

**SUN CITY WEST SOFTBALL CLUB
BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 2, 2006**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by President, Bob Stouthamer at Men's Club at 8:05a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lyle Bakken, Dennis Farrar, George Karras, Dick Lemoine, Jim McGuire, Ernie Mueller, and Bob Stouthamer.

GUESTS PRESENT:

Ken Skinner, Ray Early, Ron Blackwell, Matt Szydlowski.

DECEMBER MINUTES APPROVAL:

Bob Stouthamer passed out copies of the December minutes to those who did not have them. Board members briefly read over the minutes for approval. Dick Lemoine made a motion to approve the December 5, 2005 minutes. Motioned seconded by Jim McGuire. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership:

Ken Skinner reported that we have unofficially 286 members, 36 of which are paid as of January 1. Bob requested that Ken make available a handout update of the membership status at each meeting. Bob also reported that just before Christmas he had prepared and submitted the CR-15 to the Recreation Center. This is an annual requirement to make sure that the players are current paid up residents. This list consists of players' name and recreation number only.

Treasurer's Report:

Dick Lemoine distributed the treasurer's report with a beginning balance as of 12/1/2005 of \$8,110.37 and a closing balance as of 12/31/2005 of \$6,036.77. There was a discrepancy in the amount of the uniforms cost. Therefore, Dick will correct this discrepancy and make the updated copy available to the board members.

Dick also expressed his concern about the monies collected for sponsorship of the teams and are we making money or losing money? Dick has requested that maybe the new board take a look at new methods of handling team sponsors in the future. After a lengthy discussion, no action was taken. Bob Stouthamer will put this on the agenda for the February meeting.

Clubhouse Report:

Lyle Bakken reported that as of December 31, 2005 the balance owing on the clubhouse is \$18,248.12. Lyle also invoiced four billboards on December 17. Those billboards are: Saturn of Arrowhead, Piper / Jaffrey, Axberg • Heartburg • Willis, and Harrah's Ak Chin Casino.

Budget / Finance:

Jim McGuire reported that we were considerably over budget on uniforms. Jim reported that it's not the shirts and even though we are buying uniforms for the women's teams, that was taken into consideration. Jim had budgeted \$3,300.00 for overall cost. This budgeted amount includes everything with the uniform; excluding the shirts. Bob Stouthamer will put this on the agenda for next month's meeting to be discussed in more detail.

Uniforms / Equipment:

Jim McGuire reported that it costs \$55.00 per uniform and he has budgeted a 25% increase replacement cost each year. Bob suggested that we back up and figure out how many teams are playing, and what money is being spent for sox, pants, and so forth to outfit each player. Excluding the shirts. This would give us an actual cost of what we are spending to outfit each player per year. This would help with our future budgeting, and would be kept separate from the actual income raised through sponsor fees.

Billboard Marketing:

Dick LeMoine reported that Paul Tone, Sun Country Credit Union, and Budweiser are all renewing their boards. Dick also reported that he and Paul Turley are working up a sales brochure that will include photos of the sponsor's teams in front of their advertisement. This brochure would include what we have accomplished over the last three years. Dick and Paul will also be doing a brochure on what the club would like to do over the next three years. This would include pictures of the new planned Ramada. They passed around the pictures he currently had. Also Dick asked that the current billboard sales and renewals be split up between the current board members. This would mean that each board member would have approximately 3 sponsors that they are responsible for in getting their respective sponsors on renewals, when they expired. Dick has also ask that each person contact and follow up with each sponsor at least every 6 months to see if everything is OK, how we can help them better, and how they can help us.

After a lengthy discussion the decision was made that there would be a special meeting of the board to discuss nothing but billboard sponsoring. Also, that the billboard sponsoring take a high priority of the club if we want to continue to use the revenue generated by this method. Bob Stouthamer will set up a date in the near future for this meeting and will contact the board members as to when this meeting will occur. This meeting will more than likely be at the Liberty Field Clubhouse. This meeting will be an open meeting to anyone who would be willing to help with billboard sponsorship. If you know someone who may be willing to help with this please encourage them to attend this meeting. Dick will also e-mail Bob his outline, and Bob will forward this outline on to each board member. This will give each individual a chance to review the outline prior to the meeting. Dick has agreed he will stay on to help with the sales and renewals of billboards even though he may not be a current board member. Bob Stouthamer has also sent a newsletter with a cover letter to each sponsor thanking them for their support to the community. Bob will also continue to do this in the future. Bob feels this is necessary to keep our name in front of the sponsors.

Team Sponsors:

Bob Stouthamer has appointed Ernie Mueller to maintain an active list of potential new team sponsors should we need them.

Field Maintenance:

Bob Stouthamer appointed George Karras to be in charge of Field maintenance. George will have a committee and will outline a seven-day field maintenance program in which there are plans to water the field each day between 3–4p.m. The person(s) of that day that is scheduled for maintenance will also check the clubhouse to be sure it's secure before they leave. George was also instructed to contact the respected person to have the Century 21 billboard removed from the outfield.

