MVLL Board Meeting

October 20, 2022

### **Attendance**

* Jeremy Donelson
* Jake Millman
* Lisa Treasure
* Matt Jared
* Tom Sharon
* Christina Brown
* Walter Brown
* Aaron Bennett
* Geodrana Constant
* Chris Constant
* Lauren Seller
* Britney Mayr
* LJ Warren

### **Minutes from Previous Meetings**

Put to vote;Board approved

### **Financial Overview: Treasurer**

Matt Jared gave overview of current financials. Current Balance $14149. Charter insurance for the year is due at $1600 and a small payment to Woodstock Hardware. Balance will stand at about $12509 by November after payments are made. Jeremy and Matt will meet next week to continue with the transition of treasurer.

### **New Board, New Vision**

Jeremy hopes this will be less of a transitional year as we have many members returning. Seasoned members should be helping new coming board members as much as possible.

**Long-Term Goals and Strategy**

* + - Number one goal is to increase registrations. More players and more teams in hopes to build the league up. Our league covers an area that used to have separate leagues by town that had multiple teams each.
      * Geodrana asked where this increase would come from if we just don’t have the numbers in the schools. Jeremy responded with having less than 200 registrations this past season, he’d like to see that number grow to 500 in the next 5 years. We have our largest amount of t-ballers this year. There is a percentage that we lose each time a player levels up. We need to consider ways to get those players. Possibly reach out to parents that haven’t signed up. Christina stated this was done last softball season with a few parents and we had a positive response. It was usually just a case of a parent hasn’t signed up yet. Matt suggested some type of incentive to reregistering for the following year, ie discount, raffle etc.
    - More outreach within our community. Get the league name more recognized at community events. Christina stated she is working on getting some community service opportunities that players/families can participate in. Will reach out to Emily Sherry with the Table at Woodstock. Jeremy requests each member research an outreach opportunity for the future
    - Reduce registration fees. 50% of revenues came from registration fees. The league would need to consider fundraisers to cover this shortfall.

**Board Operations and Procedures**

Jeremy thanked everyone for a wonderful job. He would like to see more designated committees made up of board members and non board members to work on a specific task. More communication outside of meetings. We as a board always need to operate on a high level of professionalism. We represent the league.

### **Fall Ball Reports: Vice Presidents**

**Softball**

Walter reports Fall ball is wrapping up this week. It has gone well. We played RV/IV for our games. There was a halloween party that was held 10/15 with a kid and adult wiffle ball game. Everyone dressed up and it was just a great time. Leftover candy will be used at Phoenicia’s Trunk or Treat representing MVLL. Considerations have been made for 2023 season. He would like to structure it like baseball has: Coach pitch minors, Kid Pitch Minors and Kid Pitch Majors. There’s a few players that are ready to move on from current coach pitch minors but not quite ready for kid pitch majors for a variety of reasons safety being the major one. The softball numbers have been increasing in the past season so no concern in filling these teams.

**Baseball**

Aaron stated it’s different than last year. Not sure if it’s because of location but smaller numbers. Have 16/17 signed up but anywhere from 4 to 11 show up to practices. 2 games for kid pitch agains RV/IV both went well. Tried to do scrimmages but didn’t have the numbers show up. Our coaches did great improvising and shifting practices to fit the amount of kids that showed. Jake spoke with the coach pitch coaches and they reported the fall ball season went well.

**T-ball**

Jake reported t-ball wrapped up their last fall ball session this week. The season went well. The first few weeks were skill based and then ended with scrimmages. Jake requests there be more communication if a player is moving up between t-ball and softball/baseball. T-ball age should be 4 and 5 year olds. Any 6 year olds that might be on the cusp of moving up or another year of t-ball would need to be evaluated.

### **Empty Board Seats**

There’s a lot of jobs within our league but we have to have the Little League required positions to be filled in order to be apart of the charter. **Current seats open: Coach Cordinator, Information Officer, Field Manager and Concessions Cordinator.**

* + - Jeremy had an email commitment for Safety Officer but they were unable to attend meeting. A lot of new comers to tonights meeting. Option to speak specifically about any open positions after the meeting.

### **Survey**

Jeremy got good feedback from the board regarding questions emailed. He will use platform like Survey Monkey. Aaron and Matt emailed more questions. Board would like to see questions regarding concession. Matt offered to head up Survey committee and will look up hosting sites. Matt suggested an incentive for completion of survey ie raffle. Ideally survey needs to go out before holidays.

### **Grant Avery Park Resolution**

Jeremy will be attending the Olive Rec Committee meeting on 11/1. The hope is to establish a clean slate relationship. Jeremy will represent the board and what MVLL decided as a board. LJ and John Visconti will be attending the meeting from the district level and have first hand knowledge of prior interactions between MVLL and the Town of Olive.

### **Winter Cleanup**

* + - Rick Volz is going to be winterized after October, MVLL needs to get any equipment from there and bring to Glenbrook sheds.
    - Banners- Walter offered to take down Phoenicia Elementary and Glenbrook. Jake/Jeremy will do RV and bring to Glenbrook.
    - Equipment- Storing all equipment at Glenbrook worked well last year. An inventory was done at the start of the season, not necessary to do again until start of next season. Aaron suggested using mouse proof containers.
    - Concessions- Will table concession logistics for spring season until after survey. Glenbrook needs to be cleaned out and fridge unplugged. Walter and Lauren volunteered to go through Glenbrook. RV also needs to be cleaned out.

### **Thanksgiving Event: VP Softball**

Wanted to get softball girls together for a thanksgiving type of celebration, concerns over timing and insurance if holding it outside of league fields. May not be able to do this year.

### **Third Party Concessions: Secretary**

Christina stated she had a parent from volleyball approach about selling hot chocolate at our softball fall ball game since no concessions. After getting approval from the school they set up and were very successful and appreciated on the cold nights. She would like to see outside clubs and sports be able to sell like this as long as it is not stepping on MVLL concessions.

### **Winter Clinics**

Jeremy attended the district meeting last night (10/19) Brian S from IV/RV is sending coaches to Mohegan Sun for World Baseball Coaches’ Convention. Coaches are responsible for room and travel and league is paying expo fee. Would like MVLL to consider sending coaches. Clinics at DYS last winter went over really well. In contact with them to do again this winter. Christina has reached out to DYS as well for a “Mom’s night out” type of clinic. A lot of moms want to help but their biggest issue is not knowing what to do. Director is trying to come up with a program featuring games and drills that they can do at home with players or during practice.

### **End of Year Fundraiser**

Tabled until next meeting

### **Open comments**

LJ Warren attended this meeting and wanted to thank everyone for volunteering and their commitment. The district will be handling mistreatment of umpires; coaches will be reprimanded if a complaint comes to the district level. Little League rules must be followed for interleague game play. Schedule closest field for away teams with the idea of making transportation easier. There was talk regarding All Stars for next year. There is a new process for All Stars that all coaches would be required to receive additional training in order to coach All Stars. The idea is to play your district you go to sections and onward towards the Little League World Series at Williamsport. RV is interested in doing All Stars more locally. The district would not fund or support the leagues within this local All Stars. LJ speaking as a parent and coach within the MVLL district would like to see the best of the baseball majors put together as an All Star team and work with them for the following All Star year.

### **Next Meeting scheduled 11/16/22 6pm**