

**ZLL Board Meeting
March 13, 2011**

In attendance: Randy Judd, Jim Dickson, Marc Lynn, Marke Roberts, Bob Walters, Mike Garrett, John Babb, Graig Collings, Robin Wagner, Melissa Chrisman, Sonny Nasser, Ron Pugh, Stan Pinegar, Dustin Ward, Tammy Pressler, Rob Baumgartner, Greg Williams

1. Minutes -- Stan Pinegar made a motion to approve. Marc Lynn seconded and the minutes were approved.

Melissa Chrisman asked for a second ZLL representative to sit on the ZYFL board. Graig Collings said he would sit in as ZYFL representative. Robin Wagner also volunteered.

2. Memorial Day Tournament – Stan Pinegar raised issues regarding what Zionsville teams are involved. Sonny Nasser asked that we postpone questions until later in the meeting when Brad Pressler could be present.

3. Treasurers Report – Ron Pugh – Pugh reported that ZLL has a positive cash situation and is ahead of where we were a year ago. There are some outstanding payments yet to be made for uniforms. We are trailing a bit in sponsorships, which is pretty much the norm, however, right now financially we are really sound.

Bob Walters asked whether we have made a contribution yet to the scholarship fund. Each year we have been giving a dollar from each registration to the fund. We have not yet to date, but will.

ZLL funds two scholarships to two graduating seniors from ZCS – one softball and one baseball each year. We started the fund with 5,000 and each year we add to it from registrations. There's a form that comes from the foundation that goes through the school. Recommendations come from the Community Foundation of Boone County. Sonny Nasser spoke to those in charge and they have 5-6 applicants. They are going to make a recommendation to ZLL and we will take action next meeting. There is a May 24th award and a representative from ZLL will be there for the award.

Marke Roberts motioned to approve the treasurers report. Mike Garrett seconded and the report was approved.

4. Teams – Randy Judd & VPS

Sonny Nasser noted that he had calls from parents confused about age divisions, particularly AA, AAA, and Majors. ZLL has asked directly about this issue in the

survey. Randy Judd, Marc Lynn, Stan Pinegar also mentioned that they have fielded calls and concerns about the division alignments of AA and AAA versus playing strictly by age.

Marke Roberts noted that last year they also had a few issues. He stated that there were some positive examples of development by some kids who remained AA versus playing up to AAA.

Sonny Nasser noted that right now this is our system is. If the survey results reflect that the community does not like this system we will take that into account and address it.

John Babb stated that we want players to have success. We want players to not get overlooked and give every kid the chance to develop. If you get kids that are more balanced playing together it is easier to coach and teach than if you have a big disparity.

Marc Lynn agreed but said that we need to meet our consumers' needs, but said in some cases families see it as a slap in the face rather than an opportunity. Also AA coaches, should be instructed to go to AA 10 year olds and ask them to step up and be leaders.

It was decided that we would postpone further discussions until survey data could be analyzed.

Sonny Nasser extended his thanks to all who helped out with evaluations.

Marc Lynn stated that he has the initial schedule laid out and is still awaiting word on some interleague games.

Robin Wagner stated that Steve Carr is working on scheduling and rosters are sent out.

Graig Collings noted that local rules are on the website. We need to stress to coaches that they need to be civil and work with the umpires. If coaches have questions they should go to Bob Walters.

Jim Dickson brought up the issue of bats and how to regulate. Bob Walters noted that coaches have to be responsible and help regulate equipment during Rec league play. He suggested that coaches have training. For interleague and Keraga cup games ZLL will do inspections. Coaches will get information at the managers meeting on bats and equipment.

John Babb – equipment – John stated that he needs a list of team coaches. He has ordered some more equipment and it should be coming this week. Right now Zll is short on equipment. He is trying to update catchers and batters' helmets for safety.

He has also ordered actual softball catchers gloves. He has very little Jr./Sr. league equipment. He noted that with registration numbers up he may need some more funding.

Babb stated that he has set Saturday, March 20th from 12-3 as equipment pickup.

Bob Walters suggested that ZLL gets pink softballs to use for Mothers Day weekend. Walters also stated that in the past we've had old equipment that we've donated. John has already worked this out.

