

NHAA Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, April 20, 2022, at 8:15 p.m.

Location: Zoom (due to weather)

Meeting Call to order: 8:26 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
Kyle Deininger, Board Member
Nicole Gvora, Board Member
Brian James, Board Member
Brenda Kovi, Board Member
Nick Lanese, Board Member
Melinda Malyuk, Board Member
Julie Moran, Board Member (out at 9:32)
Kenny Sanger, Board Member

Present via Telephone:

Absent:

Andy Papile, Travel Coordinator
Matt Bewley, Board Member
Bobby Reville, Board Member
Marc Sprang, Board Member

Agenda:

I. Review of meeting minutes from April 6, 2022

Jim made the motion to accept the minutes from the April 6, 2022, meeting. Motion first by Kevin.
Motion second by Dave. A unanimous voice vote was taken to accept the minutes.

II. President's Report

1. Cost sharing with Nordonia Youth Soccer League (NYSL) and i9 Sports re: Aris portable restrooms

Jim reported that cost sharing with i9 Sports regarding Aris portable restrooms will not be happening as they had a portable unit delivered to Nordonia Middle School themselves. A discussion was had about removing the NHAA portable restroom, but this unit will be needed for Fall Ball and possible additional fees may be assessed if removed (i.e. pick up fee, deliver again for Fall Ball).

2. Portable restrooms delivered to fields (as of 4.14.2022)

Jim confirmed that all portable restrooms have been delivered to area fields. Jim and Scott will discuss further issues with Northfield Village. One issue is receiving NHAA billing for Aris portable restroom and second issue is payment for field rental (\$500 for total field rental).

3. Discuss Macedonia SummerFest – Friday, June 10 and Saturday, June 11, 2022 (Beer Tent)

Jim indicated that Jason Chadock was notified of NHAA's acceptance of the Beer Tent for the Macedonia SummerFest. Jim asked Board members to support this event and be available to work it. Coaches to work the event may be needed. Jim expressed that anywhere from \$4,000 to

\$7,000 could be raised. A discussion was had regarding getting volunteers to work 2-3 hour shifts. Dave indicated that a lead contact person/primary contact is needed by the City of Macedonia. Melinda indicated that the Marketing and Fundraising Committee will meet and discuss these needs. A brief discussion was had and various Board members volunteered to work the event. Melinda will create a list of volunteers and then create a SignUp Genius to fill in the gaps. Community support will be needed as well. Further discussions will be had on this topic.

Jim indicated that the City of Macedonia is requiring NHAA purchase the product for this Beer Tent and then NHAA can set the selling price. It is also recommended to purchase canned seltzer.

a. Home City Ice (from Andy)

Jim indicated that ice is also needed for this Beer Tent; however, Jim wishes to work with Andy to see if Home City Ice will donate ice for this fundraising event.

4. Discuss Sagamore Hills Park concession stand

Jim indicated that NHAA has been offered the concession stand at Sagamore Park and Jim has accepted this offer. Jim discussed his conversation with Ryan Pruitt (sic), Director at the Summit County Board of Health regarding licensing needed for NHAA to run this concession stand. No inspections and no food service certification classes will be needed in order to operate this concession stand. Jim notified Sagamore Hills Trustee Dave DePasquale regarding his email conversation with the Summit County Board of Health. Jim also shared with Dave DePasquale that NHAA will do the best we can to utilize this concession stand; however, it may not be open all of the time.

Jim did relay to the Board that no perishable items can be sold (including ice cream sandwiches) and no cooking or serving of hot foods will be allowed. Only manufacturer pre-packaged items (i.e. bottled water, Gatorade, soft drinks, chips, popsicles, candy, etc.) can be sold without a license.

There is not to be storage inside the concession stand other than product to sell (i.e. field rakes and shovels cannot be stored inside the concession stand).

Discussion was had about establishing volunteers to run this concession stand during busy weekends. Jim did indicate that this concession stand can be used as a fundraising opportunity for the both Bash tournaments.