There still seems to be a water seepage problem in left-center field and Bob will follow up with this.

Special Events:

Bob Stouthamer appointed George Karras, and he suggested that maybe he could get Ken Skinner and Bill Allen to work with him.

Planning / Annual Calendar of Events:

Bob Stouthamer appointed Dennis Farrar to coordinate and maintain the Planning/Annual Event Calendar for the coming year. Bob Stouthamer will continue to do the secretarial monthly attendance report as required by the Recreation Center.

Bob received an e-mail from Jack Pendar from Sun City Grand who was contacted by Edward Jones to set up a tournament to benefit the Westside Food Bank. Bob covered the outline in detail, and all the details may not be listed below. There would be a \$100.00 entry fee for each team to play with all monies raised going directly to the Westside Food Bank. There would be four teams from each community with double elimination play. No more than six American League players on each team. Players start with a one and one count, which is negotiable. A committee will be set up to go over all the details. This tournament has been set for Saturday, April 1, 2006.

"T" BALL & NET FOR BATTING PRACTICE:

Ray Early passed around a magazine showing the prospective Tball & Net that could be purchased. No discussion. No action was taken at this time.

PLANNING CARDIAC KIDS TOURNAMENT:

Ken Skinner reported that they're going to a one-day tournament instead of two with five teams. Three teams from SCW, one from Arizona Traditions and one from Sun City Grand. Ken is trying to get the gentleman who does the training on the AED out to the tournament. There will be \$100 per team entry fee with all monies raised going to benefit the Arizona heart foundation. Bob has asked Ken to get a hold of the newspapers for publicity. There was some discussion that Bill Bromley is encouraging only American League players to play in this tournament. A discussion followed with the conclusion that Bob contact Bill Bromley for clarification of why no National League players are being encouraged to play.

70'S TOURNAMENT

George Karras reported that there will be a four team tournament. George has contacted the Hombres in Sun City Grand, Sun Lakes, and also a Mesa team. But they have not given him firm answers yet. George hopes to get them this week. This will be a two-day tournament at the cost of \$125.00 per team. All money raised will come to the Sun City West Senior Softball Club. George also mentioned that there will be \$100.00 in prize money given away instead of shirts. Bob has requested that George finalize the details on this tournament and get the details to Ken Skinner to be posted on the web site.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Bob passed out respective job descriptions to the new board members that the previous board typed up. Bob has asked the new board members to add or delete from their job description as they see necessary as to their duties as a new board member. Bob will then create a book with the job descriptions which will be available to the new board members for 2007. This will enable the new board members each year to know what is expected of them.

RESULTS OF RAMADA PROJECT MEETING WITH RECREATION CENTER PEOPLE:

Dick Lemoine reported that he and Bob Stouthamer met with the Recreation Center, and that the cost of this project would not cost the Recreation Center anything for this project. We are continuing to move forward with this project, with an anticipated target date set for 2007.

UPDATE, CENTURY 21 COLLECTION STATUS:

Dick Lemoine reported that Century 21 refuses to respond, and the next step would be to get a court order from a small claims court. However, with their attitude, they probably would not show up for the hearing. The board is in agreement that we do not want to set a precedence that we are known to not stand behind our contracts. Therefore, we will continue the collection proceedings.

CONCRETE SOFTBALL PAINTING UPDATE

Bob Stouthamer reported that a letter went out to Larry Griffith with exactly what has to be done with all the paperwork requesting that the ball be painted. This letter went out on December 9.

STATUS OF SECURING IRS NUMBER

Lyle Bakken reported we have a new IRS Number. Lyle will make a copy and give it to the Rec Center. The application for the tax status exemption has been paid and mailed along with a check for \$500.00. As of this meeting, Lyle has not received any response back from them.

2006 MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Bob reiterated that the 2006 membership dues are due, and that there is a mailbox provided at the field for members to deposit their checks in. Treasurer, Lyle Bakken will have a key for the box to pick up the contents on a regular basis. Member can also mail their checks to Lyle. His address is in the January newsletter. Bob has asked Ken Skinner to post this information on the web site. No new form is necessary to accompany dues money unless your information has changed from last year. The intention is to have everyone fill out a new form for the year 2007.

GOLF TOURNAMENT:

Dick Lemoine reported that the golf tournament is scheduled for Sunday, April 2, 2006. The beer garden and the playing tournament will be held at Pebblebrook. There will be a sit-down dinner at 6 p.m. at Palm Ridge which will be catered by the Southwest Valley Art Museum. There will be a choice of Prime Rib or Chicken Cordon Blue. There will be a small amount of wine and beer available and will be complementary with each dinner. If you wish to bring your own beverage feel free to do so. There will be another meeting of the committee in the near future to button up all the details. They're also be a direct mail out to all those who attended last year. This tournament will sell out fast so make sure you get your reservations in early. Dick has also asked that the national league board members help him in getting out the information about this golf tournament in hopes that there will be more National League involvement this year. Be sure to check the February newsletter for more details and a registration form.

