



June 29, 2022

Minutes

Indian Pride Park

Called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Birmele

Interlocal Board Members present: Birmele, Mead, Mireles, Bachman

Interlocal Board Members absent: Hall, Morsaw, Sweet

HCR Directors present: Birmele, Mead

Others present: Bianca Deckard, America May, Jason May, Lee Mireles, Kellan Nichols

Motion to approve May 2022 meeting minutes made by Bachman, supported by Mead. Motion approved 4-0. Before approval, Jerrod reminded the board of all the discussion topics from the meeting that we discussed, so that those who may have missed the meeting previously knew what was discussed.

Jerrod brought the board up to date with the latest treasurer's report for the past month, which showed the current balances in the General, League of Miracles and Concession funds, as well as showing the expenditures the council had in the previous month. The current balances in the accounts showed that the general account had \$3,267.58 in it, while the League of Miracles account had \$.54 in it, and the concession account had \$5,737.20 in it. The accounts remain in solid shape (besides League of Miracles), but the general account, with baseball / softball season now having been completed, saw a good majority of the expenditures in the previous month, which included labor, umpires, equipment repairs, supplies, and trophies for both the regular season and softball tournaments, while deposits included tournament fees and gate from the softball tournament. Concession deposited weekly concession sales, in addition to tournament concession sales, while expenditures were made to cover food expenses, in addition to a transfer to the general account to pay the park director. League of Miracles had two small deposits, but expenditures caused their account to overdraft, causing us to acquire a \$36.00 overdraft fee.

In addition to the treasurer's report, Jerrod told the board that he and Janell had recent contact with Ryan Marschke at Hungerford Nichols regarding the 2019 audit, and he had just resumed work on it the day prior to the meeting. Some additional paperwork was required, which Janell had sent him a couple years ago, albeit that some information was missing. The information was corrected, and he confirmed he had received it. After the audit has been completed, the board needs to look at future strategies regarding the audit process, including potentially inquiring about a different company taking care of it. Jerrod reminded the board that due to this current situation, we still need to only spend on what is absolutely deemed necessary, especially since we have a baseball tournament coming up, in addition to sports throughout the year now.

Regarding baseball and softball, Jerrod brought the board up to date on the progress of these sports. The regular season flew by and was completed during the second week of June. Trophies were purchased from Crown Trophy (sum of \$916.00) and awarded to all teams during their last scheduled home games.

Continuing with baseball and softball, Jerrod noted that the Hartford Council for Recreation recently held a successful softball tournament during the weekend of the 17th through the 19th of June, and that there were a few problems during the tournament, but that we received some great comments about how we run our tournaments, with several communities remarking that they will be back. Our four champions included South Haven (8U), Hartford (10U), Paw Paw (12U) and West Portage (14U). We also handed out team sportsmanship awards and four individual players (one per division) received the Most Valuable Player award. Overall, we could not be happier with how things went, since the weather was fantastic, and we made over \$1,100.00 at the gate, which shows that plenty of people showed up.

Continuing with baseball and softball, Jerrod reminded the board that preparations were underway for the baseball tournament, which is set from July 8th through the 10th. We currently have over 20 teams planning on participating, and Andy and Kellan were going to work on seeing if we can get some additional teams to participate to make the field even larger. Jerrod acknowledged that he needed to order baseballs and trophies and would be contacting Crown Trophy to get them ordered prior to the July 4th holiday, as it lands on a Monday and they are closed. Jerrod said that Corey Conklin has been lining up umpires for the tournament and has most of the spots filled, which alleviates those concerns quite a bit. The board discussed the situation regarding gates, as the varsity football program took care of them during the softball tournament, but it was unknown what additional athletic programs were getting involved. Bianca Deckard said she would speak with the Morsaw family regarding this and see who was lined up to take care of the gate.

Regarding cheerleading and football, Jerrod mentioned that we had some in-person signups during the softball tournament, but that the online registration has not gone up yet, due to time constraints and trying to get the spring / summer sports season done. He made a promise to get that online by no later than July 1st. Megan questioned when we should end the registration process, since things are getting harder to order and that we want to have jerseys done in time for games and get on the schedule for pictures at a reasonable time. After discussion, the board agreed to cease registrations no later than July 31st.

Continuing with cheerleading and football, Megan mentioned that Lee Mireles will be having a pair of camps, one free and one with a small fee, in the month of July, and that we should take that opportunity to have additional in-person signups. In addition, Lee made note that he went to the league meeting, where it was mentioned that the league was asking each community to add \$10 per referee this year, bringing it to \$60.00 per referee per weekend, which the board agreed was a wise move, considering the gasoline prices and cost of living, among other things. Also, Lee was given dates for the season, which will begin with practices on August 8th. We have also been given the chance to host a jamboree, which is a preseason scrimmage and weigh-in and it would feature Hartford, along with four other neighboring towns in the league. That would take place on

August 27th, and we could open the concession stand that day, too. Lee mentioned that we would need volunteers to help, especially with the weigh-in process. Now that we have these dates in front of us, Jerrod can reach out to the school to get the football facilities reserved for those dates once they are completely finalized.

Regarding League of Miracles, Jerrod mentioned that on Saturday, July 9th, the group will be hosting a fundraiser at Hartford Speedway that will include concessions, another with a bike run and Jeep clubs that will be joining in on the fun.

In old business, Jerrod mentioned that there is still some uncertainty regarding a future Interlocal Agreement, which will have to be redone with just the city and the school if the township wishes to completely be done with our program. With that in mind, the board, along with the public, brainstormed future fundraising ideas, since we had success with the quarter auction, popcorn and spirit wear fundraiser during the first half of the year. In terms of future ideas, the board floated around having a spirit wear store for the upcoming football season that would last two weeks in August. Other 'bigger' ideas included having a large-scale raffle and a golf outing, which we could hold next spring prior to the start of the baseball / softball season (weather permitting). America May mentioned she would be interested in helping gather ideas, in addition to getting some additional ideas going.

In new business, the board discussed working together as a group going forward, instead of decision-making being made by one person, in addition to making sure that tasks were handed out evenly, to keep from having the same issues we had this year pop-up again in future years.

Next meeting will be July 20, 2022.

Motion to adjourn by Birmele, supported by Bachman. Motion approved 4-0.

Birmele adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM.

Submitted by
Megan Mireles
Interlocal Board Secretary