Discussion was had regarding the entity responsible for stocking this concession stand. Jim indicated that stocking of the concession stand for the Girls Bash and Boys Bash will be up to those parties running both Bash tournaments respectively. The NHAA will need to stock the concession stand for other times. Managing this concession stand will take a coordinated effort by the Board to make it successful. This concession stand can be used during the Girls Bash, the Boys Bash, All-Star Weekend, Championship Week, GMP Day, Babe Ruth Day, T-Ball Day, etc.

III. Updates/Feedback on Leagues (Practices begin week of April 18, 2022)

1. Girls Softball

a. Girls Manager Pitch (Girls – Grades 2 and 3)

1. Primary: Kevin Back up: Jim

a. Six teams

b. Update regarding additional players from canceled Macedonia league

Further discussions will be had regarding Girls Manager Pitch.

b. Girls A (Girls – Grades 4 and 5)

1. Primary: Brenda Back up: Julie

a. Four teams

Brenda indicated no concerns, complaints, or problems at this time.

c. Girls AA (Girls – Grade 6, 7 and 8)

1. Primary: Nikki Back up: Kyle

a. Four teams

Nikki indicated no concerns, complaints, or problems at this time. Nikki indicated that she has sent out all information to coaches, but she has not been contacted about any issues. Dave indicated that four (4) new girls from Twinsburg will be added to NHAA Girls AA teams (one per team).

d. Girls AAA (Girls – Grades 9-12)

1. Primary: Nick Back up: _____

a. Two teams

b. Final decision regarding WRL

Nick indicated that there have been no issues within the past week. He did note the reversal from last meeting's discussion/decision regarding the Western Reserve League (WRL). Girls AAA will be part of the WRL.

Nick did note a change in coaching staff, as Steve Campisi will be coaching one of the two teams now. Nick indicated things are well now with practices being held. Coach Adkins is offering to teach pitching to all girls on Saturday, April 23, 2022, for both teams. Dave is working on scheduling.

A discussion was had about umpire payment being done at the plate in the WRL. Further clarification with Dan Lingo will be needed on how payment should be made.

2. Update regarding Aris portable restroom for NHS Varsity Fields

2. Boys Baseball

a. Babe Ruth (Boys – Grades 1 and 2)

1. Primary: Chase Back up: _____

a. Eight teams

Chase indicated that everything is good with Babe Ruth.

b. Update regarding additional players from canceled Macedonia league

Dave indicated 3-4 kids from the canceled Macedonia league join NHAA.

c. Willie Mays (Boys – Grades 3 and 4)

1. Primary: Melinda Back up: _____

a. Seven teams

Melinda indicated no issues. She will communicate further with her coaches.

d. Pee Wee Reese (Boys – Grades 5 and 6)

1. Primary: Kenny Back up: Mike

a. Three teams

Kenny indicated a few complaints about playing outside communities. Kenny asked if Willie Mays teams are playing outside communities, and Dave confirmed that Willie Mays is not playing outside of NHAA.

Dave did indicate that coaching information has been passed along to Twinsburg and a coach's meeting (rules review) will be set up soon.

- e. Sandy Koufax (Boys – Grades 7 and 8)
 - 1. Primary: Andy Back up: _____
 - a. Three teams

No report was given in Andy's absence.

Dave did indicate that coaching information has been passed along to Twinsburg and a coach's meeting (rules review) will be set up soon.

- f. Colt (Boys – Grades 9-12)
 - 1. Primary: Bobby Back up: _____
 - a. Three teams

No report was given in Bobby's absence.

A discussion about a few refunds was had and Dave confirmed this can be done directly through Sports Engine. Jim did report that Colt teams are full now.

- 2. Update regarding Aris portable restroom for NHS Varsity Fields

- 3. Co-ed T-Ball (Kindergarten)
 - a. Primary: Cathy Back up: Marc
 - 1. Six teams

Cathy indicated no issues. She has communicated with coaches regarding necessary paperwork. Cathy asked for Code of Conduct forms from the Coach's meeting to be sent again. Dave will send these.

