

MSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES January 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 5:54p.m.

Present were Steve Warner, Jesse Stewart, Jason Harper, Jason Gehoski, John McPeak, Marisa Boulton and Laura Currie.

Public Comment: None

Minutes: Motion by Boulton, seconded by Harper to approve the December 5th, 2022 board meeting as amended. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report: Gehoski reported that we have \$65,648.70 total money available. See Balance Sheet. Over the last five years we have spent close to \$60,000 in capital improvements. Motion to approve the Treasurer's report made by Boulton, approved by Currie. Gehoski abstained.

UIC Update: The USA Softball has no new rule changes that will affect our league play.

Ejection/Appeals/Protest Committee Update: Nothing to report

New/Old Business:

- a. Raising umpire fees. Are we able to increase them? We will never be able to compete with high school and college. Fast-pitch and modified are especially difficult to find. Many of those umpires drive from out of Midland to umpire. Last year there was an increase of \$5 per game. \$33-slow pitch/\$40-modified/\$45-fast pitch are the current rates. The number one reason we are not getting umpires is sportsmanship. District 16 is having their meeting in Midland on February 1st. Maybe they will get some new people at that meeting.
- b. Softball prices are increasing. Not playing by the river at Emerson may help retain some balls. A discussion was had about ways to retain balls and save on cost. Warner asked if the umpires will assist in players returning the balls.
- c. Viv Schaaf has agreed to bat testing again next year. She has asked for help in the beginning.
- d. 2023 fees: A discussion was had on what fields are used. For example, if field 6 is used for one night the city charges us the entire week of mowing for that field even if it only used for one night. We need to schedule as many games as possible on Fields 9-13. We will no longer be using Emerson Park for games. A discussion was had on how to consolidate fields. Gehoski predicted there would be 91 teams and 1437 players for the 2023. It is projected we would lose approximately \$17,000 with the cost of the city increasing \$2 per player. A discussion was had to eliminate the Men's Church league and absorb it into the Men's slow pitch league. Gehoski made a motion to raise player's fees \$2 in summer and fall leagues to offset the city fee increases. Harper seconded. Motion passed. The fees will be \$48 for slow pitch and \$60 for modified and fast pitch.
- e. Boulton motioned to drop League tournament from fast pitch league and drop two games from modified pitch regular season and align team fees for both at \$460. McPeak seconded. Motion passed.
- f. A discussion was had about by-law changes.
- g. Fall team increase was tabled.
- h. Our annual meeting will be April 10th, 2023 at 7:00 via Zoom.

Next meeting date: Monday, February 13th at 5:45pm at the USA Softball of Michigan located at 3316 Isabella Rd., Midland, MI.

Motion to adjourn was made by Boulton and seconded by Warner at 7:50 pm.