



*Santa Monica*  
**LITTLE LEAGUE**



## Board of Directors Minutes

Jan 31, 2017

### 1. Call to Order

Jasan called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

Board Members in attendance: Jasan Sherman, Matt Edelman, Michael Balsley, David Schmillen, Stephanie Dupre, Tom Bevan, Kirk Goldstein, Bernard Rahill

Board Members in attendance after the start time: David Eby, Peter McCormick, John Matise

Board Members not in attendance: Grant Devaul, Matt Steinhaus, Mark Kapczynski, Hisao Kushi

Non-Board Members in attendance: Randy Redmond, Ric Munoz, David Harris, Andy Anagnos, Noah Graff

### 2. Public Comment

David Harris explained that SM announced it would be closing SM Airport in 2028 and turn it into parkland. He noted that one of the historical ideas among city park planners has been to create a more official baseball park in that space, at which point the use of Memorial Park would change. In the interim, David explained that there will be developments at Memorial Park to make it more effective space. David raised this because the upcoming FSAC meeting is the first of the new term and David has agreed to become the Vice Chairman of the FSAC Committee. David emphasized that the Board needs to pay close attention to how the use of field space is discussed by the city in order to plan well for the future of the league. David also recommended that after Jasan is no longer the President of SMLL, he consider being the Vice Chair or Chair of the FSAC Committee based on how important the decisions made at that level will be to the future of SMLL.

Andy Anagnos noted that he stopped by Evaluations and saw it as one of the best run evaluations he has seen. He congratulated the Board and the Player Agent and all involved for a job well done.

Andy also explained that he is willing to help Bernard with regard to getting the grill replaced in the Snack Shack.

Andy then spoke on behalf of Cub Scout Pack 67, which is newly active after being dormant for many years, suggesting that the group be given a table at Opening Day to

promote the Scouts. Jasan noted that this would be welcome and that Andy can connect with Peter McCormick to facilitate.

### 3. Spring Season Planning Update

#### a. Commissioner and Manager Selections

- Review of final selections

Kirk explained that we have two new commissioner candidates:

- a. Randy Redmond for Machine Pitch
- b. Pat Armstrong for Juniors, 50/70 and Seniors

Kirk explained that we have one new manager candidates:

- a. Michael Balsley for AA

Kirk explained that Stu Grusin has offered to be an asst or manager in any division instead of a Manager at the Juniors level.

Kirk also noted that at the Majors level, we have 7 managers approved and now are thinking of having 6 teams. Kirk explained that he had discussed the issue with the candidates and determined that Beth Clark would prefer for her son to stay in the AAA division and would be fine being in a supporting role on whatever team her son is selected.

Kirk further noted that in AAA, we have nine manager candidates but are likely to have only 6 teams. He explained that Daniel Callahan agreed to be an asst rather than a Manager and that David Schmillen and Mark agreed to share one team. Kirk shared that there will be more discussion around how many teams we will have in AAA after the upcoming evaluations.

- Board vote on outstanding commissioner candidates

Michael motioned to approve the candidates. Tom seconded the motion. Randy and Pat were approved as Commissioners.

Kirk asked the Board to approve the final six Manager candidates for Majors as Davidson, Harris, Edelman, Graff, McCormick and Smith.

Tom motioned to approve. Jasan seconded. The motion passed. All candidates were approved.

#### b. Recruiting plan

- Final week for Majors / AAA players

Michael explained that we are going to distribute flyers noting that registration closes for Majors on the Makeup Eval day.

c. Schedule

- Evaluations makeup

David R noted that makeup day is scheduled for Sat the 4<sup>th</sup> at Memorial.

- Drafts

Kirk explained that the Majors draft was scheduled Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 at Newroads in the Lincoln Room. He noted that the AAA draft date is not confirmed but is targeted for Thu the 9<sup>th</sup>.

