

NHAA Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

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

Location: Zoom

Meeting Call to order: 8:03 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
Cathy Loya, Secretary
Matt Bewley, Board Member
Kyle Deininger, Board Member (in at 8:07)
Nicole Gvora, Board Member
Brian James, Board Member
Brenda Kovi, Board Member
Nick Lanese, Board Member (in at 8:15)
Julie Moran, Board Member (in at 8:23)
Bobby Reville, Board Member
Kenny Sanger, Board Member
Marc Sprang, Board Member

Present via Telephone:

Andy Papile, Travel Coordinator (in at 8:30)

Absent:

Melinda Malyuk, Board Member

Agenda:

I. Review of meeting minutes from January 5, 2022

Motion made by Jim to accept the minutes from the January 5, 2022, meeting.

Motion first by Dave. Motion second by Mike. A unanimous voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

II. NHAA League Trustee Assignments

1. T-Ball (co-ed) (Kindergarten)
2. Babe Ruth (Boys – Grades 1 and 2)
3. Willie Mays (Boys – Grades 3 and 4)
4. Pee Wee Reese (Boys – Grades 5 and 6)
5. Sandy Koufax (Boys – Grades 7 and 8)
6. Boys Colt (Boys – Grades 9-12)
7. Girls Manager Pitch (Girls – Grades 2 and 3)
8. Girls A League (Girls – Grades 4 and 5)
9. Girls AA League (Girls – Grade 6, 7 and 8)

10. Girls AAA League (Girls – Grades 9-12)

Trustee assignments were not discussed.

III. Committee Reports

1. Finance Committee

a. Treasurer/Chair Report

1. Current financial report

Financial update was emailed to all Board members on 1/19/2022.

Balance: \$36,613.84

The \$10 Huntington Bank service fee was noted and discussed.

2. Open invoices

a. Fields

1. Status on pending final payment to Brian

Not discussed.

3. Checks received

a. Confirmation of check received from Chevy

Check for \$500 was received and deposited as per financial update provided.

4. Update on insurance renewal from Jeff Sindelar (due in March/April for 12-month policy)

Not discussed

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

Not discussed

6. Prepare Operating Budget for upcoming 2022 season

a. Have budget available for community review prior to the start of the season

Not discussed

2. Skills Clinic Committee

Parameters: 2-hour clinic time frame with 3 instructors and max. of 50 registrants.

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. Proposal for three (3) sessions; 120 minutes for up to 50 participants

Sundays in February 2022 from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.

- Three (3) instructors (\$100 per instructor) Field rental (approximately \$260-\$280)
 Total cost: ~\$2,640.00 (\$880 per clinic session)
 e. Time frame for clinics (February versus March)

Scott shared with the Board the following information regarding clinics:

Facility	Instructor cost per hour	Facility charge per hour	Total Cost for 2 hour Clinic	Comments
D Bats	\$100	\$140	\$880	Not sure on space. Parents/coaches not allowed to help
Strikeforce	\$30	\$150	\$480	Turf (65x65) and two tunnels. Most likely Sunday 2-6 time frame
Caps/Josh	\$150 (Josh), \$40- each additional	\$100 for 90x90, \$300 for 105x195	\$660 for 1/6 of field house	Have 2/18, and 2/24 reserved 7:30- 9pm. Impressive facility

Discussion was had regarding each facility and what was quoted. D Bats facility is comparable in size to the other facilities, but can only offer Sunday mornings from 8 a.m. until 10 a.m. for use. The Board discussed this as an unattractive time slot. Caps Facility in Valley View is holding the following dates for the NHAA: Friday, 2/18 and Friday, 2/25.

Scott suggested three (3) clinics for boys baseball and two (2) clinics for girls softball. Scott suggested taking older boys (5th grade and older) into two (2) sessions at Caps facility in Valley View. Younger boys and softball clinics could be done at Strike Force. Clinics at Strike Force would need to be Sunday afternoons from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m.

