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## **SUN CITY WEST SOFTBALL CLUB BOARD MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 10, 2007**

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by President, Art Nelson at the Men's Club (*Roundup Room*) at 8:00a.m.

### **INTRODUCTIONS:**

President, Art Nelson, welcomed all board members and guests.

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Lyle Bakken, Carol Bowden, Bruce Brady, Dennis Farrar, Rich McAndrews, and Art Nelson.

### **GUESTS PRESENT:**

John Doherty, Ray Early, Bob Freeman, George Karras, Dick LeMoine, and Ken Skinner

### **MAY MINUTES APPROVAL:**

Lyle Bakken made a motion to accept the May 7, 2007 meeting minutes as electronically distributed via e-mail. Carol Bowden seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Lyle Bakken gave his usual detailed treasurer report handouts. Lyle reported an opening balance as of January 1, 2007 of \$7,559.03. There is a credit union balance as of August 31, 2007 of \$28,940.33. Our balance at the recreation center balance is \$26,912.82. Club balance as of September 4, 2007 is \$4,493.65. Total balance is \$60,346.80. Further details are available.

Tin Cup: Total proceeds of the Tin Cup was \$46,343.64, and expenses of \$26,414.80 giving us a total net earnings of \$19,928.84.

Dennis Farrar made a motion to accept the treasurer's reported by Lyle. Carol Bowden seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Art reported that there was no correspondence at this time.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **Field Manager:**

George Karras gave a detailed report of all the improvements that were made to the field during the summer, and potential future improvements including getting rid of all the rock. George has asked board approval to put up red, white and blue bulletin boards. George is also asking that everyone bring your aluminum cans to the field for recycling. After the field is laser leveled the new permanent batters boxes will be installed. George Karras has decided not to pursue the closet idea. George reiterated that there should be no field practice allowed on Wednesdays to allow our field to recover from all the playing it gets. No further action taken.

**Special Events:**

**Palm Desert:** Ken Skinner reported that all is set for the players to reciprocate to play the teams at Palm Desert on November 16, 2007. Dennis Farrar made a motion for the SCW Club (through Ray Early) to purchase 36 jerseys in 2 different colors for the players to use at these games. The shirts are to have the SCW logo on the front with a number on the back. These jerseys will be returned to Ray for storage after these games so they can be used for future games. Lyle Bakken seconded. Motion carried.

**Spring Fling:**

Ken Skinner reported that the Spring Fling will be held on March 6-9, 2008 at Liberty Field. The National League will play their games on Thursday & Friday and the American League on Saturday & Sunday.

**Cardiac Kids Invitational:**

Art Nelson reported that the Cardiac Kids Invitational is February 2, 2008.

**Bosom Buddies Tournament:**

Art Nelson reported that the Bosom Buddies Tournament will be February 9-10, 2008.

**Pancake Breakfast:**

Bruce Brady reported that the committee had their first meeting a couple of weeks ago and this event will be held on November 10, 2007 at Beardsley Park in Sun City West. The cost will be \$3.00/per person (all you can eat). Bruce said they are working on kid's price, but, no decision at this time. Serving will be from 8:00am – 11:00am. The next meeting will be September 20, 2007 at 11:00am in the Liberty Field clubhouse. No further action at this time.

**Opening Fan Appreciation Week:**

Bruce said that he would like to serve Hot Dogs and drinks at the league game opening week. After some discussion Dennis Farrar made a motion to do so. Rich McAndrews seconded. Motion carried.

**Uniforms & Equipment:**

Ray Early reported that we are in good shape on pants, shorts, socks and hats. Ray said we should not have to buy softballs until January or February next year. Discussion on giving our grounds crew special t-shirts to wear in appreciation for all they do for us. Rich McAndrews made a motion to have George order the t-shirts in the sizes and colors he chooses. Carol Bowden seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ray Early also passed out his computer uniform replacement grid to those present and indicated that Sunshine Irrigation shirts have been replaced and paid for. Abbott's Men's Store shirts have been ordered and should be in sometime in November. Newton Automotive shirts have been replaced as well and they're paid for. Ray also indicated that Liberty Buick, Northern Trust and Saturn of Glendale jerseys are still in good shape and do not need to be replaced this year. Ray instructed that we move his 2007 indication replacement "x" to 2008. We will look at this again next year for possible replacement. No further action taken.

