



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

General Meeting Abundant Life Church January 3, 2022 7:30pm

Present: Karen Belding, Bill Claffey, Deb Coats, Bob Crowell, Tim Crowell, Rob D'Atri, Margo Gignac, Andrew Perham, Samantha Van Zilen

Reggie Hill

Absent: Donna Antonacci, John Carroll, Tim Chevarini, Todd Eisenberg, Michelle Millington, Martin Nosal, Nick Porier, Greg Vilardo

Call to order: 7:36

Presidents Report: Karen - presidents meeting at park and rec tonight. There is one every three months for all the presidents from the youth and adult leagues. Updates from the meeting: Director of public works position, Mike P. acting interim, applications were turned in and Tiffany knows nothing further. Irrigation project, 200 feet left to install, the cost of that piece of the project is covered by what was in the existing funds. The rest of the project will be possibly funded by ARPA money once the town goes through a consultant and gets a green light for the funding. Then a formal RFP is launched and once a service/company is selected, the rest of the work can happen. Every field except R-8 should get an irrigation set up. The question remains on who is going to pay for the irrigated water. Public works will control when the water is used. Discussion was held at the meeting regarding how leagues could possibly be charged. Tiffany will research how other towns may handle this. Karen recommended a special meeting with public works, the water department, the presidents and any departments with a stake in it before the next presidents meeting.

Next little league district meeting is next Tuesday.

Treasurer's Report: Donna- provided report via e-mail and read into minutes by the secretary:

1. CBSL has 4 bank accounts with Berkshire Bank: Two checking accounts, one savings account and a Certificate of Deposit investment account. The only reason we have two checking accounts is because I was unable to verify all transactions from the previous treasurer. It was

not the smoothest transition. However, now I believe it is safe to close the old checking account. Items have been accounted for, especially the \$935 charge for the scoreboard padding. Bob Crowell confirmed with me that we will not need to order more padding, and the \$935 charge covered all padding. Therefore, checking accounts will be consolidated into one account for the organization this month.

Spring uniforms, equipment and Little League Int'l insurance invoices have been paid
Invoices outstanding from Fall Ball ump fees and debts to Salem Youth League have been paid.

4. CBSL received a sponsor donation for \$450 as per Greg Villardo from Northeast Home Loan 5. I will be working on a budget with Karen for the upcoming spring season, and should have that close to finished for the next meeting. This will be based on our annual calendar and projected upcoming expenses.

Brief summary of funds for CBSL: Combined funds - 4 accounts = \$62895.12 Checking (consolidated) = \$360.63 Savings = \$37,503.45 Certificate of Deposit = \$25,031.04

Softball Director: Rob:

Field/shed clean up and Batter's eye batting Cage net have all been taken care of. Reggie Hill was in attendance to prepare to eventually take over the Softball Director role.

Baseball Director: Bob: no report

Spring Planning:

Set milestones/dates:

Assessments: Andrew - need to start planning. Last year it was done at WWIS in Waterford and was costly. Concern about dependence on school gyms. Andrew will see what availability World Wide has for anytime starting with the second weekend in March.

Karen: Motion for Andrew to move forward with scheduling WWIS and put necessary deposit needed; Rob second; all in favor Motion Passed

Safety plan update: Tim CR needs to update for little league site and on website.

COVID plan update. Sam, Bob, John and Donna will meet to update the plan. Plan is on the web site.

CPR training: need to confirm with John Carroll and plan a day. Safety training is usually planned with cpr training. *John and Tim CR will coordinate.*

AAU discussion: Bob will contact Rob Cararro to see about working together to bring back some more kids from town.

Sponsorship Report: Tim CH emailed report, report was read into the minutes by the Secretary:

1. With board approval, the sponsorship mailer usually goes out the third week in January each winter, and it represents the formal kick-off to our sponsorship drive for the spring season. I've spoken to Joel (Minuteman) and is working on updating the dates and logistical information on the **sponsorship letter & form**** to reflect the 2022 season (I've attached a copy of last year's letter and form for EOB review). Minuteman has handled the mailer for the past 2 years and they have done a great job. We'll have to update the bullets on this past season's accomplishments - please reply to this email with your thoughts and input on CBSL's major 2021 accomplishments. I assume scoreboards will be a major portion of this.

**With regard to sponsorships - we'll have to decide as a Board if price points should remain static. In my opinion they should.... We have done very well over the years and the feedback has been that businesses are often inundated with requests. Once the form is updated it needs to be posted on the website - that way we can send a link to the form to potential donors.

2. The sponsorship mailer has also included a **promotional flyer** in recent years that includes action photos and photos of CBSL accomplishments during previous seasons. Donna created the flyer last year and Minuteman worked with her on formatting the flyer. I've attached last year's version. If Donna is willing to do this again it would be great if people have cool baseball and softball action shots from last spring to share with her. Also, pics of the scoreboards would be awesome.

3. I've reached out to Joel from Minuteman and he is working on a quote for this year's mailer. Last year we paid \$663 for the mailer all told and brought in over \$3000 from the mailer - it is a great publicity piece and pays for itself so I think we should do it again.

4. In tandem with the mailer I always send out an email to all of the previous season's sponsors thanking them and asking them to sponsor again. This is then followed by direct follow-up phone calls to all of them and we are off to the races. I always ask Board Members if they know anyone who owns a business to reach out and we've gotten a lot of new businesses that way.

