

WSSA Board Meeting Minutes

13 November, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM on this date at the Pine Valley Branch of the New Hanover County Library. All Board members were in attendance - Mike Abernathy, Charlie Backes, David Reardon, Skip Flynn, Joe Newcomb, Gary Kohunsky, Tony Spataro and Mike Gallagher. Also, in attendance was the WSSA Web Master, Walter Aaron.

The minutes from the 13 June, 2019 Board meeting were approved as submitted and have been posted on the WSSA Web site.

I. General Discussion:

- a. All Sponsors have paid their 2019 Sponsorship fees. Only one, Cambridge Village, has prepaid the 2020 sponsorship fees to date.
- b. The Atlantic Division President, Mike Gallagher indicated that the Division has revised its request to use Fields 4 & 5 at Olsen Park and wishes to remain on Fields 1 & 2 in the future as the morning sun poses a problem on Fields 4 & 5.
- c. It was suggested that the next WSSA sponsored event to watch Wilmington Sharks baseball be coordinated to secure reserved seating at the game rather than general admittance. Turn out for this event was very good with a good mix of all three WSSA Divisions in attendance.
- d. Concern was voiced on the issue of attaining representation of all three leagues in the Hall Of Fame (HOF) selection committee process. It was suggested that a primary and an alternate committee member be named for all three leagues each year. Committee members must be existing HOF members unless otherwise approved by the Board.
- a. If the short list of available umpires at the end of the 2019 season remains the same, there will be an insufficient number to cover all games in 2020. Efforts will be undertaken to advertise for and recruit more qualified umpires. Should that effort not prove successful, the Board could consider revising League schedules so that League play for the three Divisions be conducted on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Mondays and Wednesdays and Mondays and Thursdays. This would reduce the number of umpires required to 4 on Mondays and Thursdays and 2 on Tuesdays and Wednesdays vice 6 every Tuesday and Thursday. A third option would be to have one of the leagues officiate their own games should WSSA be unsuccessful in recruiting more umpires. This item is open for further discussion at the next Board meeting.

II. WSSA 25 Year Anniversary:

- a. An E mail notice and reminder to all WSSA current and past members will be sent out within 24 hours reminding all of the 16 November fundraiser, 3:30-6:30 PM, at the Flying Machine Brewing Company. Proceeds will be used for events to be scheduled in 2020 in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the founding of WSSA. Specific events and dates are being developed by a committee set up to coordinate the Anniversary.

- b. Two prototype hats commemorating the 25th Anniversary were shown to the Board. Once approved, it is proposed that all hats would be procured by WSSA for all members and will be used as game day attire for all WSSA games played in 2020.

III. Financials and Finances:

- a. The WSSA financials from 1 January, 2019 - 30 November, 2019 were presented by Dave Reardon and approved. A copy of those documents will be attached to the final minutes on file.
- b. A suggestion was raised on establishing a committee or assigning additional duties to an existing Board position for oversight and coordination of all common procurements of items needed within the league. Examples are team Jerseys, hats, safety equipment, etc. The intent is to maximize savings through one time “bulk purchases” with the intent of realizing savings through economy of scale. This item is open for further discussion at the next Board meeting.
- c. The three League Presidents were asked to conduct an inventory of all WSSA assets held by their respective teams. This would include team jerseys, bats, strike plates, pitching screens, masks, safety equipment, Etc.

IV. Future Board Meetings:

- a. The next Board meeting is tentatively Scheduled for Monday, 9 December, 2019 location To Be Determined (TBD). That will be followed by another Board meeting on Tuesday, 14 January, 2020, also TBD on location.
- b. The 2020 WSSA Annual meeting with all members is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, 23 January, 2020 at a location TBD.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM

Skip Flynn
WSSA Secretary