



I. WELCOME

Called to order at 6:05pm. Paul did introductions of the board members. Informed the membership that the board has been meeting bi-weekly to plan out the 2021 season.

II. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

a. Financials for 2020

Lee moved to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Carrie second the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

a. What happened to the 2020 Season

Paul shared with the membership what exactly happened that prevented us from having a season. WASA was told by the Marathon County Park's Department that we could not hold a season. Other organizations were able to have outdoor activities because they conduct their business on private property verses WASA utilizes a county park.

b. Parks Department Contract for 2021

WASA has already signed the contract with the Park's Department for the 2021 season. All debt is paid in full.

V. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

a. Resignation

Nate shared with the membership that he is stepping down from the WASA board after many years of service.

b. Awards & Certificates

All of these were announced last year during our Annual Meeting, but since the season did not happen, we wanted to go over those 1st place teams and runner's up for the 2019 season all of which will get a credit towards the 2021 season.

League	Runner Up	2019 Champion
Sunday Div I	Foundation for Hope in Africa	Loppnow's Bar
Sunday Div II	The Village Church	Falcon Valley Farm
Monday Div I	Johnny Cee Cards	Loppnow's Bar
Monday Div II	Grebe's	Mt. Olive Brimstone
Monday Div III	Wausau Alliance Church	Mid-City Precision/United Structures
Tuesday Women's	Falcon Valley Farm	STS
Co-Ed	ABC Rental Management	Graphic House Rebels
Thurs Div I	Wausau Tax/Day's Bowl-a-Dome	Campus Pub
Thurs Div II	Exit Realty	Burk's Fireside Tap
Grand Masters	Knab Insurance/Hill's Auto	The Jig

c. Condensing Two Nights of Play – Tuesdays & Wednesdays

Wednesdays used to be our Fast Pitch night, but we have not had a women's fast pitch league for a many years and the men's fast pitch has not happened for the last few years. We would need to merge Wednesday into Tuesday nights. It would not be efficient cost wise to run a concession stand for three games on one field. All the other nights have at least two fields playing. Paul shared that we could add leagues if we have four teams, we can make it anything the members want. We entertained a pickup game concept where players just show up, we pick teams like when we were kids, and play some games. Please bring your ideas to board because we are vested in making this association the best for our members.

VI. MEMBER DISCUSSION – 2021 Season

a. Program & Rules

These will be updated and published on the website. Rules changes – really nothing has changed with USA softball. Reiterate that the bats and balls must have the proper markings showing they are USA Softball certified. We can allow our leagues to personalize the rules and those rules can be changed per division. Damien on the live feed asked if there is going to be bat testing? Paul answered that we thought about bringing back stickers. Mark online asked if there is going to be time limits for the games. We discussed this before. Most of our games do not run longer than an hour, but we do have those few games that run long and then delay all games for the night. Lee would like to see the games play out because limiting the game would add another factor that determines the result of the game. Mark online asked what the pay will be for the umpires per game. Paul answered that we pay \$16 to \$32 per game.

b. Revamping the WASA website

New website will be up really soon with links to TeamSnap to register teams and players.

c. Registrations – TeamSnap

We had many teams register online last season before our season was cancelled. We can email the link to anyone that requests it. Paul showed a display of the TeamSnap WASA page pointing out that the start of the season is May 16th. Early bird team registration is \$125 prior to March 31st. After that, the team fee will be \$150. Team Snap will ask for a manager and a co-manager. This online registration will offer the benefits of updated scheduling and real time standings. Teams that are due a credit, select pay later by check. If your team's name is going to change to something different from the previous season, please let a board member know so that Tracie can be informed of who the credit applies. There is a convenience fee for processing a payment for team registration on Team Snap. You can use the \$50 or the \$125 credits as a concession stand credit or to purchase a trophy, t-shirts, or anything your team would like. Please do not add your players on Team Snap until we get the waiver on the registration site.

d. Tournaments

- Men's Modified – August 13th & 14th
- WASA Hosted Tournament

e. Park's Department improvements to Sunnyvale

Settled debt with the Park's Department for about \$90,000. They used those funds to make improvements. They have replaced all the infields with the same mix that the Woodchucks use. Sprinkler systems were installed in the fields which will make the fields nice and lush prior to play. The inside cooler in the concession has been removed. An outdoor cooler has been installed. They will be making improvements to the inside of the concession stand. The heavy window doors have been replaced with roll up aluminum doors. There is concrete all around the concession stand. All fields have new remote operated scoreboards.

WASA is donating our movable fencing that we own to the Humane Society and a Dog Training facility out in the industrial park. They have replaced the fencing in the outfield and will place guards on top of the fencing. They will also be doing some improvements to the score boxes. Question from a member asked if anything was done with the lighting? We do not know if they have or will be doing anything with the lights. We can ask them if they can adjust the direction of the lights. The reason they are doing the improvements was because of the funds that we paid them for debts owed.

