**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**