

Grafton Soccer Club Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 19, 2010

Members Present: Susan Bennett, Ann Smaxwill, Christi Klaus, Don Arnold, Ron Lauters, Tricia Wessel-Blaski, Michelle Pedersen, Peter Kugi, Barb Bader, Kim King, Dane Hacker, Vicki Todd,

Guests: Melissa Braaten-Krueger, Kevin Wise, Jason Braaten, Steve Block, Paul Skalecki, Barb Vandenberg, Sara Rapp, Mark Micoliczuk

I. Call to Order (Susan Bennett):

- A. Susan Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. She welcomed the guests to the meeting as well as those interested in joining the board next season.

II. Minutes (Christi Klaus):

- A. March 2010 Minutes: Susan asked that a motion be made to approve the March minutes. Barb made a motion. Ron seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously
- B. February 2010 Minutes: Susan asked that a motion be made to approve the February minutes. Barb made a motion. Ron seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously

III. President's Report (Susan Bennett):

- A. Indoor Tournament Recap:
 - i. Pros: The tournament was profitable, we were able to include the Academy Teams, Don was able to attract teams.
Cons: There were some complaints about the U12/U14 bracket.
 - ii. Feedback Received: People liked the H.S. venue and that Don handed out the trophies (Vicki Todd asked that there be better communication with the older teams regarding whether or not they receive a participation trophy – there was some confusion)
- B. Signing/Awarding of Contracts Policy: There is a question regarding who is authorized to sign contracts.
 - i. Ann thought that if it is within your budget, you may sign the contract. If it is over the budget, approval would be needed.
 - ii. Going forward, Susan thought the Secretary should hold the contracts. Barb agreed since there are a number of long term board members that have already left and are leaving.
- C. U17 Coach License District Compliance Issue:
 - i. There was a compliance message that came up regarding State Cup and Drew Bikman not having the proper license. The roster was approved and Don is aware of the situation. Susan has forwarded the email to Tricia. Barb mentioned that State Cup is very rigid.
- D. Roster Limits: Don will be working with Bill before the teams are formed.

IV. Fields & Grounds (Dan Hacker):

- A. Long Term Mowing Contract:
 - i. We have been notified that the current provider has quit-effective immediately.
 - ii. Ann's husband is willing to mow the fields through the end of June. Susan recalled that the fields were lined last summer through July.
 - iii. We are currently looking for bids for a permanent replacement.
- B. Water Issue:
 - i. Tricia mentioned that a \$1,300 drain tile would be needed to correct the water issue by the concession stand. Susan asked why there is such a discrepancy between that number and the number given by Dan's Grading.
 - ii. Peter mentioned that Scott Gramoll would be willing to take a look at the bids.
 - iii. Dane will initiate this.
 - iv. Vicki also asked that we fix the areas around the dumpsters.
- C. Field Lining:
 - i. Dane will let Michelle know if we need field liners for Thursday or Friday.
 - ii. Michelle asked about the key for the equipment room. Barb held the key last year and was available to open the room for the liners.
 - iii. The possibility of a lock box was discussed. Vicki thought a lock box would be helpful for the concession stand. It was decided that this needed to be looked into further to determine what kind of lock boxes are out there and if it would work for the club.
 - iv. Dane also mentioned that Colin Bould offered to paint the concession stand and install shelves to display trophies.

V. **Fundraising (Peter Kugi):**

- A. Candles Sales: A total of \$3,500 profit from the candle sales – 684 sold – 1 team sold \$700 alone. There was a large profit margin on the candles.
 - i. Sara Rapp expressed her concern that the timing was bad for the fundraiser. Kim also mentioned that it was a lot for the managers especially since we are asking for basket donations for the May event. Missie has also received complaints about the baskets.
 - ii. Susan asked how Jackie Holdmann will be distributing the candles. Tricia mentioned that the managers cannot be expected to sort the candles.
 - iii. Peter mentioned that the candle fundraiser was delayed due to the merger talks.
- B. May Event - Peter reported that 200 tickets have been distributed and will be gone soon.
 - i. Representatives from the Jets, Hurricanes and Neptunes (Mark Micolczyk, Sara Rapp & Vicki Todd) expressed their concerns regarding fundraising.
 - a. They feel as though they are uninformed and do not understand the purpose of the fundraising. The Rec teams do not feel they are getting the help they ask for and want to know if these fundraising dollars are being put into a pool for the Select teams. If they were given some specific examples as to how the fundraising will benefit the club as a whole, people may be more receptive. Mark mentioned that he cannot sell the idea if he does not know where the money is going.
 - b. Susan assured them that the Select Program is not solely benefiting from the fundraising. Our model is to grow the club as a whole. We have put a lot of focus on the U6 program, the Indoor program and Academy Teams. Tricia also mentioned that the Academy Teams paid no additional fees this year.
 - c. Sara asked where the money is going - Susan indicated that these dollars will go into the general operation fund. Sara thought it might be beneficial to have some sort of Treasurer's report to share.
 - d. Barb Bader mentioned that the entire board was at the Rec Kick off Camp. All members have the same opportunity to get involved. There may be a communication issue, but Don is a passionate advocate for all the kids. Tricia mentioned that Don has spent a lot of time at Uihlein this winter supporting the Rec Teams. He also designed the curriculum for the coaches.
 - e. Mark indicated that he was unsure when he could start practice this spring. It was decided that there should be a spring meeting for the coaches.
 - f. Michelle thought it might be a good idea to pass along the board meeting minutes to the team managers and/or post them on the website.
 - g. Peter mentioned that an email blast went out to the club to ask for help with field lining – 3 people responded. Sara asked for more detail regarding field lining – is it something that she could help with – is it difficult? Vicki thought that there were about six consistent field liners from the fall. Michelle indicated that this was an emergency situation due to the rain.