I'm excited and encouraged as last year we raised over \$17,000 through the sponsorship drive. Our process works per this email there are some action items for the EOB to approve to get us started. So, we'll need final decisions on these items at the next meeting (I believe it is scheduled for Monday 1/17) by then all of the drafts should be finalized and the quote should be in. Let me know your thoughts (see attached). As soon as I have the drafts and other pertinent information I'll share them with the EOB.

Let me know if you have questions... the 2021 sponsorship documents are attached:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hvFnMU14qWHTHdq34M0rp6innODonkpm5VG0YGibia M/edit?usp=sharing

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OdolV49vCqoqoGEQH6gZ-Tkr20FSB6rJ/edit?usp=sharin g&ouid=114648229548836498537&rtpof=true&sd=true

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1maX2PVIOaKTxu51_CrSwzQCH2TCWFZiG2Zaw0yLDMt E/edit?usp=sharing

Karen: motioned for Tim CH to have sponsorship mailer printed and sent out by minuteman press approximate cost \$750 Sam seconded; All in favor; Motion passed

Rob: motioned to keep sponsorship the same. Bob seconded; All in favor; Motion passed.

*Tim CH will draft sponsorship mailer, Karen will review and approve; it will be emailed to the Board for reference. **Pictures can be sent to Donna.*

Scoreboard Update: Bob- there are two final bills for the scoreboard from the electrician; \$880, \$1351. The town has all the pads, *Bob just needs to get the remotes*. The bottom of R-2 will be cleaned up by the town. Rob: box where the remote gets charged for the softball scoreboard was placed too high for anyone to reach, Bob reported he was told it would cost approximately \$1000 to lower it. There was also discussion if there would be enough power to charge it. There is a second charging station on the R-2 scoreboard for the R-5 remote, concern was the distance and practicality of using that option. Rob questioned if the hand held remote takes regular batteries?

Batting cages: Margo has the cost of the astro turf and the tape. Will get cost for gravel and report at the next general meeting for vote.

Future Action Items that will need attention:

Bob and Andrew: Identify / prep division coordinators need to get ahead of coordinators and managers.

Bob: Coach training, umpires identified, umpire training, Need to train coordinators and coaches on goals. Scheduling needs improvement from last year, set schedules for each division.

Bob and Tim CR: Field prep needs to see what the fields need.

Andrew: Assessments, Draft

Nick: Equipment hand-outs

Todd: load teams on website

Set picture day schedule

Registration costs: Donna, Karen, and Tim Ch will put together costs of different divisions so we know if we are covering our costs. Karen handed out an expense spreadsheet.

Rob: motioned to leave big red bat and TBall the same cost and raising everything else by \$10; Karen seconded; all in favor; Motion passed

2	Counts based on 20	21 registrati	on data / bir	thdays				
3	Count of RecordID	Column I 🝷						
4	Row Labels	Baseball	Rookie - Baseball or Softball	Softball	Tee Ball or Softball?	Tee Ball	Grand Total	
5	5					28	28	
6	6				7	42	49	
7	7	31	24	5			60	
8	8	31		11			42	
9	9	31		8			39	
10	10	26		14			40	
11	11	12		18			30	
12	12	16		20			36	
13	13	24		3			27	
14	14	21		12			33	
15	15	8		3			11	
16	16	4		1			5	
17	Too Old	1					1	
18	Grand Total	205	24	95	7	70	401	
19								
20	Tee ball	70	plus maybe the 7 age 6s that could do softball					
21								
22		Baseball	Softball	Note				
23	Rookie (7/8)	62	16	24 unknown baseball vs softball (girls), plus maybe the 7 age 6s for softball				
24	Minor (9/10)	57	22					
25	Major (11/12)	28	38					
26	Jr (13/14)	45	15					
27	Sr (15/16)	12	4					

Review the costs of each division.

Karen: make a switch to the new website, a new site has to be built. Everyone should have received an email with their log on to go over the new site. Please sign on and check it out.

Karen will transfer web sites. Emails were sent to everyone to sign on. Welcome 1 Karen is pulling everything off the old web site and put on the new website. Karen will take feedback on the set up of the new site. Has to figure out how to move the domain from the sites. Background checks are supposed to be integrated. Looking into how payments are made and how it works on the site. Karen's been watching videos on building registrations. Anyone that wants to assist is welcome to. Rob has used blue sombrero and can help Karen.

Determine registration details

Committee Review: Carry-over info: (list of committees and point people)

- Opening Day Committee: John softball; Nick baseball
- Memorial Day/Home Run Derby/Raffle: Deb
- Assessments: Andrew, John, Nick
- Merchandise/equipment swap: Deb, Michelle
- Picture Day: ?
- CPR: John
- Raffle: Donna
- Covid: Sam, Bob, John (Donna?)
- Financial Aid: Donna, Greg, Sam
- Disciplinary: Rob, Bob, Tim Ch

Deb mentioned she may be able to help with the Memorial Day/ Home Run Derby, but would not be able to chair it.

Open forum: Karen please review the calendar.

Next EOB meeting virtual Monday, January 17, 2022, will cover the constitution and bylaws, please review.

Motion to adjourn Margo 9:26 Karen second; motion passed.

Next General Meeting: Monday, February 7, 2022, 7:30, Abundant Life Church

Minutes provided by league secretary