

JWS Board Meeting

April 5, 2023

Minute

Attendance: Quentin Thurmond, Cassie Wickham, Oakley Etter, Suzanne Nichols, Sheri Dye, Ben Wickum

Sherri made the motion to approve the **March Minutes**; Cassie 2nd the motion. Minutes were approved.

Budget – Suzanne shared an update that shows the program is on track to meet budget. All fees have been collected. There is only one player with outstanding uniform costs.

- **Shorts Burgers** generated \$181. The turn out was poor early on but picked up later. Helped that we received a portion of the bar sales. Interest was expressed to partnering with them again.
- **Fundraiser** has been completed. Sales were not as great as hoped but with the cancellation of indoor space for April – sales are sufficient to meet budget. \$2773.80 profit was realized.

Committee Updates

Indoor Workout Summary - Coaches shared that the space was good; having the batting cage with pitching machine available is a definite plus. Space is too small (with both age groups) for a practice setting.

Team Summaries - **U10** has 11 players; Will be playing games on Wednesdays at Triple Play Park beginning next week (4/12). **U14** has 13 players (Emma Blazek has dropped); Will be playing games on Wednesdays at Tait Cummings – 3 weeks of double headers.

Spring/Summer Tournaments - **U14** has 2 tournaments scheduled (4/16 & 5/14). They are looking for another tournament for April. Suzanne stated that she will be leaving town on Tuesday so if payment is needed after that – she will be able to pay online or Ben can pay via credit card and she will pay the credit card bill upon her return. **U10** has 2 tournaments scheduled (5/27 & 6/11). They are looking for another tournament for June. Opportunities for 7th graders – per Suzanne’s count, there should be 8 players left after the 8th graders move up and she suggests they find a tournament to play in June (July if possible). 8th graders would be eligible to play if not a conflict with HS schedule.

Outdoor practice Schedule – **HS** will be working out pitchers & catchers on Mondays, with team practice on Wednesdays in the month of April. Practices are being held at the WHS varsity field at Tomahawk Park. Adjustments will be made in May when HS is in full swing.

- **U10 – Tuesdays @5:30 & Saturdays 11-1**
- **U14 – Mondays @ TBD & Saturdays 11-1**

Field Usage/maintenance – lower field – Sheri Dye reported that the meeting with Jr. Warrior Baseball was eye opening and a bit confusing. Jr. Warrior Baseball has a completely different understanding of what this partnership is supposed to be / going to be. They began the meeting sharing the fundraising and improvements they are planning. At some point they

disclosed that they have tournaments & games scheduled for the field – Sheri shared that she chimed in with “that being a bit premature since the HS schedule wasn’t yet know.” Members of Jr. Warrior Baseball board were surprised to hear that the usage order was going to be WHS, JWS and then baseball (as JWS was told by Coach Sells March 1st). Need Coach Sells at a meeting to confirm. Per Sheri David Picton expressed a 50-50 split (JRW baseball & JWS) and that there is a work order in on the field but the district can do only so much so he has already put work into the field (on his own time). Other JRW baseball expressed if WHS softball was going to use the field they needed to put money into it. They (JrW Baseball) want to have a contract signed. Sheri reported that they (she & Oakley) agreed to nothing; reinforced that Quentin Thurmond as JWS President would have to be the one to address a contract with; and that another meeting would need to happen – Coach Sells, and other JWS board members would need to be present.

Quentin and Suzanne had lots of questions. They shared that they had not been invited to the meeting (had responded to the inquiry for availability but didn’t receive an invitation or notification of the meeting). Sheri & Oakley were unable to answer most as they were not covered in the meeting and suggest the questions be held until the April 20th meeting. They further suggest that JWS board members “sit back / sit quietly”; allowing Coach Sell to speak first and lead the meeting – the expectation is that questions will be answered after she address the matter. Quentin shared an apprehension to this arrangement now & a distrust of the parties involved. Agreed that a signed usage agreement may need to be in place to ensure an equitable partnership. Other matters of concern – “What if baseball gets made and walks away / an agreement can’t be reached – what is our liability to the shed?” “If baseball is going to have keys to the field gate; JWS board needs to have the same access.”

Matter is tabled until a joint meeting is held.

New Business/Miscellaneous

- **Recruiting / Tryouts for '23 – '24 season** – Suzanne shared that per our given numbers (and if all eligible current players return); we will have 8 at U14, 2 at U12, and 9 at U10 come fall. Need to recruit hard at the 4th, 5th & 6th grade levels. How are we going to get into the schools in May? Who is going to coordinate this effort? The suggestion was made to host a camp – they seem to be well received by the district when it comes to distribution of information. It would give us a pool to invite to tryouts. Good idea but No one volunteered to coordinate the promotion or the event.

Change of meeting day / time – at the time of adjournment, the reminder was made that all of JWS teams play on Wednesday nights and that will affect 3 of our board meeting attendees. Suggestion was made to move the meeting day to Thursdays (same time and location).

Next Meeting scheduled **Thursday, May 4th @ 6pm, Mt. Vernon Rd Hy-Vee.**