

**MARION SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of Wednesday, May 10th, 2021**  
**Tri Rivers - Cafeteria**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Marion Senior Softball Association was called to order at 6:00 PM by President, Gene Smithberger.

**II. ATTENDANCE**

**Commissioners in attendance were:** Steve Zonneville, Bill Finnegan, Steve Romshe, Ed Slone, Buddy Lyles, Mike Winders, Keith Thrush, Jeff Crummel, Roger Smith and Gene Smithberger.

**Excused Absences:** Don Bentley

**Guests:** Bill Barger, Rick Schondel, Larry Kelly

**III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Steve Romshe moved to accept the minutes of the April 12th 2021 meeting and Don Bentley seconded. Motion passed.

**IV. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Roger Smith reported \$8,623.92 in the treasury as of 05/10/21. Roger said the 50/50 Shirts are up \$2.00 this year and Dri Fit Shirts are up \$1.00 so approx. \$300 extra will be needed for shirts this year. Also \$200 was needed for pitcher protective screens this year. Keith Thrush made a motion to accept the financial report and Steve Romshe seconded. Motion passed.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

Gene discussed that when a pitching screen is used the pitcher must have a foot on the pitching rubber. Steve Zonneville made a motion on Rule 3E that when the pitching screen is used that "The pitcher must have at least one foot touching the pitching rubber when he pitches" and that "The screen cannot be moved

during the ½ inning unless pitchers are changed“ Buddy Lyles seconded and the motion passed.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS:**

Mike Winders said we will have a cleanup day on Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup> to work on the field and also to clean the concession stand, bathroom, and upstairs of the building.

Rick Schondel and Mike Winders reported that Travis ( backhoe contractor ) took the lip out of the infield and also expanded the infield to make it 25 feet from the bases. Rick also reported that they fixed the drainage problem at home plate. The drain was covered by a rubber mat and the rubber mat was removed. We asked Rick if they could enlarge the infield behind 2<sup>nd</sup> base since its only 18 feet from 2<sup>nd</sup> base and he said they will work on it.

Gene discussed a way to raise additional money would be to offer additional sponsors to purchase a sign and give an additional \$100 or more to hang a banner on the outfield fence. Roger did some research and a 4' x 6' banner would cost about \$110.

Gene asked if the schedules looked okay and there were no changes suggested so Mike Winders will add to them to the website and give a set of them to the recreation department.

Gene showed the Mid-April Sunday ad that was in the Marion Star about our league.

Steve Romshe has some leftover \$5 concession stand vouchers. He shared some ways that they could be used if we agree.

1. Everyone that comes to cleanup day gets one
2. Anyone that does something extra
3. Offer to sponsors to entice them to come to the game.

Steve also passed out MSSA business cards for us to hand out.

Gene mentioned that since the draft no one has asked to join the league which is good and a lot less work for him.

Buddy Lyles shared that the sub list is all set for all 3 leagues. Coaches need to let Buddy know if subs are needed. The more time given the better.

Gene and Steve assembled the pitching screen. It was suggested that property of MSSA be added to the frame of the screens. Also that color coding be added to each part for easier assembly.

Ed Slone brought up Rule 4B. Senior bats vs. Ultra II and Synergy bats and should the Ultra II and Synergy bats be banned by the league or allowed. After the meeting Mike Winders checked with Paul Drake, Umpire in Chief of USA/ASA, who responded by email: " The League can approve the teams to use those bats. The rule book is written for Championship play."

Ed Slone stated the intent of Rule 5C needs a sentence added – "If both teams end up with 10 players there is no penalty out for either team." The commissioners all agreed.

Keith Thrush talked to Bob Lundquest about sponsoring the Modern Woodmen tournament. Bob wasn't sure if Modern Woodmen would be present at the tournament but if the concession stand was open they are considering supplying concession stand tickets.

Ed Thompson is working on a plastic barrier for the concession and announcer stand.

Mike Winders asked if anyone could think of a better location for the small scoreboard we use. This led to a discussion of replacing the large scoreboard outside the fence near center field. Modern Woodmen was asked if they would

help with a purchase of a scoreboard but that never materialized. Roger stated that he checked last year and a 4' x 8' scoreboard would cost about \$3,000. Rick Schondel stated that Travis is an electrician and he would hook up the electric if we purchased one. Steve Romshe made a generous offer that whatever the league puts into a new scoreboard that he would match the amount of money that we could raise.

Mike Winders mentioned that league commissioners need to check field conditions after a rain storm. He said the city usually goes out at 2PM for field prep and field lining.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion by Keith Thrush was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 PM and Steve Zonneville seconded. Motion passed.

Gene stated that we may have a meeting in August.

Minutes submitted by Steve Zonneville.