



**Grafton Hot Stove League, Inc.
September 8, 2013
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting was called to order at Grafton VFW at 6 pm.

ATTENDEES: (in no particular order) Chad Armburger, Chris Miscuda, Al Lewis, Tim Shevel, Ron Baron, Ron Phillips, Scott Kardos, Brian Searle, Miki Powel, Bill Kulwicki, Deb Frabotta, Jim Clark, David Divencenzo

OFFICERS/BOARD MEMBERS:

President: Ashley Mease

Vice President: Jen Short

Treasurer: Tricia McCarrick

Secretary: Rhonda Mueller

Girl's Personnel Director: Tom Tomasheski

Boys Personnel Director: Wes Mariner

Concession Stand Director(s): Tim & Debbie Shevel (Excused)

Fundraiser Chairperson: OPEN

Head Umpire: George Bates (Excused)

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

President: Ashley Mease

Ashley provided input in each of the below areas over the course of the meeting and kept content on target for discussions.

Secretary: Rhonda Mueller

Roll call was done. A sign in sheet was circulated and completed by those in attendance (noted above). A motion was made to suspend the reading of the Meeting Minutes from June 9, 2013 by Al Lewis seconded by Tricia McCarrick. A motion was made to approve the June 9, 2013 meeting minutes by Jim Clark and seconded by Miki Powell.

Treasurer: Tricia McCarrick

The account balances were reported. Motion to accept report & approve payments of bills was made by Al Lewis and seconded by Miki Powell.

It was further reported that there are still some outstanding expenses incurred during the season that need to be paid. Also at this time Tricia requested that any unused Umpire Fee money be turned in along with the tracking sheets.

Vice President: Jennifer Short

Two boys teams were recognized for their achievements this past season. HH Grafton Marco's Pizza, coached by Eric Newton, Class HH County Champions and Class EE Grafton General Plug coached by Brian Searle, Class EE Regional Champions. Both teams are also recognized on our website and were in the Rural Urban.

Newspaper Postings: When teams win county, regional, state championships it traditionally has been on each team to reach out to the newspaper. The organization typically does not do this. However, those teams are recognized at the end of the season during a season ending story in the Rural Urban. GHS did request an article to be posted and it was the week of August 4th that it homes.

Uniform Pants were due back. To date we still need Team Reaser, Baron, Newton, Phillips, Lewis, Kardos, Searle, Jill Yates, Miller, Arnoczky, Kevin Yates, Mariner, West, Powell, Milano and Farley. These pants need turned in ASAP, regardless of the condition.

Girl's Personnel Director Report: Tom Tomasheski

Next County Meeting will be Sunday, October 27th at 7 pm in Wellington. Last meeting of the year for the county OGSO.

It was asked which coaches had an interest in returning, with the preface that this does NOT guarantee your position. Midview OGSO is just collecting this information in preparation for the 2014 season. Per the by-laws there are guidelines to follow. Of the coaches present on the girls side, Wes Mariner (who will be moving up to class 'B') is interested in returning. Miki Powell indicated she might come back and would be moving up to class C. It was said by Tom Tomasheski that Tom Farley had indicated he'd like to come back as well remaining in class D. Mike Milano verbally advised Ashley Mease that he is not interested in returning for girls, but would like to entertain moving over to the boys division for next year. Mike Milano was not in attendance to confirm interest. Most of Mike Milano's players would be eligible for D division next year. Only a few would remain in class C.

Boy's Personnel Director Report: Wes Mariner

The Next County Meeting is September 22nd in Spencer at 5 pm.

It was asked which coaches had an interest in returning, with the preface that this does NOT guarantee your position. Grafton Hot stove is just collecting this information in preparation for the 2014 season. Per the by-laws there are guidelines to follow. Of the coaches present on the boys side Chad Armbrurger, Chris Miscuda, Ron Baron, Ron Phillips, Al Lewis, Scott Kardos & Brian Searle are interested returning.

Head Umpire Report: (Given by Tricia McCarrick)

The total payout (including the Boys & Girls Umpire coordinators) for the 2013 Season was \$8,800. There were some teams that have left over cash from the season. That needs to be accounted for after the meeting it was asked that each coach turn in their signature sheet and any excess cash.

Ashley Mease presented spreadsheet that has surrounding community umpire payouts and advised an average was done with those communities that mirror GHS' concept of paying both the plate and base umpire the same. It has been recommended by Ashley Mease, that GHS/Midview OGSO considers doing away with the coordinating umpires on each the boys & girls side (a savings of \$800) and instead use that money to increase the umpire pay outs per game for GHS/Midview OGSO was the lowest or tied for the lowest payout amongst Lorain County. The average payout communicated with in the surrounding communities Farm Minor \$23 each, Farm Major \$25 each; HH/H \$35, GG/G \$37, FF/F \$41, E/EE \$50 (State Mandated), Girls Farm \$25 each, A \$35, B \$37, C&D \$41. Recommend for 2014; \$25 Farm, \$35 = HH/H/GG/G/A/B, \$40 = FF/F/C/D and state mandate \$50 EE/E. Ashley Mease reiterated this is for the 2014 Executive Board to decide and implement. This information was a follow to a request made earlier in the season by Al Lewis as to what the other communities were paying.

