

Minutes of the 1/12/09 SYS Board Meeting

Present: Ron W., Kim MacD., Brenda B., Kim O., Ken O., Bob R., Roy P., Rachel B., David L., Scott B., Keith B., Chris W., Kevin R., Bob P., Andrea B., Ann C., Jimmy R., Lisa M., Mike R., John C., Bob G.

The minutes of the December meeting were approved.

Ron said that David L. has volunteered to replace Keith B. as Field Maintenance Manager and Heston Chipman, who attended and spoke at the December meeting, is willing to replace David as the GU10 AGC. The board still needs someone to replace Bob Birney as VP.

Spring Registration: Bob P. said that the number registered so far is 916. The number is down about 20% from last year. Baseball is also experiencing a down shift in registrations. The school system reports that the 6th grade is the largest class and that classes younger than that are not as full. There have not been many late registrations. For late registrations, everything except the birth certificate (if needed) goes through the appropriate AGC. The general rule is that a player should not be put on a roster until that player is registered.

Bob P. now has pass cards for new players and coaches. He has decided that on the roster for a given team the team name will be *Shrewsbury/"coach's name"*.

Roy P. then initiated a discussion about a player from Shrewsbury who played for Auburn last spring and wants to do that again. No one understood how she managed to do this last year with out an ok from the board but this year MAYS said that we need to give her a waiver. The Auburn coach is also the coach of her club team. It seems that this player, who is a good player, had an issue , which she and her family felt was legitimate, with a Shrewsbury coach several years ago and this, in part, is why she's no longer playing with Shrewsbury. Right now there is no spot on a Div. 1 team for her. The board needs to address and formulate a policy about this kind of situation. Ron said he would ask her parents about this situation and get back to the board. In any case, we need to check what the by-laws say about a situation like this.

Player/Coach Development Report: Roy said that the G-license course is still on but the date has to be changed because we were bumped from the gym. The new date is for Tuesday, 3/10, from 6 to 10 PM in the Sherwood gym. We need a minimum of 16 people to sign up. The cost is \$35 a person. To make this official, we need to resubmit for a new date. MYSA wants a credit card # before they will reserve a coach/instructor for this session. Ron said we need to let our coaches know about this course as soon as possible and we need to determine what amount we will reimburse the coaches who attend this session. {After this board meeting, Ron put up for an e-vote the following proposal for the by-laws:

In an effort to continuously improve the level and commitment of coaching within the organization, SYS commits to reimburse 100% or up to a maximum of \$100, the lesser of the two, to coaches attending and passing Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association approved coach licensing courses.

This proposal was approved via email by the board. }

Roy P. plans to meet with PlaySoccer (PS) on 1/20 at 7 PM. He hopes to discuss our entire relationship with PS. Our contact person has left PS and we want to be sure that we are not put on a back burner by PS. We also need to reevaluate how the tryouts were run.

Roy also suggested that the U-12 program needs to be re-examined. We need somehow to get the U-12 coaches to plan their practices more intelligently and to cover a range of topics during the season. Perhaps strongly emphasizing that coaches go to the next level in licenses is the answer. Dave L. said that we might need to formulate a set of objectives for the players in each age group to give our coaches a better idea of what they should be aiming at in their practices in a given season.

Roy said we will again have keeper clinics in the spring. Scott B. suggested that we should have an F-license course set up for a date soon after the G-license course and let the coaches know about this at the G-license course.

Referee Report: Ann C. will send out letters to players in an attempt to recruit new refs. She'll get the letters to John C. and to the appropriate AGCs. Refs must be at least two years older than the players in the game they are refereeing. A candidate should be at least 12 to ref but an 11-year-old could take the course now and be all set to ref when s/he turns 12.

Fundraising Report: Kim MacD said she now has 6 sponsors signed up. They are *Iron Mountain*, *New Balance*, *KRB Construction*, *Teamworks*, *Odoba*, and *Lee Mancini*. The board voted on each of these sponsors and each was approved. Kim said the sponsors need to get from us the appropriate forms for tax purposes. Ron said that we hope to get four more sponsors for the coming season. He said that, by the end of this week, each board member should send Kim at least two suggestions for potential sponsors.

Field Maintenance Report: Keith B. said that Lake St. will have aeration and fertilizing done when the snow melts. We will keep being responsible for mowing the Floral field. Keith was told by Lisa that there are some tire tracks on the Floral field but she was not sure how deep they were. Roy P. mentioned what a great job Keith has done on the fields and the board concurred and offers Keith a huge "Thank You."

There followed a discussion about the meeting that was held concerning the Glavin closing. The board members who attended that meeting were Lisa M., Roy P., Keith B., and Bob G. Also attending were Karen Polito and Angela Snell. Lisa went over what occurred and what she said at the meeting. She spoke eloquently at the meeting about the role the Glavin Center plays in the Shrewsbury community and about what a loss for the entire community this closing would be. Karen Polito is also strongly against the closing of Glavin. The timetable the State presented has Glavin closing in about 4 and ½ years or in June of 2013. Ron said that the board needs to be as proactive as we can be to help the Glavin people oppose this closing and we need to keep in touch with Karen Polito and Angela Snell. Keith said he wants to work with whatever committees form to fight the closing.

Keith said that the large Glavin parking lot will be paved at the end of the spring season. Keith said there are huge clean-up issues involving fallen tree limbs at several of the fields. Angela is planning a meeting with reps of all the town sports programs to address the clean up and other budget issues.

Ron said the field layout is the same as it was last spring. We will again have some games at Oak St.

Equipment Report: Ken O. said that he's going to order two large goals for the Foundation fields. He'll order the large goals in mid-Feb. He noted that we also need to repair the tires on the large goals at Glavin. They may just need air.

Treasurer's Report: Mike R. said we had \$258,000 as of 12/31/08. We have not yet paid MYSA for the spring season.

MAYS Report: Bob R. said that all the MAYS board positions are now filled. We have four teams that are involved in an appeal about their placement for the spring. The appeals meeting will be held on 1/18. Ron said that the coach of each of these teams should attend the appeals meeting. Each coach needs to be sure to notify the players who are on his/her team roster that they are on the roster.

Feb. 1 is the deadline for submitting passcards and team rosters. Three copies of each roster are needed. The season starts the weekend of April 4. Bob needs to check to see what MAYS is doing about games on the Easter weekend.

The meeting ended around 9:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Garvey