V. Umpires

- 1. Feedback on umpire classes
 - a. Tuesday, April 26, 2022, at 6:30 at Rushwood Gym

This date was confirmed as the final umpire class. Dave has been attending these classes.

- 2. Confirmation on certified umpire pay rate for travel softball
 - a. Confirmed certified umpire pay rate for travel baseball: \$80 solo; \$60 if paired
 - b. Confirmed certified umpire pay rate for rec baseball: \$50
 - c. Confirmed certified umpire pay rate for rec softball: \$50
 - d. Newly updated rec umpire pay scale: \$25, \$30, \$35

A discussion was had regarding umpire pay rates. After confirmation with Dan Lingo, the confirmed pay rates are as follows:

*Certified umpire pay rate for travel softball: \$60 solo

*Certified umpire pay rate for rec softball: \$50

*Certified umpire pay rate for travel baseball: \$80 solo; \$60 if paired

*Certified umpire pay rate for rec baseball: \$50

*Non-certified rec umpire pay scale: \$25, \$30, \$35

It was also discussed to try and use the non-certified umpires whenever possible for rec games. Jim indicated that certified umpires are used for some of the older leagues.

Jim indicated that Dave will be in communication with Dan Lingo regarding scheduling umpires. Jim indicated that Dan Lingo is already getting umpires scheduled for the Bash

tournaments.

VI. Committee Reports

(Committee members names indicated below – chair is marked with a star *)

1. Finance Committee

(Scott *, Matt, Kyle)

a. Treasurer/Chair Report

1. Current financial report
2. Open invoices

Current Balance: \$84,770.56

Scott detailed the financial report sent to all Board members reflecting activity since April 1, 2022. Usual expenses were noted (i.e. Toro payment, storage unit rental fee, bank fee, etc.) The insurance for the NHAA Rec teams was detailed as well. Scott indicated approval for some additional expenses relating to the Toro (i.e. tires).

2. Skills Clinic Committee

(Kenny, Kevin, Scott, Marc)

a. Strike Force Clinics

1. Confirmation on payment
2. Total cost

Scott did confirm final payment to Strike Force for all clinics.

3. Fields Committee

(Mike *, Brian, Kevin)

a. VP of Fields/Chair Report

1. Combined effort with Strategic Planning Committee – Field conditioning proposal for Sagamore Hills and Nordon Middle School

Jim wishes to get committees together (Fields and Strategic Planning) in order to come up with a written proposal to present to the Sagamore Hills Township Trustees at their next Board meeting scheduled for Monday, May 9, 2022, regarding the desired work to be done at Sagamore Park Field #4 with the crushed brick/Washington Ball Mix application. The proposal will outline the work involved and the cost that NHAA will cover; there will be no cost to Sagamore Hills Township for the proposed improvements made. In this proposal, Sagamore Hills Township Trustees will be asked to waive some fees for the Bash Tournaments scheduled at Sagamore Park to maximize fundraising during these tournaments. Sagamore Hills Township will also be asked for assistance with supplying some equipment (i.e. Bobcat and truck) for this project.

2. Review of final quote from Mike Sekula at Walker Supply
3. Review soil samples taken
4. Update on correspondence with Dwayne at TruGreen (Weed Pro)

Jim reported an email conversation with Dwayne at TruGreen. Mike has been in contact with Dwayne about spraying the school fields, and the cost per field will be \$85. Dwayne will get a schedule together for Mike about when he can begin spraying. Work on the school fields must be done while school is not in session (evenings or weekends). Jim did report that TruGreen is honoring last year's pricing because of NHAA's nonprofit status.

5. Update on quotes and availability of roller
 - a. Renting versus owning

Brian gave an update after visiting the fields. He advises getting dirt for all

fields. Brian indicated renting a roller will be approximately \$125 per week. Brian reiterated his truck and trailer can move everything needed to complete the work. Brian also discussed the need for approximately 10-15 tons of dirt to fill in bigger holes. Brian stressed the urgency of getting this started. Jim asked if there is a list of fields that requires dirt and Brian indicated his desire to rent a dump trailer and take dirt to each field and use as needed. Brian indicated that every field needs a little bit of dirt. Brian indicated rental for a smaller dump trailer (holding approximately 4 tons of dirt) is approximately \$425 per week. The Toro would be used to transport dirt from the dump trailer to each field. The dump trailer stays in the parking lot. Scott indicated the need for this approach because of current field conditions. Brian indicated that he can get started on this project next week (weather permitting). A discussion was had about the Washington Ball Mix and this is not going to be used just yet. Jim indicated that infield dirt is needed as a base anyhow for any application of the Washington Ball Mix in the future.