VI. **New Business (Review of the Budget – Ann Smaxwill):**

- A. Ann presented the summary and detail of the budget.
- B. Susan asked Ron about the Ref fee increase. He believes the increase will be at the Select U13 and above level.
- C. There was discussion regarding Kick Off Camp. Don mentioned it will be even better next year. He wants a chance to speak to the parents. He also wants to invite the Rec kids to play during half time of the varsity games. Tricia said there are some parents that just feel out of the loop because they cannot attend Kick Off Camp. Michelle agreed that some Rec parents just don't feel informed. We need to put information out there for them. Barb Vandenberg would like to see more on the website. Barb thought we could put together a flyer for distribution at the Annual Meeting outlining different levels of play.
- D. Susan asked if there were questions regarding the budget.
 - i. Peter asked why the May party was listed in this year's numbers. Ann indicated that because it is a May event, it needs to be included in the 2009 – 2010 numbers.
 - ii. Ann reminded everyone that this is just a proposal – the next board will need to approve it.

VII. Old Business:

A. Fees:

Tricia listed the Fees for next year and Susan asked if there were questions:

	Registration	Coaching Fees
Rec:	\$190	n/a
U6	\$90	n/a
Academy	\$190	\$160
Select (Full)	\$190	\$400
Select (1/2)	\$125	\$225

- i. Michelle asked about the coaching fees for the Academy Teams. Tricia mentioned that all other clubs have coaching fees, but we are still lower.
- ii. Tricia mentioned that in looking at these fees, they were attempting to cover the club's operation costs. Unfortunately, these numbers still do not cover all the costs.
- iii. Susan pointed out that our coaches are underpaid, we have not kept up. Also, to fix the parking lot, we had to dip into reserves that we need to replace.
- iv. Mark asked about the volunteer hours required. Michelle explained the new volunteer policy and he was given a copy. Michelle is going to add a clause regarding those families that may make donations. Tricia also mentioned that the policy will need to be signed at the time of registration and all teams will have a volunteer coordinator.
- v. It was also pointed out that we plan on \$10,000-\$15,000/year for field maintenance. Susan also mentioned that we have to plan on \$2,200/year for grading of the parking lot.
- ii. Susan asked that a motion be made to approve the new fee schedule. Michelle made a motion. Barb seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously

VIII. U12 Hurricanes Coaching Situation (Susan Bennett):

- A. Last fall, Paul Melotik took the coaching position for this team with the understanding that he could not coach in the spring due to baseball conflicts.
- B. In finding a replacement for spring, this became a very complicated situation. Mindy Dickmann, a high school student, wanted to coach the team, but wanted to coach it alone with friends. Mark Micoliczuk met with Tricia at Don during the Indoor Tournament to discuss his coaching role with the team.
- C. Don mentioned that the communication in this situation was bad. All soccer coaching decisions need to come through him as Director of Soccer. That is his role in the club. In this situation there were too many people trying to fix the issue and something so simple has turned into something very complicated.
- D. Susan's vision is that Don and Bill should be interviewing and placing coaches. She agrees that no coaching decisions should be made without consulting Don and Bill.
- E. Susan became aware of an issue the game this past Sunday. Mindy had told Mark in an email that she was the coach.
 - i. Vicki explained that Mindy was not at the game on Sunday and expressed her displeasure that the players did not know their coaches' names (friends of Mindy's), and that the parents were unaware of the coaching situation.
 - ii. Vicki also expressed her concern regarding an injury during the game. The coaches did not stop the game for the injured player and the parents ended up having to stop the game.
 - iii. Susan reiterated that nobody but Don can tell someone that they cannot coach.
- E. Don asked if Mark was willing to work with Mindy. Mark said he would be willing to do so.
 - i. Don indicated that the next step is that Mark and Mindy will co-coach the team. If they are both unavailable to coach a particular game, Don is willing to help out. The girls that were coaching this past Sunday will not be coaching again.
 - ii. If Mindy is not willing to co-coach, Don will help find one.
 - iii. Tricia indicated that we need to communicate this information to the team/parents. They have practice this Thursday at 4:30 – 5:30. Don will be there.

IX. Treasurer's Report (Ann Smaxwill)

- A. March Financials: Susan asked that a motion be made to approve the March Financials. Vicki made a motion. Christi seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously

X. Future Meetings:

May 6, 2010, 7 pm, Grafton High School Library

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30pm.

Minutes Recorded by Christi Klaus, Secretary