



Welcome to the home of the Colchester Baseball & Softball League CBSL is a volunteer run, non-profit organization dedicated to supporting youth baseball and softball within the Colchester, Connecticut community. CBSL PO Box 114 Colchester CT 06415

#### July 10, 2023 – General Meeting Meeting Minutes 7:00 PM, Abundant Life Church

# Attendees: Karen Belding Margo GignacHazen Sturtevant Andrew PerhamMark Simone John Carroll Nick Poirier Samantha Van Zilen

## Call to Order: 7:03 pm

Minutes of Last Meeting: Provided by league secretary - find them on the website

- President report (Karen)
  - Irrigation announcement from town
- Treasurer's report (Margo)
  - Closed CD \$26k (were making \$22/month in interest) \$40k CD and already earned \$100+ in interest)
  - Closed Savings account and opened a money market account significantly more \$ in interest
  - Port a pott by R6 to be picked up
  - Tax prep underway
  - Light bill?
  - Town fee?
- Tournament status and/or discussion
  - Baseball:
    - 8-10 year old team Mark Simone
      - Challenge: umpire shortage
      - Concern (SFC combined at the 11/12 with willimantic they were all 12 yr olds)
      - No 9 yr olds on the team that they played
      - How do we make it more fair (we stood on our own) it's discouraging for our kids
      - Their travel teams encourage them to play @ the LL tournament level
      - If we're going to be a competitive baseball program, we need to work to get the travel team to join our league travel plays before and after CBSL schedule and participate with LL tournament
      - The past 3 years we have not done winter clinics (need dedicated volunteers & facilities) wide world of sports in Montville (\$225 / hr)
      - Soccer is a year round sport now which creates a conflict for CBSL (reach out to other leagues...lacrosse, soccer, bearcats) doom & gloom if you don't participate in spring you don't get a spot on the team in the fall)
    - 'Little league' team (age 11/12) Hazen Sturtevant
  - Softball:

- 9-11 year old team Monica Llanez
- 'Little league' team (age 11/12) Ian HawesSpring season
- Communication has been terrible (e.g. margo got an email re: tonight's softball championship game - did not go to coach, softball director, president of the league...)
- Spring Season
  - Equipment collection / cleaning up and inventory (Rookie Softball still needs to be collected)

Action: John Carroll to send email to coaches

- Operating manual inputs what do we do, how do we do it, how do we improve
- Feedback survey new this year thoughts on what to ask?
- Changes for next year / calendar updates to better prepare
- Fall ball planning
  - Action Nick / Hazen / Andrew & Mark planning committee come back to EOB with a plan
  - R1 for fall ball 1-2 x / week (perhaps combine majors & minors)
  - Something low key make it more skills based
  - Submit permit (hours / days)
  - For minors we have Cody Camp into October
  - Schedule:
  - Kid's Baseball IQ is low
  - Coaching IQ is equally low
  - Who are we playing?
    - Challenges: need coaching (historical fall ball games in East Hampton & 1 practice / week)
  - Tournament team needs to be able to start practicing during the first week of June
  - Action Karen to get permits Assume: 2 hrs 2x/week / 3 hrs on weekends 3 levels (Rookie/minor/Major)
- Nominating committee and election prep
  - October will come fast
  - Good momentum this year...need the board to continue to grow
  - Need to fill / support key positions
  - Confirm who's staying / who's leaving what positions do we HAVE to fill and what else are we looking to get?
    - John Carroll
    - Margo Gignac
    - Hazen
    - •
- General wishlist decisions made for 2023
  - Speaker system R2 and Cody Camp: Donna
  - R2/Cody camp wish list speaker system not yet purchased (need to compare Mark's suggestion vs. Donna's suggestion) revisit @ July 24th meeting
- Open Forum any items?
  - Master schedule across all leagues
  - Need to establish a Coaching guide per division (expectation of skills) (most successful coaches by level) & build prep for season to include coaching information (beyond safety briefing)
    - Big Red Bat
    - T-ball
    - Rookie
    - Minor

- Major
- ∎ jr/sr
- Provide training for schedule updates
- Winter clinic Mark would be willing to take the lead
- Begin Bylaws revision while thoughts are fresh from the spring season (won't finalize until later)
- Facebook: Miguel (?) info manager (MAL marketing = FB posts / sponsor info / team of the week)
- Survey to all parents general season feedback & re: coaches Action: Andrew Perham to draft survey for feedback / edit separately + coach's survey on parents

(for the benefit of future seasons, how satisfied were you with the head coach / assistant coaches? Positives / negatives (comms, practice plan, field prep, offense/defense line-up for games; conflict resolution, etc.)

• Sponsor - plaques / photos - Action: Karen Belding to follow-up

## Adjourn Meeting: 9:15 pm

## **Next Meetings**

- General Meetings: 1st Monday each month at 7 pm next one is August 7th
- EOB meetings are held twice monthly: 1st Monday (after the General Meeting) and the 3rd Monday of every month