Brian indicated that he has no intention of charging NHAA for the labor to do the above-mentioned work. Brian indicated approximate numbers for a week's worth of work: \$750 in rental fees and \$700-\$800 for 20 tons of dirt.

Motion by Jim: Move to get the ball fields in shape with rental equipment and dirt as described by Brian James not to exceed \$3,000.00 before Board approval is needed for additional work.

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

Jim expressed his appreciation on behalf of NHAA for Brian's willingness to do this for the league. Brian expressed his desire for the kids to have a good season. Brian will provide Board members an update later this week.

6. Feedback on Field Maintenance Day (April 16, 2022)
7. Discuss removing orange marker ribbons on fences at all area fields

Cathy asked about removing the orange marker ribbons and Jim indicated they can be removed. These were tied on fences at the request of Sagamore Hills Township in 2020. Mike will work on this as well.

4. Strategic Planning Committee
(Jim *, Bobby, Kevin, Scott, Nick, Mike)
 - a. Chair Report
 - b. Update on written future strategic plan to guide focused fundraising efforts

Please see comments above in Field Committee report.

5. Equipment Committee
(Chase *, Mike, Dave)
 - a. VP of Equipment/Chair Report
 1. Donated Chevy Youth Sports equipment has been received & delivered to storage shed

Jim confirmed receipt of this donated equipment.

2. NHS donated catcher's gear
3. Feedback on Equipment Distribution Day (April 16, 2022)

Jim confirmed that a successful Equipment Day was completed with only 4-5 coaches still in need of their equipment. Jim indicated the storage unit is cleaned up. Jim also indicated that Lowe's donated a few buckets and Marc picked them up.

6. Uniform Committee

(Julie *, Brenda, Cathy)

a. Chair Report

1. Update on uniform order with RDP

a. Logo on different jerseys

b. Stock/inventory issues

Jim discussed his conversation with Sue at RDP regarding some issues with jersey colors and styles. Dave will be the primary contact with Sue at RDP from this point forward. Dave did note that Girls sleeveless shirts will be different from what was initially quoted due to inventory issues. The sleeveless shirt will be a two-colored shirt with an increase of \$2.00-\$2.50 per shirt. Jim indicated asking RDP to meet NHAA half-way with this price increase, but RDP will not do this at the present time.

Jim confirmed RDP has committed to a delivery date of Sat. May 7, 2022.

Cathy inquired about hat production, and Jim and Dave indicated this is still on schedule for completion.

2. Uniform Distribution Day: Sunday, May 8, 2022

7. Discipline Committee

(Nick *, Bobby, Marc)

a. Chair Report

Nothing to report.

8. Player Development Committee

(Andy, Nikki, Kenny)

a. Chair Report

Nothing to report.

9. Marketing and Fundraising Committee

(Melinda *, Nick, Matt)

a. Chair Report

1. Update on fundraiser opportunities

a. Golf outing

1. Sunday, July 31, 2022, at Roses Run in Stow

2. Sponsorship

3. Advertisement to community

Melinda indicated that once Matt is back from vacation then the committee will meet to finalize details on the Golf outing. Advertising to the community will happen in early May.

b. Restaurants

1. Culver's – Monday, April 25, 2022

Nick indicated that volunteers will be on hand for this evening. The fundraiser runs from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

2. Chipotle – Tuesday, May 10, 2022

c. Any further discussion regarding footwear fundraiser (clogs and slides)

2. Update regarding team/league sponsorship
 - a. Discuss tiered sponsorship
 - b. Discuss combined team/league sponsorship with golf outing sponsorship
3. Discuss format and display of sponsor banners

Melinda indicated that Kimpton Printing will be utilized to create these sponsor banners. Melinda also indicated working up a design for registration banners for Fall Ball and beyond. Melinda indicated a couple more sponsors were received. Jim inquired about Kimpton Printing sponsoring NHAA; Melinda will follow up. Jim also asked Melinda to reach out to Rosati's for sponsorship.