ALTERED BAT DECISION FROM LEAGUE:

Bob Stouthamer reported that there has been information posted on the web site and the bulletin boards about altered bats and the penalties attached to altered bats. Technically the only thing you can put on your bat is, your name for identification, and or, arthritic tape. However anything else you do to your bat is considered altered. Basically if anything is done to enhance the performance of your bat it is considered an altered bat. Bob reiterated that if an altered bat is discovered the batter will be removed from the game. And each time the batter comes up to bat, there will be an automatic out. Everything is posted on the bulletin board, so please be advised. Bob continued by expressing his disappointment on why a player would want to alter their bat when we are just playing for fun. We should be here to have fun, but have the integrity not to cheat while doing so. After lengthy discussion this decision will be dealt with at the league level and we are bound to uphold the league's decision concerning altered bats.

CLUBHOUSE SECURITY:

Bob Stouthamer has appointed a Building Security Committee consisting of George Karras, Dennis Farrar, and Ray Early to make sure that the Liberty Field Clubhouse secure at the end of each day. This committee may add members as they deem necessary. Bob suggested that we have a total of 7 so there is

a person for each day. Bob also instructed Dick Lemoine to have the combination on the upstairs clubhouse door and the lower west door changed. The new combination of these said doors will be given to the committee and anyone deemed necessary.

SELECTING 2 LEAGUE BOARD MEMBERS:

Bob Stouthamer appointed Dick Lemoine to represent the American League, and Dennis Farrar to represent the National League at the Sun Cities Senior Softball League Board meetings. If the appointees are not able to attend a given meeting they may appoint a proxy to represent them at the meeting. The proxy does not have to be a board member. The next meeting is listed at the bottom of these minutes.

TRI CITIES LEAGUE UPDATE:

Bob Stouthamer reported that there is not a whole lot to report on the Tri-Cities League. Not enough interest at this time.

EXPANDED SPRING FLING:

National League on Thursday & Friday and the American League on Saturday & Sunday. The date for the Spring Fling this year will be March 2-5, 2006. No regular games will be scheduled for Thursday, March 2. George Karras, Ken Skinner Ernie Mueller and Bill Allen will be working on this.

BY LAWS UPDATE:

Bob passed out current copies of the By-laws for us to go over to see if they needed to be updated. Bob would like to have recommended changes be brought to the next meeting to be discussed. Jim McGuire will chair the committee and appoint others to help him on this project.

YEARLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Dennis Farrar will be working on this.

SCW SOFTBALL CLUB CLOTHING:

Bob mentioned that we need to get Dick Lemoine and Paul Turley involved in this so Bob is going to hold off on this until he talks to them.

PICTURE DAYS:

Bob Stouthamer reported that February 21 & 23 have been tentatively set, but may conflict with the photographer's schedule, so we may have to set the date for March 7 & 9. More on this later and when the date is confirmed it will be posted in the newsletter.

PRIORITIZE LONG RANGE PLAN:

Bob Stouthamer mentioned that he would like to continue with this. However, because Dick Lemoine had left the meeting and was not present, this has been tabled.

ANNUAL BANQUET PLANNING:

Jim McGuire reported that the annual banquet will be on April 20 this year, and he would like to include door prizes as part of the banquet. Jim is looking at getting in a sports figure to speak at the banquet, if possible.

This would be considered community service; therefore the individual would not be paid. Jim has requested that the board members help him with getting door prizes for the banquet. However Bob mentioned that Jim can also go outside the board to solicit other ballplayers to get door prizes. Jim will continue working on getting a caterer for the banquet as well as other details, and should have another report at the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Bob mentioned there was none at this time.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

?? *Cordless Microphone:*

Dennis Farrar had a concern about the cordless microphone not being available for weekend games. Bob mentioned that he is responsible personally for the safety concerns of this microphone therefore he is going to keep it in his possession. However, if anyone needs to use it contact Bob and he will be happy to accommodate you.

?? *Uniform Replacement Schedule:*

Ray Early passed out a schedule with uniform replacement dates to the new board members.

MEETINGS SCHEDULE:

Bob is putting together the 2007 meeting calendar. January 1, 2007 falls on the first Monday. Therefore Bob was asked by the board to set a January 2007 meeting only to January 8, 2007 if possible.

Bob also brought up whether to change the general meetings to a different month other than February and October. The next general membership meeting will be February the 20th and the October meeting will be October 16th.

ADJOURNMENT:

Jim McGuire moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by George Karras. Meeting adjourned at 10:20am.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Farrar, Secretary