Scott also suggested approaching Nordon High School baseball coach to do a clinic utilizing their facility. The same offer would be extended to the NHS softball coach for girls softball clinics. This is an opportunity for relationship building with NHS baseball/softball along with a fundraising opportunity for the NHS teams. Scott suggested discussing this with the coach and school regarding feasibility of clinic and utilization of school space. Jim echoed it would be great to build relationships with the High School teams. Jim also expressed desire to inquire about this as quickly as possible to know if it can be done so that advertisements can be made to the community.

Marc expressed concerns about D Bats cost and offered time of Sunday mornings. Marc also expressed concerns about Caps time frame of February 18 as being too soon because of lack of time to register and advertise. Marc expressed interest in seeing clinics happen in March versus February. Scott indicated that Josh can register through his website for clinics held at Caps. Marc expressed Caps is the ideal location for clinics, but concerned about cost of additional instructors with fixed dates. Marc expressed interest in seeing clinics happen in March. Dave echoed this March time frame for clinics. Marc indicated that Strike Force offers more flexibility.

Jim indicated that Sunday morning time frame at D Bats is not attractive. Jim indicated it was the initial plan to go with early clinics (i.e. February) for player development.

Kenny indicated that potential participating kids may have conflicts with other activities on a Friday night (i.e. basketball that won't end until first week of March). Scott will get in touch with the NHS coaches regarding feasibility of clinics at NHS. Marc and Jim expressed

interest in seeing if something can be worked out with NHS. Marc indicated the relationship NHAA has with Strike Force.

Motion by Jim: All five (5) NHAA sponsored clinics will be held at Strike Force.
Eliminate D Bats due to Sunday morning time frame.
Eliminate Caps at this time due to potential Friday night conflicts and timing.

Motion first by Dave. Motion second by Mike.
A unanimous voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

Scott to inquire with Strike Force about two (2) clinics on Sunday, March 6, 2022, two (2) clinics on Sunday, March 13, 2022, and one (1) clinic on Sunday, March 20, 2022. Matt confirmed keeping similar age groups together for clinics. Registration would be handled through the Strike Force Sports Engine account. Scott will solidify dates with Strike Force.

3. Fields Committee

a. VP of Fields/Chair Report

1. Written proposal for Sagamore Hills Trustees (re: 9.13.2021 Trustee meeting)
(re: NHAA improvements to Sagamore Park)
2. Additional maintenance before start of season
3. Securing fields for 2022 season
 - a. Update regarding scheduling and pricing at Longwood with the City of Macedonia
 - b. Secure community and school fields for use

Nothing to report.

4. Equipment Committee

a. VP of Equipment/Chair Report

1. Update on vendor equipment quotations/bids
 - a. Harry Oschip at Five Tool Youth
 - b. Dan LeeMaster at PrimeTime
 - c. Cameron at BSN Sports
 - d. A.D. Starr
 - e. Ashley at Play It Again Sports (Twinsburg)

Chase indicated the four (4) quotes were received. The quote from BSN had quite a few items on backorder and the committee did not feel comfortable entertaining a backorder situation. A.D. Starr quote was received, but the committee feels it is best to go with either PrimeTime or Play It Again Sports in Twinsburg.

Discussion was had specifically regarding pricing of baseballs – Chase will confirm with PrimeTime pricing and purchase baseballs from PrimeTime, but purchase other items from Play It Again Sports. Chase indicated total price approximately \$5600.

Further discussion was had about splitting the order between different vendors for equipment. Jim did indicate that new baseballs are in the storage unit already and Dave confirmed either 18 or 19 dozen were counted. Enough new inventory is in house to begin the season. Marc indicated desire to remain loyal to Play It Again Sports, but use BSN for new baseballs quoted at a lower price. Savings could be rolled into cost for one (1) clinic being offered. Dave indicated follow up would be needed with BSN regarding backorder situation. Chase will follow up with BSN for a 4/1/22 delivery date on new baseballs. Softballs at BSN are on backorder until 3/8/22. Andy suggested going to PrimeTime (and others) to match price.

Scott confirmed purchase procedures for these items. Scott will pay the invoice.

Julie suggested that a vote be made by the Board on the maximum dollar value and let the committee make the final decision on the company to use.

Motion by Julie: The Equipment Committee will purchase equipment on behalf of the NHAA not to exceed \$5700.00. The Board will then be notified via email on final decision.

Motion first by Dave. Motion second by Cathy.
A unanimous voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

5. Uniform Committee

a. Chair Report

1. Update on bid process

Julie indicated that bids were sent out with a deadline of January 31, 2022. PrimeTime is the only returned bid thus far. Communication has been had with Steve's Sports and they will meet the deadline. Once bids are received, the committee will meet and then present options to the Board. Brenda indicated she is waiting on Kimpton.

2. Discuss sponsors regarding uniforms and/or banners

a. Update on pricing regarding logo on uniforms

b. Update on pricing regarding sponsor banners for league play

Julie indicated PrimeTime's price for a logo on a uniform versus logo on a banner would be a wash. Julie suggested banners especially for the loyal sponsors to the NHAA so that they can be reused each season. Julie suggested Nordonia/NHAA logo on the front of the jersey and that sponsors will have a banner at each location where games are played. There will be more visibility for each sponsor. Julie confirmed multiple sponsor logos on a banner. Jim indicated that Chevy banners have been hung at Sagamore Park and no complaints have been made. Jim expressed the need to make sure banners are maintained, respectfully displayed, and kept in good shape. Mike does a great job of keeping these looking great. Jim will need to discuss with the schools for approval. Dave would like to get the sponsor information back on the website. The committee agreed that the most economical and best option for sponsors is to have logos displayed on banners. Dave indicated banners can be made after uniforms are ordered.

Nick inquired about reprinting banners if sponsors move on and no longer wish to sponsor. He suggested putting four (4) logos per banner to reduce reprinting. Julie indicated that 3' x 5' vinyl banners with grommets are approximately \$50 each. Julie agreed with Nick about splitting up sponsors onto separate banners. Nick suggested selling a 2-year commitment for sponsors, thus mitigating risk of reprinting banners. Fundraising committee to take the lead on the banners. Jim indicated that the past few years have seen six (6) or seven (7) sponsors total. Marketing/Fundraising Committee will work on details of banners (i.e. NHAA logo with sponsor logos, just sponsor logos, etc.). A vote will be taken on offering sponsor banners versus jersey recognition. Cathy indicated that uniform vendors are crunched for time with getting product in along with the printing of items. Any delay waiting on sponsor logo information could really delay the receipt of uniforms.

Motion by Scott: Sponsor logos on centralized banners and not on player jerseys.

Motion first by Dave. Motion second by Brenda.
A unanimous voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

6. Discipline Committee
a. Chair Report

Nothing to report.

7. Strategic Planning Committee
a. Chair Report
b. Update on written future strategic plan to guide focused fundraising efforts

Nothing to report. Nick will coordinate the next committee meeting.

8. Player Development Committee
a. Chair Report
b. Update from Nikki regarding softball pitching instructor
1. Sandlot Softball – Becky D’Amato \$60 per hour
2. Facility price – to be advised (Location is Highland Heights)

Nikki indicated Becky D’Amato is a softball fastpitch pitching instructor with flexibility in her schedule. She will go to a different facility, but rental fee at location in Highland Heights is \$130 per hour.

