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**SUN CITY WEST SOFTBALL CLUB
BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 8, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by President, Art Nelson at the Men's Club (*Roundup Room*) at 8:01a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lyle Bakken, Dennis Farrar, Mike Hester, Art Nelson, Bruce Brady, Ernie Mueller.

GUESTS PRESENT:

Glen Carroll, Ray Early, Ken Skinner, Carol Bowden, Pat Williams, and Rich McAndrews.

DECEMBER MINUTES APPROVAL:

Lyle Bakken made a motion to accept the December 4, 2006 meeting minutes as he electronically distributed via e-mail. Motion seconded by Mike Hester. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Lyle Bakken gave his usual detailed report. Lyle reported an opening balance of as of January 1, 2006 of \$6,639.87. A closing balance as of December 31, 2006 of \$7,559.03. Lyle Bakken clarified that the recreation center billboard balance of \$26,084.17 is the total amount that the recreation center is holding on our behalf. 25% of this amount we can take out if we need to and the other 75% remains on account but can be used for softball projects. The current balance is \$9,769.64. A total of 110 members have paid their dues so far. Dennis Farrar made a motion to accept the treasurer report as presented. Mike Hester seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Field Maintenance:

Bruce Brady reported on behalf of George Karras who was absent. Bruce said that the on deck circles are in and will be stored in the clubhouse. Each dugout also has shoe brushes/cleaners and the batter's box has been widened by one foot in accordance to the 2007 ASA rules change. The template will be modified to reflect the increased batters box. Dennis Farrar mentioned that Chuck Cain made the newsletter boxes located in the dugouts and beside the bulletin boards at both Liberty Field and Sun bowl Field. Chuck Cain was the one that made the batter's box and possibly Chuck would be interested in modifying the template to the increased dimensions. Art Nelson had a question about who sets up Liberty Field for the AL on Tuesdays. George Karras is opening and making the coffee and Ray Early stops at Bashas' to pick up the donuts.

Club Computer:

Art Nelson brought up that the computer upstairs in the clubhouse has been tampered with and that we have lost some files. Dennis Farrar said that some of the files that he had on the computer to do the sound effects for the games are no longer available and not in the computer. In order for Dennis to continue using the computer for the sound effects at the games he will have to take the computer home again and reinstall the program files that are missing.

This being said, and with board approval, Art Nelson appointed Dennis Farrar to be the club's administrator of the computer in the clubhouse and that he assign passwords to the few individuals who are using the computer to help protect the security and the integrity of the files. Dennis Farrar said that he is periodically backing up some of the files on the computer. This will help to protect the files in case of a computer crash, hard drive failure or malicious activity. No further action taken.

Grass Warm-up Area:

Todd Paddy has been presented with a blueprint of the retaining wall and grass area to be installed on the first-base side of the field as a warm-up area. This project should be completed soon.

Scoreboard Addition:

The honeycomb addition to the scoreboard that says "Liberty Field" in large red lettering is still behind the fence in center field on the ground and has not been installed. Art Nelson will contact Todd Paddy and find out what the delay is and to get a projected target date for completion.

First Aid Kit:

Don O'Mara has been the one that has been keeping our first aid kit stocked and he will be instructed to replace any necessary supplies to the kit as needed.

Special Events:

Bosom Buddies Tournament:

Ken Skinner mentioned that Loran Swanson is in charge of the Bosom Buddies event and it is a go for January 13 & 14. The Bosom Buddies have also requested the use of the popcorn machine and will purchase their own supplies. Art Nelson has given them the okay to use the popcorn machine during this tournament. Last year the Bosom Buddies raised about \$3000.

Cardiac Kids Tournament:

Ken Skinner reported the Cardiac Kids Tournament is February 3 and there are currently enough players for three teams in the American League and the National currently has 21 players, so they will be comingling the two leagues for this tournament. The Arizona Heart Foundation will be involved in this tournament and be the recipient of all moneys raised. The local fire department will be attending to do blood pressure testing. Last year the tournament raised close to \$800. There will also be food available at 12 o'clock for purchase. Ken said that everything is ago and we are in good shape. No further action taken at this time.

Spring Fling:

Ken Skinner reported that the Spring Fling will be held March 1-4, 2007 and all league games scheduled for that Thursday will be canceled. The National League will play on Thursday and Friday, and the American League will play Saturday and Sunday. George Karras will be in charge of the American

League, and Rich McAndrews is in charge of the National League. If you are interested in playing please contact the appropriate person for your league.

Uniforms & Equipment:

Ray Early reported that there is a new sponsor for the American League and the jerseys are in. The new team sponsor is Windermere Realty (Mary Inman). Ray gave her a game schedule so Mary would know when her team would be playing if she would like to attend. Mary also requested an extra jersey to be ordered for her husband. Ray said the jersey would cost an additional \$50 and asked for board approval. Bruce Brady made a motion that we purchased the extra jersey for Mary's husband. Mike Hester seconded the motion. Motion carried. No further action taken.

Sponsors:

Team:

Ernie Mueller reported that we no longer have True Green as a sponsor and that they have been replaced with Windermere Realty (Mary Inman).

Also, IMAX and the Crooked Putter have changed ownership and we need to start over in contacting these businesses to see if they are interested in sponsorship. IMAX and the Crooked Putter want to be on the sponsorship list. Joe and Diane Oliver are taking over the team sponsorship duties from Bill & Joan McKenna and should have the priority list of who would be the next team sponsor. Any future team sponsors need to go through the board. Dennis Farrar said that Farrar Chiropractic would like to have the board hold their sponsorship in credit and would like to sponsor a National League team as soon as a vacancy becomes available. Dennis questioned why Farrar Chiropractic wasn't on the current list that Art read. Art Nelson will research this discrepancy and find out why Farrar Chiropractic was omitted from the list of potential team sponsors. Piper/Jaffrey is no longer a billboard sponsor and the National League is temporarily using the old Wells Fargo jerseys for the 14th team.

Billboards:

Art Nelson talked to Air by Dean which is a heating and air-conditioning company who is very much interested in sponsoring a billboard. They were impressed on our sponsor's carnival and pancake breakfast we had in October of last year. Art will keep us advised. No further action taken at this time

Membership:

Ken Skinner gave a detailed report of the membership status and we currently have 306 members. Ken has requested from Carol Bowden a roster of all the women who are playing in the league so he can verify his database.

QUORUM:

Ken Skinner reported that the SCW Recreation Center requires us to have a minimum of 45 people in attendance at our 2 annual general meetings for a quorum. However, in the Sun City West Softball Club bylaws it states that we must have 20% of the members present in order to have a quorum. After some discussion, it is agreed by the board to leave the quorum requirement in the bylaws as it currently states. No further action taken.

UMPIRES:

Ken Skinner reported that we have an association of umpires within our own group. Ken said that the umpires that are part of the association have uniforms and wants them to be consistent on their calls and the goal of the training is to help them be better umpires.

The umpires are umpiring league games, tournament games, and also women games. Ken said that in spite of any rumors you may have heard, no one in the association of umpires is being paid. The only exception would be the games umpired outside the league, such as the Sidewinder games.

Ken said he has watched the umpires in action and is very pleased and what he has seen thus far. Ken mentioned that the Umpires Association meets at Liberty Field every Thursday at 5 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend whether you are an active player or an inactive player. Ken is encouraging the umpires to do as many league games as they can to get more experience. Ken Skinner said he would be happy to teach a Saturday session like he has in the past if Art Nelson would get him a room at Kuentz Recreation Center. Art will check on this and advise.

Also the all the team managers need to be better promoters of Ken's umpiring sessions to train new players who are coming into our league. No further action taken.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Friday League:

Art Nelson received a letter from Bill Hill who is a member of the Friday League requesting permission for the teams to use Liberty Field for the 6 teams that are played each Friday for the 2007 calendar year. Lyle Bakken made a motion to approve this request. Motion seconded by Bruce Brady. Motion carried. Ray Early had a question that if there is a tournament to be held on a Friday that the Friday League game would be canceled for each of these Sun City West sponsored tournaments. Art is not clear on who the Friday League representative is to the SCW Board. Lyle said he thinks its Ray Murphy. No further action taken.

OLD BUSINESS

LEAGUE HATS:

Ray Early reported that the hats will be ready at any time so they should be available to be distributed at the first game for the American League at the next session on Tuesday, January 16, 2007. The National League will receive their hats on Thursday, January 18, 2007. Ray early is keeping track of the hat count for each club. If you have any questions you can contact Ray. If players want additional hats, they are \$10 each.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE:

Carol Bowden reported that the women have their open practice every Monday at Liberty Field from 2-4pm. If there is enough to play a game then teams will be selected with the players that are there. Any woman that wants to play is welcome to come out and play.

Carol had a question if she still needs to leave the first Monday's open for SCW Tournaments. Art Nelson will get with Carol on this issue.