- Coaches Clinics

Jasan explained that the clinics likely will be Feb 26<sup>th</sup> at Memorial.

- Spring Training

Jasan noted that the free clinic is 8-12 at Marine on Sun Feb 5<sup>th</sup>.

- Team assignments

Kirk explained that based on when he expected the drafts to occur, Majors teams would be assigned and could start practicing the week of Feb 13<sup>th</sup>, with AAA teams likely to be assigned and able to practice the following week and AA rosters ready by Presidents Day weekend, with practices able to start the following week.

Kirk explained that Opening Day games will be for Majors and AAA divisions, with AA and younger divisions starting the following weekend.

David Eby explained that any player who has not been evaluated can not play Majors. A discussion ensued around whether players can be placed even if they are not evaluated.

d. Opening Day planning and volunteer needs

Peter shared the following details:

- Pancake breakfast from 8-10am - \$10 for kids, \$15 for adults
- A caterer has been secured who will charge less than these amounts, enabling the league to generate a profit per person.

Michael agreed to send the schedule of games planned for Opening Day to Peter who then will work with Kirk to confirm all start times for all activities.

e. Communications plan

Michael noted that he would like to know by Feb 17<sup>th</sup> the schedule for Opening Day to start communicating the plan and activities to all families.

Michael and Kirk agreed to communicate with regard to telling families when they can anticipate finding out their team assignments and practice and game schedules.

Matt E raised the question of whether or not we would be using the website tools available through Blue Sombrero this year. Michael explained the steps necessary to have each team fully updated in and able to use the system:

- Get all players in the system
- Get all players assigned to teams
- Get all coaches assigned to teams
- Get practice and game schedules finalized for all teams
- Get Commissioners trained on the system so they then can train the Managers and encourage full use.

Michael recommended we push all Managers to use our website tools so that families then use the tools as well. There was general Board agreement with this goal

f. Snack Shack plan

Jasan agreed to connect Dave Kramer with Bernard re the sales of the iceys outside the Snack Shack.

4. New LLI Rules

Jasan explained that there are new rules that local leagues have the option of using for play in the Spring, although all new rules will be used in post season tournaments.

David Harris recommended that the VP, Chief of Umpires and Player Agent get together to review the rules and make a recommendation to the Board.

Jasan and Kirk noted that Local Rules will be discussed at the next meeting as well.

5. Additional Board Member Updates

Tom explained that he had a SAMO High player who participated in the evals but gave a phony address so he was not able to do a proper background check. Tom explained that he will be telling the SAMO High Coach we need players to be responsive or we will not be able to have them involved on the field with our players.

David Eby has asked that anyone who knows people who are interested in being umpires to please let him know. David clarified that 14 is the youngest age for an umpire and that a 14-year-old would be assigned to MP. John agreed to provide David with the list of umpires from the prior year. A discussion ensued.

John explained that 1099s have been completed for umpires.

David Schmillen mentioned that he needs help getting the home run banners put up on 5 and 6 before opening day and will be reaching out to volunteers.

#### 6. Executive Session – Disciplinary Matter

Ric Munoz explained a situation that occurred with the father of a player in the league on Championship Weekend. Ric noted that he documented it and sent it to the Board last year for the record. Ric explained that person with whom he had the encounter had said they would not participate in SMLL going forward so the matter was not addressed.

Ric shared that more recently, the same individual registered to have his child in the league.

A discussion ensued regarding a possible course of action.

Jasan noted that he will be discussing the situation with Marty Hoy and then will provide feedback to the Board.

Matt E motioned to have a vote on holding a disciplinary hearing for the matter at hand. Tom seconded the motion. All Board Members but one voted in favor of having the hearing, with the one other vote being an abstention. The motion passed, subject to Jasan's update following his discussion with Marty Hoy.

#### 7. Other league business

A discussion ensued about distributing flyers to recruit additional players in the younger divisions.

#### 8. Good and Welfare

None.

#### 9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:35pm.