Equipment Manager Report: (Bob Miscuda)

It is requested that all equipment be turned in by October 1st. These are the teams that have not turned in their equipment: Reaser, Newton, Phillips, Lewis, Shevel, Searle, J. Yates, Arnoczky, Miller, Mariner, K Yates, West, Powell, Milano, Farley.

Director of Field Operations: (Jim Clark)

The Porta Pots have been removed from Belden Fields Grafton Township pays for this service. Since the season is over it was felt they are no longer needed, in an efforts to save money they have been removed and will be brought back at the beginning of the next season.

Mr. Clark is looking for volunteers to get the fields in shape. More details to follow.

Indoor Practice during the off season. No coach or parent volunteer is to use GHS or Midview OGSO as the organization. The individual putting in the request for use of the indoor facility will be held 100% liable if practicing during the off season (August – March). Our organization is not to be held liable. GHS will notify Midview School District with this expectation for the 2014 season and going forward.

Concession Stand: (Rhonda Mueller, Tim/Debbie Shevel)

Concession stand sales were just shy of \$19,000. Pop Machine Sales were just over \$400. Expenses were just under \$9000. During the post season GHS hosted Hotstove Districts and Regionals. GHS gave away to Tournament Workers (Volunteers), Umpires along with County & State Board Members, roughly 40 hamburgers, 14 Italian Sausage, 33 Hot Dogs, 5 Candy items, 81 PowerAde's, 4 French Fries, 15 bags of chips, 2 bags of popcorn and 3 Soft Pretzels (this is just what we were able to track) along with many cases of water.

With the excess inventory we sent the following items with Brian Searle's team when they went to the state tournaments: 27 packs of Sun Flower Seeds, 20 Jack Links Beef Jerky, @ 100 pcs of Double Bubble, 18 bags of Pretzels, 7 bags of Cheetos, 12 bags of Chips, 37 bottles of Powerade and 24 bottles of water.

We are also working on a return to Sysco of unused product, along with a large sale (at our cost) to Midview Youth Football. Ashley Mease purchased 1 case of diet coke & Jim Clark purchased 4 cases of Powerade and one case of water.

A request was made by the floor to have a summary of concession sales from post season. Rhonda Mueller stated she would try to have this ready for next meeting. If not done, GHS Treasurer will pull deposits and expenses from concessions account around July 1 – July 20th to capture a rough idea. However, all receipts will be loaded into Quickbooks by end of season for tracking purposes.

New Business

GHS received Anti-Bullying Contract from the desk of former MLSD Superintendent, John Kuhn. One of our girls' teams requested his contract and has chosen to adopt this contract within their team during this past season. This team is requesting our league to review and immediately implement the same into the Grafton Hot Stove Coaches Code of Conduct and overall organizational program. GHS acknowledges we have received this documentation. Due to pure timing of receiving this request (received after 6/13/13 which was after our June monthly meeting), it will be up to the 2014 Trustees and Officers to review, asses and consider for the upcoming season. This is to be tabled until new officers are appointed.

Coaches Reimbursements for 2014: This is not in our by-laws. Recommend seeking reimbursement approval from trustees once new officers decide if this is something the organization should do and how many should be reimbursed. GHS has to follow by-laws and if reimbursements are not noted then trustees need to help executive board determine if this should continue and if so what is a fair assessment and resolution. The new

officers will communicate this at November or January meeting. It is recommended that if we cover \$6.00 for the girls' side every year, then should consider covering \$12.00 for the boys' side. Keeping both sides at budget. GHS Savings \$9.50 per coach. At this time the majorities of organizations throughout Lorain County do not reimburse; however, if fundraising continues for GHS this is something GHS could help offset for coaching staff. This should not be guaranteed for next season without the trustees' involvement because this type of reimbursement is not in the by-laws.

Ashley Mease is going to request that the merger of Midview North and Grafton be postponed for another year as each organization is going through leadership changes. She has already advised county Presidents of her departure. She has spoke to President of Lorain County Hot Stove, Ken Carpenter, about postponing the merger.

The organization is to hold nominations during September meeting and per the bylaws the six current/active Trustees (Dave DiVencenzo, Jim Clark, Chad Armburger, Chris Miscuda, Randy Moore, Mike Ives) are to vote for the 2014 Trustee and Officer Positions. The remaining three trustee positions are up for elections and will be voted in by the 2013 Officers, Trustees and Managers at the October meeting. The current board members were asked if they'd be returning. Tricia McCarrick, Tom Tomasheski both said they would be returning. Wes Mariner and Scott Kardo's both said they'd return in a co-coordinator role. Ashley Mease will notify active trustees after meeting of the nominations and elections.

As for the Trustee positions. There are three (3) positions available and it is a three year term (November 1, 2013 – October 31, 2016). These volunteers will replace Tim Miller, Aaron Reichard and Mike Jeffreys. Mike Jeffreys is not interested in returning due to a current position he holds at Lorain County Hot Stove. Mr. