
Mike Graham, VP of Fields  
Dave Hermann, IT and Communications  
Scott Lanzilotta, Treasurer (out at 8:40)  
Cathy Loya, Secretary  
Matt Bewley, Board Member  
Kyle Deininger, Board Member (in at 7:45)  
Nicole Gvora, Board Member (out at 8:50)  
Brian James, Board Member (in at 8:00)  
Brenda Kovi, Board Member  
Nick Lanese, Board Member  
Bobby Reville, Board Member  
Kenny Sanger, Board Member (out at 8:00)  
Marc Sprang, Board Member

### Present via Telephone:

### Absent:

Andy Papile, Travel Coordinator  
Melinda Malyuk, Board Member  
Julie Moran, Board Member

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## Agenda:

### I. Review of meeting minutes from December 1, 2021

Motion made by Jim to accept the minutes from the December 1, 2021, meeting. Motion first by Dave.  
Motion second by Matt. The 12.1.2021 minutes were approved.

### II. President's Report

Updates given throughout within committee reports.

### III. Current Action Items

#### 1. Off-season clinics (Set up in February/March 2022) Final decisions need to be made in order to schedule

##### a. Strike Force

1. Proposal for four (4) sessions; 90 minutes for boys/90 minutes for girls  
No charge coach's clinic  
Total cost: ~\$4,000.00

##### b. Josh Bieneman

1. Proposal for three (3) sessions; 90 minutes for boys and girls  
Session 1 for coaches; Session 2 for grades K-5; Session 3 for grades 6-12  
Total cost: ~\$1,350.00

##### c. Ron Deubel

1. Update from Kenny

##### d. D-BAT

1. Update from Jim

D-BAT proposal was explained by Jim as received January 3, 2022. Proposed cost is \$880 for up to 50 girls for a 2-hour session. They can do Sunday from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. in February 2022. Three (3) instructors would be used (\$100 per instructor). Field rental approximately \$260-\$280. Total cost for three (3) sessions: ~\$2,640.00

Marc expressed concerns about doing comparable proposals from all facilities, specifically Strike Force.

Kevin confirmed excellent instructors at D-BAT for clinics.

Scott expressed desire to develop a spreadsheet comparison of proposals per facility. This will allow for apples-to-apples comparison of proposals. Scott wishes to see a prepared requirement document prepared and presented to each facility for quotation.

Scott expressed reservations of putting 50-60 kids together in a space at this time due to health concerns. Scott proposed moving clinics to March 2022. Jim echoed these concerns and highlighted that Nordonias gymnasium availability would be more open in March 2022 for in-house clinics (minimal rental fees and utilizing in-house equipment). Nick voiced desire to press forward with planning clinics in the event that health concerns change, and if health concerns cause a cancellation then so be it.

Kenny communicated with Ron Deubel and further parameters are needed. Kenny expressed Ron's willingness to teach, but more parameters are needed (i.e. age group of kids, baseball versus softball, skills, location) for clinics.

Jim requesting spreadsheet development for comparison pricing and scope per facility. Kevin volunteered to take the lead on this task. Marc suggested modeling parameters after D-BAT proposal. (2-hour clinic time frame with 3 instructors and maximum of 50 registrants).

Scott voiced desire for clinics to happen in either February or March. Weather will still require indoor play in March. Kevin sees value in having clinics in March with the outdoor practice season beginning in April.

Jim suggests looking for bookings in third week of February into March, every other week for scheduling of clinics. Jim suggests splitting age groups for clinics. Scott suggests quoting one session with parameters set and then go with preferred vendor and then work out details on further sessions.

Clinics will be for both baseball and softball. Kevin inquired about three (3) clinic sessions for baseball and three (3) clinic sessions. Jim expressed higher number of baseball registrants, so suggested two (2) clinic sessions for softball and three (3) clinic sessions for baseball. Age groups for each clinic session would need to be established.

Kenny Sanger, Kevin Bilkie, Scott Lanzilotta, and Marc Sprang will work as a committee to secure quotations for these clinics and present back to the Board.

2. NHAA Board knowledge and approval of all fundraisers (including Travel Teams) relative to 501(c)3 status
  - a. Confirmation of language to Travel Team bylaws

Chase has language all updated and is below:

*[Travel Program head coaches shall determine the fundraising efforts for their respective teams] and must notify, and request approval from, their respective travel commissioner of all fundraising efforts with reasonable advance notice.*

Brackets indicate already existing language. Jim made motion to approve new language for Travel Team bylaws. Brenda second. Language approved and will be added.

Marc indicated existing language in bylaws that proceeds from the Boys Bash (paragraph 14) will solely go towards that year's 12U Cooperstown trip, but the Girls Bash proceeds was in question. Chase read from the bylaws which state that the proceeds from the Girls Bash (paragraph 15) will be combined and split equally.

- b. Update from Andy regarding notification of all Travel Team coaches

No meeting has been scheduled as of yet.

#### IV. Committee Reports

- 1. Finance Committee

- a. Treasurer/Chair Report

- 1. Current financial report

Full 2021 detailed financial report emailed to members on 1.5.2022.

