

Tea Baseball Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Jan. 7, 2024 • 6 p.m. • Tea City Hall

MINUTES

Present:

Rob Schramm, Rick Willemsen, Mark Jelen, Kevin McIntyre, Amy Smolik, Cory Olson, Mitch Smith

Guests:

Lynn De Young, Jeff Portner, Rod Fortin

Not Present:

Chris Vasecka

1) CALL TO ORDER: 6:07 p.m.

2) APPROVE THE AGENDA

Motion by Amy to add Lynn DeYoung to the beginning of the agenda, seconded by Mitch. Unanimously approved.

3) APPROVE THE TEA BASEBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD MINUTES

Motion by Rick, seconded by Kevin to approve the Tea Baseball Association minutes from the Dec 27, 2023, meeting. Unanimously approved.

4) PUBLIC SPEAKING (5-minute limit per speaker)

Jeff Portner came to talk about umpires for the 2024 season and wanted to assure that no Tea teams (14u/16u) would be participating in the I-29 League, which Rob confirmed. Jeff was going to communicate with the I-29 League and copy all 14u and 16u coaches.

5) SPECIAL REPORT

Tea City Council Member Lynn DeYoung was invited to attend to share an update about recent meetings the City has undertaken to determine if the City of Tea should build a multi-purpose facility. The potential space would be on land near the new Orthopedic Institute project just west of I-29 and would be part of a newly established TIF district for that area. The City has asked Pinnacle Sports to put together a feasibility study to determine the need and potential uses of such a facility, as well as financing and sponsorships. Pinnacle is expected to share their findings later in the spring.

Lynn's perspective was that this could be a great facility for the region, but that Tea residents and Tea kids need to be the priority. He encouraged the baseball community to weigh in on potential amenities and share thoughts with Pinnacle.

REPORTS:

A. Chase the Ace — Mark said the first week went well with \$970 brought in with raffle ticket purchases (\$550 in cash and the rest via Venmo). Mark will be gone for week 2 but shared his system of communicating with online/Venmo purchases.

B. Chislic feed — In the interest of time, the group opted to hold a separate meeting prior to the next TBA board meeting to provide a better and more detailed report.

C. Registration — Rob said we should open soon and need to work with Jake Kerr to do so.

D. Apparel — we need to determine what Tea Park & Rec has for existing baseball inventory, in particular hats and pants. The plan is to hold a "pants day" to get players in to try on pants and order their preferred style. This could potentially take place on the Chislic feed event day.

E. Tryout dates: Tryouts will be needed for the 13u team. Rob has reached out to Harrisburg about using their large facility (\$150/hour).

F. HS/MS Practice: HS started Thursday; with all 3 sessions on Sunday; went well.

G. Payment to Professional Instructors: A payment structure is in place for the professional instructors assisting.

6) OTHER BUSINESS/FUTURE OUTLOOK

A. Sponsorships — Amy is still working on the sponsorship ask mock-up. She will contact Octane Ink about hard costs for banners and other apparel so the board can move forward with soliciting sponsors.

B. City Supervisor updates — Rob talked to Thad Konrad about Harrisburg's request to use Tea fields. Thad is pulling together the field upgrade proposal figures and will share them with the Board.

7) NEXT MEETING DATE: Sunday, Jan. 21, 2024, at 6 p.m. at City Hall.

Motion by Amy, seconded by Mark to adjourn. Unanimously approved.

8) ADJOURNMENT: 7:38 p.m.