**Sponsors:**

**Billboards:**

Carol Bowden has worked over the summer to develop new contracts for renewing sponsors as well as new sponsors. Carol gave copies of the contract to President Art Nelson. Carol indicated that a letter was mailed out on May 1 to all the sponsors asking if they would like to renew their contracts and indicated that she would like a decision no later than the end of May to allow us enough time to order new jersey's if necessary. Carol also reported that the Wester and True Green had declined to renew their sponsorship. Southwest Golf Cars still wants to be a sponsor, but had some concerns about their sponsorship that reflected on a letter dated on August 30, 2002 from a gentleman by the name of Jim Pier. Southwest Golf Cars would like to continue and will update our golf car every five or six years as payment for sponsorship, but we have to keep up on the maintenance.

After a long, long discussion, Art Nelson agreed that we run this by the legal advisor to the Sun City West Recreation Center. This has been table until the next meeting.

Northern Trust indicated they still want to sponsor and indicated that they felt that they had already paid. There was a lot of discussion on this along with a little confusion whether they paid the \$250.00 renewal fee.

Lyle Bakken made a motion that since he reported that he had \$250.00 he couldn't account for (Tin Cup or sponsor fees) that we use this amount to show that Northern Trust paid the this year. Bruce Brady seconded the motion.

Carol Bowden indicated that Sun City has picked up a new sponsor which is Abbott's Men's Store. Carol also reported that since we lost Sonoran Signs that was doing our outfield billboards she has talked to Fast Signs to do our future billboards. Fast Signs has not gotten back to Carol with bids on the costs but they are very interested in doing our billboards. There is a new technology out that will allow Fast Signs to etch the advertising on the blue background versus the peel off stick on type of sign that we currently have. They will get back to Carol as soon as possible and Carol said she will e-mail the board members the results. Carol is hoping to get any new billboards up before the new season starts in October.

*Team Sponsors:*

Carol Bowden threw out the question about how the board felt about the need for more team sponsors. Carol feels that we should be okay until next winter. It was the agreement of the board that if the National League is short a sponsor that we pull one of our sponsors from the American League so as not to drop any sponsors we currently have. No further action.

*Membership:*

Ken Skinner reported that we now have 284 paid up members. No further action.

*Umpires:*

Ken Skinner announced that the Sun Cities Senior Softball Umpires Association currently meets every Thursday afternoon at Liberty Field at 4:00pm, and all league members are invited to attend and participate.

*Rules Committee:*

Bob Freeman reported some items that the AL Rules Committee will bring up at the next League meeting. There was a lot of discussion on the runner rule. Rich McAndrews from the NL Committee also contributed the NL interpretation of the runner rule. No further action.

*Women's League:*

Carol Bowden reported that Karen Hill will give her report at the October meeting. No further action taken.

*Friday Co-Ed League:*

No report was given.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**LEAGUE BOARD REPORT:**

Next League Meeting will be on September 19, 2007 at 8:45am at the Men's Club (*Round-up Room*) in Sun City West.

Hall Of Fame League Banquet:

Art Nelson reported that it is our turn to sponsor the Annual League Banquet. The banquet is scheduled for Friday, March 28, 2008 and will be held at the Palm Ridge Recreation Center in Sun City West. Art Nelson and Mike Hester will be working on this and more details will be forthcoming. Art asked that everyone put this date on their calendar. If you have any further questions, please contact one of them. No further action.

Non-playing Coach/Manager:

Dick Freeman reported that so far there are two non-playing managers. Bob said that so far, Wayne Mitchell and Ed Eckardt are the two non-playing managers in the AL. There was some other discussion and no further action taken.

**DIGITAL SIGNAGE:**

Ray Early reported that the possibility of obtaining a digital sign has been dismissed due to the cost. Ray will check on sign boards as an alternative. No further action taken.

**BY-LAWS CHANGES:**

Art Nelson reported that the Sun City West Recreation Centers Board is meeting on Thursday, September 13 at 9am in the governing boardroom to go over the changes in our bylaws. Rich McAndrews and Art Nelson met with the recreation center to discuss the bylaws change. As a result, we found out that our bylaws were not accurate. The Recreation Center changed some of the wording and this is up for discussion on Thursday, September 13. If they approve it, then we will be able to post the change and vote on this at the general membership meeting in November. We must have two thirds of the membership present to pass this change. Art Nelson will give us the outcome of the September 13 meeting at our next board meeting. No further discussion at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NEW PLAQUE:**

Bruce Brady mentioned that there is a wooden plaque that Theresa Smith had the woodshop make that show our appreciation for George and the ground crew dedication for redoing the bleachers. Bruce would like to see this plaque displayed behind the bleachers unless someone else has a better place. George Karras said that he does not want to do it. George said that what he and his crew do they do for the club and that they enjoy what they do not wish to have special recognition for it. No further action taken at this time.

