

**St. Patrick Athletic Association**  
**January 10, 2012**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:**

**Board:** Monte Hennen, Mark Tiede, Mike B. Sticha, John Jenness (Vogel Grote absent)

**Non-Board:** Bryan Bittner, Pat Luskey, Kevin Hart

**Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm**

**Treasurer/Secretary Report:**

Mike gave the Treasurers report with the following balances:

- o Checking: \$6,518.09
- o Savings: \$8,637.41

Checking includes 68 Fundraiser tickets sold and deposited, 17 of which were pre-buys from early Spring 2011.

Great River Energy gave a \$500 donation to our Association – Mike reached out to them this year and last year, and they’ve provided \$500 again. Mike sent a Thank You note.

Discussed the 2011 Financial Statement, Mike provided all expenses and income for the year ended 1/1/11-12/31/11. Each were broken out specifically by team and other similar “accounts”. Income was greater than expenses for the year. Mike has copies available if needed.

**Old Business:**

2012 Dinner Fundraiser: Tickets are coming in at a good pace, similar to last year. Mike will reach out to all sellers in the next week to ensure he has all sold tickets in his possession. John Jenness will coordinate with the Irish players to work the various ticket booths at the Fundraiser. Pull tabs have been ordered, Mike will purchase the alcohol for set-ups, and provide start-up cash for front table, and other ticket booths. Monte will bring the raffle bin.

2012 Youth Registration Day: We are still on track to have a youth registration day sometime in the spring. All youth team parents would sign Registration forms, pay fees, players can try on uniform tops, pants, etc. They will be given a Player/Parent Information packet as well. At our next meeting in February, Mark plans to have design ideas/options for the youth uniform t-shirt/top. He’ll also have pricing on youth baseball pants and belt/sock combos.

Cedar Lake Township Update: Mark, Monte, and Mike attended the last Cedar Lake Township (CLT) meeting and presented the need for a way to alleviate our limited field availability in St. Patrick. Similar to a presentation about 2 years ago, we outlined the fact we have many teams (9 in 2012) and are limited for practice/game time at Bonin. 3 options were outlined by SPAA: 1) CLT would aid SPAA by purchasing nearby acreage and developing a park which would include an athletic field, among other amenities. 2) CLT would aid SPAA in helping purchase lights for Bonin Field. 3) A mixture of both options. After much discussion, the CLT Board said they have

been interested in purchasing land for a park for some time and hoped to move forward in the coming months. Both groups will continue to check in for any progress and hope to partner in the future.

### **New Business:**

Long Range Expenditures: Mike presented a document for discussion regarding future improvements/expenditures for Bonin Field. The Board has identified a few long-range projects and will work to prioritize and plan for the following: outfield irrigation, enhanced field drainage, bullpens, equipment shed/outbuilding (potentially part of CLT Park), hitting tunnel(s) (potentially part of CLT Park), backstop replacement, Bonin Field lighting, bleachers/grandstand. Some of these are real possibilities, while others are future ideas which may not be feasible. Future income/fundraising efforts would be used to pursue these endeavors.

New Prague City Field Fees: New Prague passed an ordinance outlining fee schedules for use of city athletic fields. Some of our youth teams may practice in New Prague this season, so we may buy at least one pass for \$105, which allows a team to use a field 2 times per week. Because our official mailing address is a New Prague address (Mike's), we are considered a NP group, which gets a lower rate. More to be discussed at next month's meeting.

2012 Player Fees: Discussion took place on finalizing 2012 player fees. Mike conducted a survey 2 years ago with local DRS community teams, and St. Patrick's fees were in line with the others'. Mike provided a document outlining New Prague, Shakopee, Prior Lake, and Chaska's 2012 Traveling and In-House baseball fees, per each of those Association's websites. St. Patrick's fees are still less than local city In-House fees, and extremely less than Traveling fees. Discussion also included reference to the 2011 Financial recap, and the fact Association expenses have gone up. SPAA fees have been flat for the past 2 seasons. Mike B. Sticha made a motion to increase Midget and Pee Wee player fees \$10 from last year, to a total fee of \$50. SPAA will continue to charge each player the cost of the uniform top, hat, and other uniform items as well. 15U/Majors, Town & Country, and Shamrocks will remain flat to last year at \$50, while the Irish will continue to not have a player fee. Mark Tiede 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion passed 4-0 (Grote absent).

2013 Dinner Fundraiser Pre-Buy: 2 years ago, SPAA implemented a pre-buy opportunity for the Dinner Fundraiser. Youth team parents could purchase the next year's Dinner Fundraiser ticket for \$55 (regular \$70), at the time of Spring Registration. The hope was this would spawn increased ticket sales and entice parents to purchase Fundraiser tickets. 20 pre-sells were purchased in 2010, and 17 in 2011. Most of the pre-sells were purchased by tried and true Fundraiser attendees. Discussion took place on whether or not to continue the pre-buy. John Jenness made a motion to discontinue the pre-buy opportunity. Mark Tiede 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion passed 4-0 (Grote absent).

2012 Calendar Raffle Fundraiser: Further discussion took place on the Calendar Raffle fundraiser, with very strong support by the Board. It was discussed to move the Raffle date to late July, as this would allow increased sale opportunities through the month of July. Mike appointed Mark Tiede and himself as Calendar Raffle Co-Chairs. Mark is going to explore an

opportunity to instead have a raffle for a larger ticket item, such as an ATV. Mark and Mike will report back at the next Board meeting, with hopes to finalize the plan and conduct a Board vote.

SPAA Advertising Banner: Discussion took place on purchasing an advertising banner, similar to the other sponsor banners, for the St. Patrick Athletic Association. It would include our web address. This would promote our website and perhaps help increase awareness of our programs and Association. John Jenness made a motion to purchase a banner. Mike B. Sticha 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed 3-1 (Grote absent, Tiede dissenting).

Concession Stand needs: We are in need of an additional kegerator. We currently have capacity for 2 kegs, and many times last season we ran out between deliveries. Deliveries only occur on Wednesdays. Mark Tiede offered to look for a used one.

Spring Gym Time: Mike worked with NPHS to finalize gym time. We will have the 8 am to 10 am Sunday morning time slot for Irish and Shamrocks players. Mike will send finalized schedule to both teams.

Board Elections: SPAA Board Elections will take place at the February meeting. The President's term has 1 year remaining, but VP and the 3 Advisor spots are open (1 year terms).

Coaches Meeting: All 2012 coaches (and potential coaches) will be invited to the February meeting. Others interested are invited as well. Planning for 2012 will kick-off.

**Watch [www.stpatrickathletics.org](http://www.stpatrickathletics.org) for the next Board Meeting date.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.**

Meeting minutes submitted by Mike B. Sticha