A lot a discussion from the floor on the status of the competitive teams, the "Hot Flashes" and the "Sparks". Art Nelson has entertained a special meeting to resolve this issue. No further action taken at this time.

TIN CUP:

Mike Hester reported there would be a meeting Wednesday, January 10, 2007 and that the committee is well underway in the planning stages. There will be a Lexus car given away at this year's event. The only thing left to do now, is to figure out how to give it away. This is what the meeting is about on Wednesday. They want to sell temporary banners to be displayed along the fence to help raise money. Mike Hester will check to see if the recreation center has given us permission to display these temporary banners or

signs. The Lexus that is being given away is costing the club \$10,000, and we need to raise as much money as we can. There will be discounted tickets for the ball players to purchase early before going public, so be sure you buy your tickets. Remember, you can't win, if you don't play.

VINTAGE SOFTBALL:

Mike Hester brought up the issue of having a Vintage Softball game. As it stands as of now, to pull this off it will take a lot of money to uniform the teams (\$6,000. per team). There is a group of individuals trying to set up a Vintage Baseball League that was played with the 1890's rules. Art is trying to figure how he can adapt this to our setup and as he said, "it's getting to be a bucket of worms". Mike is working with Herb Clark to see if they can make this a "go". This idea is still up in the air and no further action was taken at this time.

HALL OF FAME:

Loran Swanson is collecting all nomination forms for the Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame Committee will do the selection, and this is a League Board item.

NATIONAL LEAGUE REPORT:

Rich McAndrews said that they have adopted the ASA rule on foul balls, and will be meeting with the managers to clarify this rule. Ken Skinner gave a brief interpretation of the rule. This rule will be printed in the February 2007 "Batter Up" Newsletter under Ken Skinner's "Umpires Corner". Make sure you read and understand this rule.

The National League adopted on a temporary basis the "in-field" fly rule for the last 4 game of the fall session, but will discuss with the managers at the next managers meeting to see if the rule will be adopted in the spring session starting January 16. Rich said that the NL will have enough players to field 14 teams. No further action taken.

RAMADA PROJECT:

Nothing to report because Dick LeMoine was not present to report. This has been table until Dick can report on the status of this project.

PEPSI MACHINE:

Lyle Bakken reported that George Karras is in control of the stock and money that is generated from the Pepsi machine outside the clubhouse. When George has an excess of money, he turns this over to Lyle Bakken the club treasurer. George is also keeping a journal of the money collected and the stock so we have an accurate accounting of what profits are generated.

NEW BUSINESS

AMERICAN LEAGUE DRAFT:

Mike Hester reported that the American League draft will take place immediately following today's meeting. The rule changes have been sent to Wayne Mitchell for the rules committee to act upon. There will be other issues and concerns that will come up at today's meeting. Mike Hester also mentioned that at the last meeting the board indicated that you must be in full uniform in order to be on the field. You cannot coach if you do not have your uniform properly worn. Also Mike covered some National League rule changes. If you need to find out these changes they are posted to the Internet under the minutes of the League.

The ruling on bats limitations the league decided to go with the ASA rules.

Mike mentioned that the blood drive for Mike Graham filled up in 2 days and everyone should be congratulated who have signed up to donate blood. No further action taken.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Art Nelson thanked all the committee players who are working on the board. All have stayed.

NEXT SCWSC BOARD MEETING:

Monday, February 5, 2007 • 8:00 A.M. • Men's Club (*Roundup Room*) • Sun City West.

NEXT SCSSL BOARD MEETING:

Wednesday, February 21, 2007 • 9:00 A.M. • Men's Club (*Roundup Room*) • Sun City West

NEXT SCWSC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

The next General Membership Meeting will February 19, 2007 • 9:00A.M. • RH Johnson Recreation Center (*Lecture Hall*). This is a very important meeting as we will again need to vote on co-mingling with Sun City. Please plan to attend.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mike Hester moved the meeting be adjourned. Motion seconded by Bruce Brady. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:50a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dennis Farrar, Secretary
Sun City West Softball Club

Secretarial Note:

– **Board Member Resigns**

After the meeting had adjourned, Art Nelson read a letter received from Ernie Mueller giving his resignation from the SCW Board. Ernie gave no reason for his decision and the board accepted his resignation. The board then voted to have Carol Bowden fill out Ernie's term which will be completed December 31, 2007. Art Nelson will contact Carol and ask her if she will accept this appointment. No further action taken.