

MIDLAND SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

March 14, 2016

Present: BIRCH, WARNER, ROWE, CHICHESTER, LANGLOIS, SCHUNK, WALLACE, HANSON, RAPP, STEWART, POST, ENSZER, RAPANOS, O'KEEFE, HOFFMAN, MEYERS, DUNLOP and GEHOSKI.

Guest: Fred Blackhurst

Call to order: President Mike Rapanos called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Treasurer's Report: A report was distributed. Schunk reported not much change since last month. Warner made a motion to accept the report. Langlois seconded. Report accepted.

Umpire-in-chief report: Birch announced the second meeting was held March 6, 2016 and three new individuals attended. Some had heard about the umpire need from the article in the Midland Daily Newspaper or are students of Gehoski. Nice turnout. At first meeting 14 individuals were present and 25 were in attendance at the second meeting. Numbers look promising.

Minutes: Minutes from February 8, 2016 were distributed and read. Enszer made a motion to accept the minutes. Hanson added a correction changing the MSA to MASA as the MASA is increasing the team fees \$4 not the MSA. Enszer made a motion to accept the minutes amending the motion with the correction. Langlois seconded. Motion approved.

Protest Committee: The committee will meet immediately following this meeting.

New Business:

1. Fred Blackhurst appeared before the board to request reinstatement. Blackhurst had been suspended indefinitely for displaying an act of violence towards umpire Chuck Birch. Blackhurst told the board that he takes responsibility for his actions and apologized. He has taken steps to change. Blackhurst would like to play softball in Midland again. After much discussion Warner made a motion to reinstate Fred Blackhurst. Enszer seconded. Post will send letter to Blackhurst informing him of the decision.
2. Warner inquired if the submitted bylaws could be looked over to see if they are written correctly. Enszer offered to help so Warner and Enszer will review submitted bylaws.

3. Some individuals expressed interest in serving on sub committees of the MSA board. The question was asked if an individual who is not on the MSA board could serve on a committee. The board agreed that volunteers should not be refused and agreed that on all committees a board member must be the chair. Warner will write and submit a bylaw for approval.
4. Post suggested a Marketing Committee be put together to market and promote softball. Post would be willing to work with the committee. All forms of social media should be used. Hoffman, Rapanos, Schunk and Enszer agreed to serve on the committee.
5. Enszer would like more information on how much to charge for advertisements during the B and C fast pitch tournament this summer. This is a topic the Marketing Committee can review for a decision.
6. Bat testing will be done at Redcoats complex one week prior to May 1. The testing will be done Monday through Thursday. The biggest issue is Easton has volunteered to pull 18 approved bats off the market and bats will be considered banned. During testing each bat will have to be looked at to be sure it is not one listed on the Easton list. O'Keefe volunteered to help with bat testing. Travel league fast pitch did not have bats tested last year and will not again in 2016.

Old Business:

1. Hanson reported he intends to meet with Dave Keenan, City of Midland financial director, to discuss field owners insurance. The City of Midland will write the check for \$1100 covering the premium and the MSA will reimburse the city. Rapanos questioned the \$875 premium for the directors and officers insurance which covers the board for off-field actions. Rapanos will talk to his attorney to see whether the board can be sued.
2. The hotdog man wants to continue selling hotdogs this summer. A contract will be sent. E-mails have been sent to the individual who sold popcorn last year but the e-mails have come back non deliverable. The place has closed.
3. Bylaws must be submitted by April 20, 2016. The board will review them on April 25, 2016.
4. Annual meeting date is April 27, 2016 at 7 p.m. at the library.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m. The next meeting of the MSA will be Monday, April 25, 2016.

Jody L. Chichester, Secretary 