What are the costs associated with the Park's Department that are paid every year? Paul directed everyone to the financials that share the figures for 2019.

Online member asked about HD lighting to save on expense. That would be a Park's Department decision.

Member asked if a net can be put up on field three to protect those at the concession stand.

f. Concession Stand Changes and Ideas

The board has entertained many ideas. Park's Department now requires us to pay 10% of the sales of the concession stand to them.

Paul said the board tabled the conversation as to how do we change the concession stand. We wanted our members to provide feedback. Do we bring in food trucks? Do we have a limited menu and allow carry-ins?

Player fees and team fees allow WASA to provide all of you a 12-game season. The last two years we have lost money with the concession stand.

Matt asked is the June Bug tournament a big concession stand income source. That tournament is going to be run by the Wausau Baseball and Softball Youth organization out at Sunnyvale. Member asked if we do not organize it, will there be concessions offered out there? Paul shared that things are changing and before other organizations would have to ask WASA permission to use the concession stand. Now it sounds like that is going to be more up to the Park's Department.

Members suggested that we keep a food source because a lot of people eat out there. Ryan shared that another choice to be made is kegs or cans. A member heard that the Park's Department will not put in the lines for kegs and that we would need to. That might just make the decision for us. Lee said there might be an issue with our liquor license with regards to serving cans because bars are required to open the can and it cannot be removed from the premises. Maybe the option is simplifying the menu. Hot Dogs, nachos, brats, burgers. Suggest grilling the hot dogs. Popcorn is desired too. Years ago, there were hot roast beef sandwiches. Pretzels were popular. Our goal is to simplify it all. Nate reiterated that if we do continue with the concession stand, members need to use it.

Lee mentioned in 2019 we had issues with members carrying in beer. Paul shared that he did address it. Member also expressed that monitoring carry ins might be difficult if we get rid of the kegs and sell cans.

Paul asked what if we brought in food trucks and only sell beverages at the concession stand that night?

Members stated that it would be great to offer credit card as a form of payment at the concession stand. We need to look into credit card payment program options.

GOAL is to bring in more member and more teams.

Member asked if we would take a percentage of the food truck sales? Paul answered yes, we probably would. John Buch strongly suggested that we promote it so that people plan. We could post on website, social media, at the concession stand, on the website, emails.

Member said that the old bat tournaments are popular.

Member online ask about a fall league. Many members (almost all) raised their hands that they would participate. Chris Peaslee suggested maybe the draft league in the fall. Matt suggested that an association member pays one price and outside of the association pays a different price. Matt shared that in other areas they would have two professional softball players per team.

Paul shared that we pay the Park's Department a lot more for tournaments verses regular league play.

g. Staffing – Concession Stand, Umpires, Scorekeepers

We are looking for someone to manage the concession stand and get it back to operating efficiency. We will also be posting for concession stand workers.

We are also in need of more scorekeepers and umpires. We have about 5-6 umpires returning. We would love to have two umpires on the field, but then we need more umpires.

h. Other IDEAS for the 2021 SEASON

Live streaming games or announcing games. Hold a homerun derby. Two years ago, we hit our 50th anniversary and never really celebrated. Matt said that draft tournaments are getting more and more popular, and people come from all over to participate.

VII. ELECTIONS

Normally we have conducted elections at the beginning of the meeting. We were hoping the meeting would encourage some interest.

- a. Ballot of Nominees
- b. Nominations from the floor
- c. Vote

President – No nominations from the floor, Paul Dykstra is willing to run for re-election.

Vice President – No nomination from the floor, with Nate Helke's resignation, position vacant.

Secretary/Treasurer – No nominations from the floor, Tracie Wills is willing to run for re-election.

Men's Fast Pitch – Mike Blaubach is willing to run for re-election.

Women's Fast Pitch – NONE

Men's Slow Pitch – No nominations from the floor.

Women's Slow Pitch – No nominations from the floor.

COED – No nominations from the floor.

Grand Masters – No nominations from the floor.

Paul asked for a motion to approve the members as presented.

Lee moved to approve the League Board Members as presented. Matt second the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

Flyers available for members to take to promote WASA and our softball season. We would like members to post at their employers or other places they frequent.

Steve Brown expressed appreciation for all that the board does for the association.

VIII. IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- a. Early Bird Team Registration Deadline – **Sunday, March 31st, 2021**
 - Team Registration Fee received by Sunday, March 31st, 2021 = \$125
 - Team Registration Fee received after Sunday, March 31st, 2021 = \$150
- b. Team Registrations DUE – **Sunday, April 18th, 2021**
- c. Manager's Meetings – **To be determined**
- d. Team Day (Player Fees & Rosters DUE) – **To be determined**

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Nate moved to adjourn the meeting. Matt second the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.