Balance: \$36,724.20

Notable expenses include umpires, uniforms, field maintenance, Space Place recurring rental, and Toro recurring payment.

Notable revenue includes travel league income and recreation dues.

- 2. Open invoices

- a. Fields

- 1. Status on pending final payment to Brian

Scott indicated the increasing cost with field maintenance. Scott indicated that Brian does a great job with the fields. Scott highlighted that field maintenance is a big portion of the budget. Weekend games do drive an extra cost. Jim inquired about not using fields on the weekend, and Dave confirmed that weekend games were scheduled during the Fall Ball season; not much weekend activity during spring/summer season. Scott suggested having a 4-day crew and a 3-day crew. Jim expressed concerns over the transition of equipment between each crew.

- 3. Checks received

- a. Confirmation of check received from Chevy

Not received yet.

- 4. Insurance renewal status (Jeff Sindelar – due in March/April for 12-month policy)

Scott has emailed Jeff Sindelar on 1.5.2022 regarding quote for insurance renewal.

- 5. Update on discussion with accountant regarding possible need for twelve (12) separate Travel business accounts, tracking through QuickBooks with professional assistance

Scott indicated that this discussion with the accountant is pending.

6. Prepare Operating Budget for upcoming 2022 season
  - a. Have budget available for community review prior to the start of the season

7. Cooperstown

Scott updated Board on 12U Travel Baseball team's upcoming summer trip (6.28.2022) to Cooperstown. Health protocols issued by New York prevented last year's team from attending, thus grandfathered bid was lost. Scott trying to rekindle the tradition/experience for community kids. Scott reapplied and has paid the team's deposit. Scott is asking for help and support with fundraising and promoting the Boys Bash as all proceeds go to this Cooperstown trip. (\$1295 per player)

2. Fields Committee

- a. VP of Fields/Chair Report

Mike indicated that the fields are in good condition for this time of year.

1. Written proposal for Sagamore Hills Trustees (re: 9.13.2021 Trustee meeting)  
(re: NHAA improvements to Sagamore Park)
    2. Equipment boxes
      - a. Two (2) boxes from Sagamore Park put into storage

Mike removed these extra two (2) plastic boxes and placed them into the storage unit.

3. Additional maintenance before start of season
    4. Securing fields for 2022 season
      - a. Update regarding scheduling at Longwood with Kelly at City of Macedonia

Dave indicated Kelly is no longer the contact. Dave has been communicating directly with Jason Chadock at the City of Macedonia. Dave indicated that Jason informed via email that the Macedonia fees are increasing. Old fees were \$15 for rec use and \$30 for travel use. New fees will be (weekdays) \$30 for rec and travel usage in addition to a \$25 drag and line fee for 2-hour rental. Weekend fees will be different. Jim indicated from the Jason's email that NHAA will not see anything different than this fee structure even if prices increase due to supply issues for the City. Jim suggests that travel teams budget for this increase. Dave indicated to Jason that Monday and Thursday dates are going to be requested along with travel needs. Jason indicated that applications will not be accepted until late Jan.

Nick indicated good negotiation leverage with questioning same fee for both rec and travel leagues. Kevin indicated his discussions with Mayor Molnar. Kevin suggests scheduling early at Longwood and lock in dates (Monday and Thursday) and then lock in other fields for travel play. Kevin will discuss further with Mayor Molnar. Marc indicated that outside tournaments are mainly scheduled Thursday-Sun. Discussion is needed about the cost. Jim suggested using the Longwood fields as little as possible; Jim suggested utilizing Sagamore Field 4 more. Scott highlighted the rec increase from \$15 to \$55 per 2-hour use was a very large increase.

Kevin will discuss with the City of Macedonia on fee structure for the NHAA.

- b. Secure community and school fields for use

3. Equipment Committee

- a. VP of Equipment/Chair Report

1. Update on Fall Ball equipment return status
        - a. Outstanding coaches – James Cunningham and Frank Ditzig

Chase indicated that all outstanding equipment has been returned.

2. Update on vendor equipment quotations/bids
  - a. Harry Oschip at Five Tool Youth
  - b. Dan LeeMaster at PrimeTime
  - c. Seth Thompson at BSN Sports

Chase still in contact with vendors. Marc will work with Chase on new BSN contact as Seth is no longer the contact. New BSN contact is Cameron. Chase requested information back from Dan at PrimeTime and Harry at Five Tool. Chase indicated that Harry can only help out with balls, but Harry supplied a contact with A.D. Starr (affiliated with Dick's Sporting Goods). Chase received a quote already from A.D. Starr less than PrimeTime with inventory in stock. Chase will request a quote from BSN once contact is established. Marc also suggested reaching out to Ashley at Play It Again Sports in Twinsburg for equipment. Chase will contact Ashley.

3. Replacement list (i.e. catcher's gear and other broken items)

Chase indicated equipment being ordered is based off of inventory that was taken in the fall.

