

**St. Patrick Athletic Association
3/13/11 Meeting Minutes**

Attendees: Board Members: Vogel Grote, Monte Hennen, Mark Tiede, John Jenness, Mike B. Sticha
Other: Bill Dunker, Cyril Simon, Mike L. Sticha, Dan Friedges, Pat Friedges, Kevin Hart

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm

Treasurer/Secretary Report:

As of 3/13/11, the checking account has \$10,319.96 and savings account has \$6,709.42. Mike mentioned these amounts include the recent \$3,500 Cedar Lake Township donation. Upcoming expenditures include \$600 Liquor Liability Insurance renewal through Tupy Insurance, as well as General Liability Insurance renewal of approximately \$350.

Old Business:

Public Address system enhancements: Tabled

Dirt, Clay, Ag-Lime Boxes: Will address when the weather clears. Tabled.

Donation Requests: Mike gave an update on recent requests. Cedar Lake Township has given \$3,500; MVEC is expected to give \$750, and Mike will send a request as of 4/1/11 to Lonsdale Fire Relief for \$1,500. Lonsdale Fire Relief is obligated to donate gambling funds per an agreement with Cedar Lake Township and their gambling contract. Last year they gave \$1,000.

New Business:

Tom Wetschka: Tom called before the meeting and was not able to attend. He would like to attend our next meeting if possible.

2011 SPAA Coaches Handbook: The Board has compiled a handbook to provide basic information about our Association and expectations of coaches. The book can be found on our website under "Files". Mark Tiede mentioned adding a parent "credo" as an addition to the handbook. It would outline expectations of parents at games, etc. Mark will work to provide.

2011 Teams: Discussion took place regarding each of SPAA's teams. Starting with Midgets, Vogel and Mark Tiede have started planning for their season, and have been in contact with their League Commissioner. At this time, there is demand for a 3rd Midget team. Vogel made a motion, 2nd by Mike to have a 3rd Midget team for 2011. Motion carried 5-0. A coach will have to be identified for this team, although Mark said this should not be a problem, and a current coach may be able to slide to the new team if necessary. Mark Lund has been identified as a coach willing to "help". Team Name is TBD.

Mark Tiede talked about issues last year with Midget players being made fun of due to the Green and Gold team's different colored t-shirts. Teams were being viewed as not being equal amongst the kids due to this attribute. Vogel made a motion, John 2nd, to have all Midget teams wear the same colored uniform top, green. Motion passed 5-0.

Vogel and Mark also spoke to the fact they want more home games and they'll work with their league to ensure this occurs.

Next was the Pee Wee team. Jim DeGross will be coaching, and Mike knows Jim has been in contact with the Pee Wee Commissioner.

15U was next. Paul Montgomery will be coaching. League Commissioner is Mike Keenan. Mike Sticha has been in contact with Mike Keenan and will ensure Paul is aware of any League meetings.

Town and Country. Bill Dunker and John Jenness will be coaching. No issues/needs to report at this time.

DRS. Monte Hennen will manage. No issues at this time.

Over-35 Shamrocks. Kevin Hart is the team General Manager. He has attended the State Association meeting and has been collecting fees from the players. April 2nd is the League Scheduling meeting which he will attend. He will work with Mike on any equipment needs as the spring progresses.

Use of Website: Website is www.stpatrickathletics.org Mike talked about the desire for all teams to use the site as much as possible, and help drive traffic to the site. As our 2011 teams are formed, team rosters, schedules, calendars, photos, and general team info can be added. Mike is updating the site and will ensure items are posted timely. The site will only be as good as we make it, so the more content the better! Also, the Field Availability calendar is on the site. Coaches need to let Mike know of their games/practices so he can add it. The field is not yours unless your event is on the calendar. However, time has been blocked for the usual team nights, i.e. Mondays for Pee Wees; Tuesdays for Midgets; etc.

Official St. Patrick Apparel: Mark Tiede put on a fashion show depicting his 2011 line. Mark has been working with BLS Embroidery in Prior Lake to get pricing and demo sweatshirts, pullovers, jackets, mugs, can coozies, and other St. Patrick branded gear. All of the items looked great. Mark is working to finalize some more pieces and will have an order form available at the start of the season. Our Association will get a small cut from each item sold. Mark will be coordinating this effort. More info to come!

1B Turf Mat: Due to the Pee Wee and Midget teams using shorter base paths, there is usually some wear to the infield grass near 1B. There was talk last fall about placing a mat, or piece of turf there to alleviate wear. However, after discussion the group felt it should just be left alone. Safety issues of bad hops or sliding back into 1B outweigh the aesthetics of non-worn grass.

RF Foul Pole: A wind storm last fall bent the RF foul pole. Mike and Mike will remedy in the spring.

Field Clean Up: Field clean up will be Sunday, April 3 at noon, pending weather. Back up date will be Sunday, April 10 at noon. Mike will send update emails.

Drainage/Tile Consultation: There has been drainage issues in foul territory, between the home dugout and the 3rd base line. Pat Friedges talked about auguring holes and filling with gravel (French drain). Mark Tiede has a skid loader and would be willing to help auger. As the spring progresses, Mike will coordinate planning/execution.

Concession Fridge/Freezer: Currently there are 2 fridges in the Shack. Last fall, one of them died. We will need to replace it. Also, Mike would like a 3rd fridge to cool extra cases of beer. Our old keg cooler used to be big enough to do so, but our newest keg cooler is smaller. Last summer at DRS games we had issues keeping enough beer cold. John made a motion to purchase a new fridge/freezer from Menards (a cheapo). Mike 2nd. Motion passed 5-0. As the spring progresses, we will watch for a used fridge. If nothing comes up, we will approach the idea of purchasing a 2nd new fridge as well.

Other Items:

Dan Friedges brought up the idea of having youth teams recognized at the DRS home games. He would like 3-4 games where each of the Midget and Pee Wee teams would be announced before the DRS game, on the field, and have other in-game events take place on their behalf. The idea was well received. Mike will work with the Midget and Pee Wee coaches to identify possible dates and get them on the calendar.

Other ideas were an end-of-season banquet for all of the youth teams, or the possibility of incorporating more of a youth connection at the January Fundraiser. Ideas were discussed. Issue tabled.

John made a motion to adjourn. Carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Minutes submitted by Mike B. Sticha