Bob Walters – Rules –Walters stated that he is having umpire clinics next week. Information is on the website. He also stated that there are very few rule changes this year.

Dustin Ward – sponsors – Ward reported that we are two sponsors short of completing team sponsorships.

Ron Pugh made a motion that we provide Bone Dry with sign sponsorship and two teams at no cost as a thank you for all of the contributions/donations they have made this past year. Greg Williams seconded and it was unanimously approved.

Dustin also stated he would like to send out a thank you to sponsors and announce them on opening day. Robin asked for coaches to have sponsor contact information as well. Ward reported that he is wrapping up things with sponsors. He is still trying to fill up the concession stand signs. Marke Roberts and Marc Lynn also wanted to make sure there ZLL also had a Relay for Life sign up. Ward said we would.

Safety – Rob Baumgartner – Bumgartner reported that he is working on the officer of the day schedule and is still trying to schedule CPR training. He noted that it is typically held the first Saturday of every month at Town Hall and encouraged everyone to go and take part.

Rob also noted that ZLL still has two insurance policies. He has gotten conflicting information and has been awaiting information from LL International. He also stated that we need additional coverage.

On another note, Baumgartner stated that CVS will be donating safety kits for the year as well.

It was stated that Randy Judd will be overseeing the background checks for coaches, board, and concession stand employees.

Marke Roberts – Opening Day

Roberts reported that Ray Cortopassi will be the emcee for the event. He is still working on sound. Scott Shelton will do the invocation. Gene Thompson will do Lions Club welcome. Ali Norman will be doing the National Anthem. Roberts has asked the American Legion to present the colors. He noted that there will be special recognition of the 2010 Boys district 10U champs and also the 10U and 12U Softball Champs.

Roberts requested rosters with sponsors for printing. Graig Collings noted that the Times Sentinel is doing a feature/features on LL this year and they will need info for background. They will most likely be at the park on Opening Day.

Roberts also stated that ZLL will be having an opening day t-shirt that will be for sale instead of doing 50/50 raffle sales. The shirt will list every kid in the league this year. There will be an on-line ordering process with pick-up on Opening Day.

Roberts is still looking for a breakfast vendor for the beginning of the day and Texas Roadhouse will be the vendor for lunch. Ron Pugh noted that Texas Roadhouse is a tremendous sponsor for us and we should try to patronize.

McKamy/Holmes - Nominations taken and voting took place.

Sponsor of the Year – There were four nominations taken and voting took place.

Randy Judd gave kudos to both Mike Garrett and Robin Wagner for organizing exceptional coaching clinics. Garrett noted ZLL will be having another coaches clinic coming soon.

Sonny Nasser's Updates – ZLL has had over 270 surveys returned to date.

ZLL checked with LL regarding five-year-olds playing in our league to which the answer was “no”. Five-year olds have to play t-ball.

He also noted that Steve Carr is coordinating with kids for the Challenger program.

Nasser commended Brad Pressler for a great job organizing the maintenance day. Pressler will follow up with a paint day to paint the bleachers. Nasser noted it would be nice to get some of our older players out to help with maintenance as well.

Lions Club Update --Another Lions workday is planned for April 2nd. A contract committee has been working out a contract between ZLL and the Lions Club and it is in the final stages. The committee decided to hold the electrical agreement outside of the contractual agreement. The electrical agreement is expected to come in at around \$75,000. The Lions Club board approved to fund it and then ZLL will reimburse for the agreed upon share at a 70/30 split with Lions Club picking up the

70. Work will start as soon as the contract is in place. It is about a four-week project.

Brad Pressler – Tournament Update Memorial Day weekend

Pressler reported that he has been getting a variety of teams interested, incl Avon, a couple of Zionsville teams, HSE, Westfield and a couple of Brownsburg teams as well. We are still progressing at an acceptable pace to make it profitable.

Pressler also noted that he applied for a grant from Zionsville Parks and Rec for a grant for funds for field maintenance equipment and unfortunately we were not recipients.

Sonny has asked that we evaluate P&L on the tourney and we would also try and come up with some options to cover concession stand costs for the tournament weekend.

The meeting was adjourned with the next meeting set for April 10th at 6:30 p.m.