**Rosemount Girls Traveling Fastpitch Softball Minutes**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Date: 4/14/2024**

**Time:** **6:00** PM

**Location:** Robert Trail Library, Community Room

**Present:** Chad Kalstabakken, Amy Hall, Heidi McDonald, Debbie Stovall, Tricia Paulson, Shelby Nutting-Veliz, Janie Lambert, Cory Samuelson, Amber Shermo, Katie Nemitz, Mindy McBride

**Not Present:**  Shelby Pogatchnik, Nicole Bradley, Danielle Waage

**Guests:** Dodi Matti (RAAA co-liaison)

**Meeting Called to Order**: 6:04 pm

**Secretary's Report: (Janie Lambert)** GTFS Board approved meeting minutes from 3/10/2024.

**Treasurer’s Report: (Katie Nemitz)** $63,233 ending budget balance 3/31/2024.

**Meeting Topics**

* **Shout Outs/Welcome Guests**
  + Chad - for setting up all of the league games for all teams
* **Next Board Meeting: May 12th - Time and location TBD**
* **Upcoming Timeline review** 
  + Link to Public Google Calendar for upcoming important dates. Link to be shared with families for awareness of important dates (state tournaments in spring/fall, parent meeting, etc).
    - <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/3?cid=dHJhdmVsaW5nLXNvZnRiYWxsQHJvc2Vtb3VudC1hYWEub3Jn>
  + Internal Board Softball Calendar of to-dos from last year
    - Chad provided link to individual board members to utilize for reminders for next year or reminders when passing on a board position to a new member

**Larger Topics for Discussion & Focus**

* **Field Fences** **(Chad)**
  + Baseball requesting to use fences at Erickson park for upcoming tournament Fri-Sun, May 10th-12th for 4 fields
  + Discussion had and board agreed to allow baseball to use
* **Start to the Season (Chad)**
  + Practice schedules have been set
    - The “extras” sign ups (cage, extra field time, etc) has not been created yet - stay tuned
  + Equipment codes need to be sent out to teams
    - Field #5 does not have a lock
  + League schedules
    - Associations set a schedule for fields and teams available
    - If hearing from teams that fields/games are not set/complete, let Chad know
  + Umpires
    - Chad needs to learn the process
  + Equipment
    - Cory still needs to distribute equipment to 2 teams
    - Ice packs - need improved type and/or check for expired ice packs (current packs did not work during dome league)
      * Come from RAAA
* **Shoe Fundraiser**
  + Planning to set up an area at Shannon Park shed for shoe drop off
  + Other fundraising topics:
    - Tricia verified that the wearable blankets can be sold at any of the youth track meets
    - Chipotle Night - this week, Wednesday 4/17 from 4-8pm
* **Hit-a-thon (Cory)**
  + The program is live with many donations already received!
  + Requesting everyone to spread the word and continue to share!
* **Uniforms (Tricia)**
  + CA gear is still waiting on Girls’ size Medium pants (currently backordered)
    - Size small pants were ordered from a different company
    - Discussion around considering a different brand for next year?
      * Idea brought forward that other programs only provide jerseys and not pants
  + Uniform pick date pushed back to Monday & Tuesday, April 22nd/23rd from 5-7pm at Shannon Park shed
    - Tricia looking for volunteers to assist with handout out
* **Equipment (Cory)**
  + Still equipment in the dome as weather is looking questionable for this week and we still have booked dome time
    - Could make dome time optional practices for more reps if teams can practice outside this week
  + Consider purchasing more of the leather kevlar laced pitching machine balls since we have an additional pitching machine this year
  + Bow nets are missing from the dome - looking into purchasing more (Cory researching another brand)
* **Tournament (Debbie)**
  + Locations - working to determine which age levels are playing at which locations to determine how to set-up volunteer hours
    - Discussion around pros/cons of Erickson vs UMore
      * Pros UMore = better fields/drainage, covered dugouts
      * Cons UMore = No running water/bathrooms, tight parking, temporary dirt road to access, limited warm up space
  + Apparel Tournament Logo - the apparel company shared the proposed logo for 2024 gear - discussion around requesting slight design changes.
    - Discussion around board having “staff” shirts for tourney
  + Tournament Logo - parent of 8U player designed a generic logo for the program to use - discussion around requesting slight design change
  + Volunteer hours - still working to determine total
  + Tournament rules update
* **Player Development (Amy)**
  + TruPlayerz lane availability on Sundays
    - Week 1 = 5/10 spots filled
    - Week 2 = 6/10 spots filled
    - Week 3 = 6/10 spots filled
    - Week 4 = 4/10 spots filled
      * Some teams have been utilizing for team practices
  + Jessa Snippes looking to help this summer
  + Off season training discussion
    - Send survey to parents regarding opinions of training (nights, times, interest, etc)
* **President Discussion** 
  + Discussion around people volunteering for the role
    - Pros/cons and concerns
  + Discussion around providing an instructional/role guide to pass along to predecessor for ease of transitions for all roles
  + Interim plan - Chad through his term in fall and then transition to next volunteer
* **Assessments**
  + Propose 2 nights
    - Define the problems and evidence that these were problems and impacted results
    - Develop a sub-committee to research hosting 2 nights
  + Idea - host the parent meeting before assessments to explain process and answer questions
* **14U Club Development**
  + Discussion around what we are missing at the 14u level to meet this expectation with current program
    - Plan to focus on improving current 12/14u programs
      * Ideas:
      * Non-parent coaching/paid coach
      * Improved off-season training/coaching
      * Expand tournaments outside of state (USSSA, etc)
      * Fall vs summer registration (recent process change)
      * Consider new identity/name for team/program
* **Brainstorm Topics**
  + Pitching practice
    - Need a designated space at Shannon/Erickson and a space to warm up during a game
  + Dome League
    - Is this something we want to continue?
  + Budgeting/Fundraising
    - What is our goal?
  + Delegations/Submittees
    - What do we need to do to attract more board members?
  + Board roles
    - What are the expectations of our roles? What defines success?
  + Off-season training
    - Are we doing too much?
  + Petition the city for more fields with growing population
    - Partner more closely with baseball since they have the same problems with field shortages
  + Facilities Improvements
    - Shannon Park shed gutters, nets between fields, dugouts at Erickson
  + Involvement of high school program/coaches
    - Buddy system similar to basketball

**5 Minute Updates**

* **Community & Culture (Amber)**
  + Youth night at the varsity game - May 1st
    - Will be combined with In-house this year
* **RAAA Liaison (Dodi)**
  + RAAA needs main board members - please consider
  + Main board is requesting the next director to be brought forward
  + Parent concern - lack of transparency, concern over tryout performance/results, lack of info regarding the assessment process, by-laws not available
  + Idea to consider using an app similar to baseball for tryouts for scoring purposes
* **Meeting adjourned @ 8:40 PM**
* **Next regularly meeting scheduled for May 12th; Time and Location TBD**
* **Meeting minutes prepared by: Janie Lambert, Secretary**