

Armstrong Athletics Board Meeting
November 17, 2019

Members Present: Brian Shaffer, Todd Ashbaugh, Jim Morrow, Steven Gilliland, Ericka Atkinson, Julie Pella, Tom Scheeren, Brian Harclerode, Mike Johns

7:02 Meeting called to order by President Brian Shaffer

Field Maintenance

Pawkovich/Stewart/Civic Center - Brian Harclerode

Concession stand at Pawk and Stewart have been put to bed, water drained from pipes, antifreeze going in soon, the mound needs moved into the upper shed. Tom S. offered use of trailer to move it. Brian will send a message the day it is to be moved and whoever can help will go. Civic Center put to bed although large dirt pile needs to be spread on the infield for the spring and issues with the outfield fencing need resolved.

Montebell - Todd Ashbaugh

With the help of Jim Morrow, Montebell has been winterized. All banners down, water drained, antifreeze in toilets and sink drains, mound carried back and placed in shed, bases lifted up, and L Screen put into shed.

Treasurer Report - no report

Concessions - no report although Shakely Veterans Center extremely thankful for snack and drink donations. Board agrees this should be our course of action in the following years.

Fundraising - no report at this time, looking into Baseball Bingo

New Business:

Dan Pschier and Ford City baseball have invited some AA members to their next meeting on December 8th. AA board has decided this will be a listening session for us, nothing will be agreed upon and all info will come back to our board for discussion.

Nominations and board reorganization:

Safety Officer - Brian Harclerode motioned by Ericka Atkinson
Seconded by Jim Morrow
Unanimous Yes

Field Maintenance representatives needed now for Pawk/Stewart/Civic Center AND Montebell fields. Right now it is a committee approach.

AA would also like to add baseball Player Agent, Coaching Coordinator, Field Reservation, and Information Officer positions to the board

Don Lowry removed from the board to make space for one of the above positions and/or to cut down on number needed for quorum. Brian Shaffer will call Don and talk to him about the reason why. Some speculate that Don isn't even aware he was on the board. Don will still remain the umpire in chief.

Motioned by Steve Gilliland
Seconded by Julie Pella
Motion passed unanimously

Coaching coordinator - Mike Reed
Nominated by Steve Gilliland
Seconded by Todd Ashbaugh
Passed Unanimously

2020 Registration Dates and Fees - Player Evals March 14th and 15th

Fees are the same as last year:

January 1-31st - \$25 discount per family

February 1-March 14/15 - regular rate

March 16 - up until the draft on March 22nd - \$25 late fee added on

NO REGISTRATIONS AFTER MARCH 22ND. HARDSHIPS AFTER THE 22ND MAY BE ACCEPTED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS WITH BOARD DECISION.

Motioned Steve Gilliland
Second Ericka Atkinson
Passed Unanimously

Issue with having a representative from the Armstrong High School being responsible for the building while evaluations are going on.
Several options on the table:

1. Pay a custodian to open up and lock up
2. Find a teacher/employee willing to take on the responsibility
3. Move tryouts to Armstrong Indoor Athletics if price is less than that of the custodian fee

This item is still open for discussion and tabled until fact finding and search for ASD volunteer is complete.

Concession Stand workers required to have clearances

Large problem for us. Talk of the mandate being unreasonable and the pros and cons of: letting it slide, paying people to man concession stand, or somehow figuring a way to get all concession volunteers the clearances they need. This action is tabled until more facts are available.

Board Committee Structure (LL/Pony/Softball) - tabled

Field Improvements:

Pawk dugouts need replaced - a lot involved as some bleachers need moved

Concrete and block estimates came back very high. Brian will create a bid package so at the very least we will get some ideas on different options for the dugout replacement. Significant issue with cold weather and laying block/pouring concrete at this point although can be done under the right conditions.

Montebell sod/grass - most likely too late to plant grass, Brian checking with Chad Hill about pricing sod options. Brian also putting together grant proposal to possibly turf just the infields at either Pawk/Montebell.

Jud Field - subdivision done and legal proceedings almost complete. Jud will belong to AA very soon

Community Park - Mike Johns

The borough does want some direction from AA as to what our plans are with the fields at Community Park. Julie had an idea for a full community action fundraiser to fix up the fields. The board also discussed the feelings that our problems with dugouts at Pawk and backstop at Jud need addressed before we take on another project such as this one. No resolution on this issue at this point. There was some talk of having Jeremy Oliver at least look at the fields there and suggest what could be done/how much work would be needed.

TruGreen Renewal - Jim was able to get a discounted price for next season

Motioned - Jim Morrow

Seconded - Brian Harclerode
passed unanimously

Divisions Of Play

50/70 Little League - Apollo/Freeport/Indiana all very interested in forming a league (Deer Lakes also a possibility)

BYLAW REVISION:

To change bylaws to read that a manager can pick ONE assistant coach to help with team and then all other coaches must be chosen out of the kids that are drafted. Some discussion about coaches loading up with an assistant's kid or having an unfair advantage due to draft order selections. The board agrees to amend this change with the caveat that the board can override coaching pairings that are obviously unfair to

the rest of the teams in the division. This change could not be voted on due to the absence of a 2/3 board majority. Tabled until next meeting

AA hosting a baseball tournament - Tabled

Fundraising, Pictures, Garage Sale, Annual Budget, Purchasing Policy, and AA Travel Team formation all tabled

Significant Life Events Involving Our Players:

An idea came from Gabe Lash that the board can vote to cover the registration fees for our athletes who have a life altering event occur while playing for AA in lieu of flowers/donation.

Motion by Ericka Atkinson to cover Jack and Luke Breggenti's registration costs for 2020 season

Seconded by Brian Shaffer
Passed Unanimously

Motion to adjourn at 8:42 by Todd Ashbaugh
Seconded by Julie Pella
Passed Unanimously

Next Meeting: Sunday, December 8th at 7:00 at the Craffthouse