#### 4. Uniform Committee

##### a. Chair Report

1. Update on vendor quotes to prepare bid process
  - a. Discuss final due date for uniform orders (proposed date of April 16, 2022, by Dave)

Cathy indicated that the bid has been updated. Further update will be made to the bid form to clearly indicate an order date of Saturday, April 16, 2022, for a delivery date of Friday, May 6, 2022.

2. Discuss sponsors regarding uniforms and/or banners
  - a. Sponsor form will need updating by Dave

Dave wishes to update the sponsor form online either for a banner or on the uniform. Cathy indicated that no quotes for banners have been obtained at this point. Discussion was had regarding sponsor banners for teams to be responsible for displaying while in league play versus displaying of sponsor logo on uniform. Marc and Brian indicated that various sponsors wish to see their logo on a uniform for the sponsor fee while others may simply wish to make a donation. Brian indicated the desire not to see banners.

Jim asked the Uniform committee to get prices on a 2-color logo being added to the uniform (front or back)

Marc suggested two (2) large banners with all sponsor logos to be permanently displayed at Sagamore Park. For example, 20 sponsors all on one banner. Kevin and Nick expressed interest in this. Jim is requesting a quote on this idea.

Dave will remove the sponsor form from the website until further discussion is had whether displaying sponsor on uniforms or on a banner.

3. Add language to Travel Team bylaws regarding common uniforms

#### 5. Discipline Committee

##### a. Chair Report

Nothing to report.

6. Strategic Planning Committee

a. Chair Report

1. Update regarding additional quote(s) for reworking fields (Marc Sprang update)

b. Update on meeting for written future strategic plan

Nick indicated meeting with Jim, but another meeting will be requested for more members to attend. A wish list was made for capital improvements to fields (i.e. improve dugouts, lights, fences). These items were scored/ranked in terms of cost, complexity, and effort/time to complete. Nick indicated a desire to meet again with a larger group so that a presentation can be made to the Board with the goal being a clearer focus for fundraising for a specific improvement. Nick will reach out to committee members for a future meeting.

7. Player Development Committee

a. Chair Report

b. Update from Nikki regarding softball pitching instructor

Nikki will reconnect with softball pitching instructor and report back.

c. Update from Jim regarding reservation of gym space

Jim has no updates as gym space is being utilized for other sports at this time.

8. Marketing and Fundraising Committee

a. Chair Report

1. Update on fundraiser opportunities

a. Golf outing

Matt inquired thoughts about the distance away from the community to schedule a golf outing. Discussion was had and it was suggested to keep it close. Jim suggested reaching out to private clubs as they may have off-peak availability. Jim suggested less than \$100 per person. Consensus was for a scramble outing.

b. Restaurants

2. Update on school contacts for flier distribution

3. Update on social media and electronic advertising registration

4. Update regarding quote from Badlime for banners/signs to advertise registration

Nick will reach out to Badlime for banner quotations.

5. Further discuss sponsor banners during league play

9. Technology Committee

a. IT and Communications/Chair Report

b. Online registration for 2022 Spring/Summer season has been created and is ready to open (January 15, 2022)

Dave confirmed that registration is ready to go live on January 15, 2022, with updated fee structure for all leagues. When registration is opened, Dave will initiate an email blast announcing it. Nick inquired about a one-page flier for social media presentation. Nick indicated that they will put something together to post.

1. Updated fee by an increase of \$5 across all leagues

2. Email blast to previously registered families

- c. Continued discussion of in-person registration with mini-clinics

## V. Travel Update

### 1. Travel Coordinator Report

- a. Travel meeting with all travel coaches to determine fields
- b. Bash updates
  - 1. Girls Bash: May 20 – 22, 2022
    - a. Mid-January to schedule with Sagamore Hills Township to reserve fields
  - 2. Boys Bash: June 3 – 5, 2022
    - a. Mid-January to schedule with Sagamore Hills Township to reserve fields

## VI. New Action Items

- 1. Discuss playing with Twinsburg Baseball League (TBL) and Hudson for Willie Mays and/or Pee Wee Reese

Jim indicated that communication with TBL and Hudson is just now starting.

### 2. Review all dates

Dave will review all dates for continuity.

#### Proposed dates:

Saturday, April 16, 2022 – Equipment distribution (morning)  
Saturday, April 16, 2022 – Field maintenance day (afternoon)  
Monday, April 18, 2022 – Practice to begin  
Monday, May 9, 2022 – Pre-season games to begin

Nick expressed concern over not having a rain week built in to last year's schedule. Dave indicated that playing with other communities really made scheduling rain outs challenging.

## VII. Open Discussion/Comments

Kyle inquired about ideas and ways to improve GMP. Jim indicated clinics trying to be set up for further development of players. Suggestions were made to begin with fundamental skill development prior to games.

Jim indicated that meetings will need to be every 2 weeks now as there is a lot going on. Goal for next meeting is a 30-minute meeting to assign league trustees and committee updates.

**Date of next NHAA Board of Trustees meeting:**

Wednesday, January 19, 2022, at 8:00 p.m.

**Location of next NHAA Board of Trustees meeting:**

via Zoom

**Meeting adjourned:** 9:11 p.m.