**RCWRC CALENDAR:**

Art Nelson spoke of his concern that the SCWRC Board only gave us seven hours notice of a meeting that they were having. We were further informed that this meeting wasn't mandatory but if we wanted to attend we were welcomed. Bruce Brady attended this meeting and reported that every item we proposed for field improvements, the Recreation Center denied. This being said Art Nelson feels that we need at least two Sun City West board members present at any of the Sun City West Recreation Center board meetings. Art also said that if we get enough board members present he would like to see us take minutes of their meetings. Art Nelson went on to say that they are having a meeting on Thursday, September 13, 2007 at 9:00am on our bylaws change. The meeting will be held at the governing board conference room. Art Nelson is going to attend, and he has asked for other board members to attend as well. In conclusion, Art Nelson indicated that he plans to take up this matter with Matt Szydowski.

**NEW BOARD MEMBERS:**

Art Nelson brought up the fact that we are going to lose four board members in December. Art thanked Dennis Farrar and Lyle Bakken for the great job they both have done over the past 2 years. This being said Dennis Farrar suggested that because we have so much money flowing through our treasury each year, that we make a permanent club accountant position that could work with the current treasurer. The club account would work directly with the Treasurer and train them on the necessary forms and procedures that our Recreation Center requires. Although we have a Treasurer, the club accountant would periodically oversee checks, balances and other activities of the Treasurer. Lyle Bakken has agreed to take the club accounting position. Art Nelson will bring this up before the Sun City West Recreation Center's legal department as to which direction we need to go with this. No further action taken.

Art Nelson also indicated that we need to have new Board member nominees in place so they can be introduced at the next general membership meeting on November 14, 2007. No further action taken at this time.

**MEMBER & GUESTS COMMENTS:**

Statistical person or persons:

Dick LeMoine mentioned that Loran Swanson has been keeping track of our player statistics for the last two years and would like to step down. With this being said, Dick said he would like to see someone in our club step up and take over this responsibility. Dick LeMoine said that he feels that it's time that Sun City West get their own "Mike Graham" that will keep track of the Sun City West players. This person would be responsible for keeping our own statistical database in the same manner that Mike has done. Dick would also like to see us get a person for each league. One for the National League and one for the American League. These individuals would have to have computer experience in order to maintain the statistical record that we are requesting. There was some discussion on this, but no resolution at this time. Dick LeMoine also feels that we need new player information posted at the fields so potential members have some kind of a contact point if they are interested in joining. There was some discussion on this, and Art Nelson will discuss this with Mike Hester. No further action at this time.

Proposed Picnic Island:

Ray Early proposed the idea of having a picnic island installed under the new patio area. Ray passed out brochures so the board could see the end results from various contractors and how this island could look if we decided to move forward on this project. Ray Early and Carol Bowden have been working on this during the summer and have been getting bids on the cost. The current bids have been between \$4,000.00 and \$5,000.00, which may not cover other necessary preparation costs. The first obstacle is getting electric to the area. This island would be used not only for our special events, but we could use it for coffee & doughnuts at our regular games. This would help eliminate the congestion that occurs behind the backstop. The board is in favor of this project; however the board feels that Lyle Bakken will have to submit a CR-13 to the Sun City West Recreation Center for their approval and then this would have to go to the general membership for approval since the projected project cost exceeds \$2,000.00. No further action taken at this time.

2008 Board Meeting Schedule:

Art Nelson gave a scheduled calendar for next year's meetings. The monthly board meetings will be held at the Beardsley Recreation Center (*Muli-purpose Room #5*), and **not** the Men's Club. Please note the time limitations. We will start at 7:30am and end our meetings by 10:00am.

**NEXT SCWSC BOARD MEETING:**

Monday, October 1, 2007 • 8:00AM • Men's Club (*Roundup Room*) • Sun City West.

**NEXT SCWSC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:**

The next General Membership Meeting will Wednesday, November 14, 2007 • 6:00PM • RH Johnson Recreation Center (*Lecture Hall*). Please plan to attend.

**NEXT SCSSL BOARD MEETING:**

Wednesday, September 19, 2007 • 8:45AM • Men's Club (*Roundup Room*) • Sun City West

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:50am.

Respectfully submitted,



Dennis Farrar, Secretary  
Sun City West Softball Club

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