10. Technology Committee

(Dave *, Melinda, Mike)

- a. IT and Communications/Chair Report
 1. Final registration numbers for 2022
 - a. 537 reported as of 4.6.2022
 2. Comparison to 2021 registration numbers

Dave indicated that registration has slowed. Dave indicated practice and scrimmage schedules are posted. Dave has full seasons posted for T-Ball, GMP, Babe Ruth, and Willie Mays. Dave is working with Twinsburg to formulate schedules for Pee Wee Reese.

VII. Travel Update

1. Travel Coordinator Report

- a. Any additional league updates
- b. Additional Bash updates
 1. Girls Bash: May 20 – 22, 2022
 - a. Previously reported 10 teams in 10U, 12 teams in 12U, and 4 teams in 14U.

Jim indicated 14U is still a little light, but will run the tournament as a Round Robin. The Girls Bash is full in 10U and 12U.

2. Boys Bash: June 3 – 5, 2022

- a. Updates (good with 8U, 9U, and 10U; 3 teams in 11U and 2 teams in 12U)

Scott indicated 19 teams throughout the various divisions are registered for the Boys Bash. Scott indicated he is actively emailing other leagues advertising the Boys Bash, and he is seeing additional interest. Scott is asking parents to volunteer their time for (1) field maintenance, (2) concession stand, and (3) skills competition. Scott indicated the skills competition will be a home run derby as well as fastest pitch. Anyone can participate in the skills competition.

Jim advised students who are in need of volunteer hours to contact Jim and/or Scott in order to volunteer for these Bash tournaments, as there are always things to do.

VIII. Calendar Review

1. Feedback from Coaching Meeting (Thursday, April 14, 2022)

Jim confirmed that the Coach's Meeting was completed. Jim indicated that completed Code of Conduct forms were scanned and emailed to all league trustees. Jim expressed the need for trustees to keep this paperwork on file as this serves as a first warning should any issues arise during the season.

Melinda asked if a second Coach's meeting will be held. Melinda also asked how to handle

coaches that were not in attendance at this meeting. While Jim would like to hold a second meeting, he indicated that a second meeting may not be able to be held because of time constraints.

Jim indicated approximately 60 people attended this meeting.

Jim suggested each league trustee review the Code of Conduct forms received and see who may be missing. Jim suggested possibly a Zoom meeting for these coaches. Dave suggested that league trustees contact those coaches who have not returned a signed Code of Conduct form. At a minimum, coaches need to review this form, sign it, and return it back to the league trustee. Dave and Jim indicated this form is available on the website under "Coach's Corner".

Melinda asked if the Code of Conduct form was needed for insurance purposes and Jim indicated not necessarily. Jim stated that the league is supposed to be fun and about the kids, and this Code of Conduct form stresses these points. Other community leagues have Coach's meetings as well. Jim indicated this meeting also allows coaches (new and veteran coaches) to ask questions.

2. Discuss date of April general meeting
3. Uniform Distribution – Sunday, May 8, 2022
4. Preseason begins – Week of May 9, 2022
5. Regular season begins – Week of May 16, 2022
6. Picture Day – Saturday, May 21, 2022
7. Discuss date of May general meeting

IX. Open Discussion

Jim asked all league trustees to contact coaches to be sure to clean up after the use of a field (i.e. pick up water bottles, trash, etc.) Jim also asked that coaches be notified to not rake fields and/or push water.

Date of next NHAA Board of Trustees meeting: Wednesday, May 4, 2022 **Time:** 8:15 p.m.

Location of next NHAA Board of Trustees meeting: Sagamore Hills Park – Upper Pavilion

Meeting adjourned: 9:36 p.m.