Dave inquired about pitching instruction with clinics at Strike Force. Scott indicated that Strike Force is not capable of fastpitch girls pitching instruction. Outside instruction might be best. Jim inquired about asking Strike Force if an instructor like Becky D’Amato can come to their facility to give fastpitch instruction. Scott will inquire with Strike Force. Scott suggested outdoor instruction for fastpitch instruction, but Dave indicated the constant battle with weather. Jim suggested Nordonia gym space may open up in March for such a pitching clinic.

c. Gym space being used by others sports at this time

9. Marketing and Fundraising Committee
a. Chair Report
1. Update on fundraiser opportunities
a. Golf outing

Matt inquired about dates for a golf outing. It was suggested late July or early August.

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

Matt indicated that Melinda has reached out to Kimpton Printing for a quote on signs.

Marc indicated that an Excel spreadsheet was created a few years ago with all previous NHAA sponsors. Dave confirms this spreadsheet. Marc indicated this could be a good resource to use to reach out for sponsorship/fundraising. Dave indicated that in previous years coaches were urged to secure sponsors for teams. Marc suggested Board members

(not coaches) solicit sponsorship whether a 2-year commitment or a 3-year commitment.

Kenny inquired about sponsor fee. Dave confirmed the fee is \$275, and Nick confirmed that the sponsor fee paid for the sponsor logo to appear on the NHAA website and a banner that the team would display. Nick suggested maybe rethinking the sponsor fee. Brenda inquired about the sponsor fee being per season or per year. Nick indicated per year with the banner being displayed for Fall Ball as well.

10. Technology Committee

- a. IT and Communications/Chair Report
- b. Update on roll out of online registration for 2022 Spring/Summer season (January 15, 2022)

Dave indicated that registration is open!

1. Update on email blast to previously registered families

Dave confirmed the email blast went out to previously registered families. Dave inquired about advertising registration on Facebook. Nick and/or Melinda will get this information posted to Facebook. Kyle indicated he will advertise NHAA information with the Nordonia youth basketball program currently in session.

Jim indicated the need to get banners made to advertise open registration for the upcoming season. These can be displayed at prominent intersections throughout the community. As reported, Melinda is waiting on a quote back from Kimpton to proceed.

Dave inquired about having travel league participants register via the NHAA registration website. The league has no way of communicating with these travel league participants. Jim indicated that discussions were had and confusion about registering without paying was an issue. Marc suggested getting the list of players from each travel coach. Dave suggested that Andy receive all player contact information from each travel coach. Andy is in agreement and Andy will request this information from travel coaches. Dave will hold a copy of these lists as well. Marc indicated that these travel team players can be reached for further communication (i.e. fundraising, upcoming events, etc.)

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

IV. Travel Update

1. Travel Coordinator Report

- a. Travel meeting with all travel coaches to determine fields

Andy will be contacting travel coaches, and field use is already being discussed.

b. Bash updates

1. Girls Bash: May 20 – 22, 2022

- a. Mid-January to schedule with Sagamore Hills Township to reserve fields

Jim indicated that advertising flier for the Girls Bash has been sent out.

2. Boys Bash: June 3 – 5, 2022

- a. Mid-January to schedule with Sagamore Hills Township to reserve fields

Andy indicated that Scott is advertising this year's Boys Bash. Scott indicated that he will be doing community-wide fundraising for the 12U travel team and their upcoming trip.

A few travel teams have begun training at Strike Force while other teams will begin in February.

Dave requested that travel league games not take place late on weekends. This tends to tie up the field the entire day (i.e. the field is prepped in the morning for a late game). Jim indicated that fields can be relined later in the day before the travel game if needed to be used after prepped in the morning.

V. New Action Items

1. Update on discussions with Twinsburg Baseball League (TBL) and Hudson for Willie Mays and/or Pee Wee Reese

Jim indicated that no further updates have been received.

2. Confirmation of discussed dates and further updates

- a. 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

VI. Open Discussion/Comments

1. Get NFHS softballs instead of ASA

Date of next NHAA Board of Trustees meeting: Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Time: TBD

Location of next NHAA Board of Trustees meeting: To be determined

Meeting adjourned: 9:25 p.m.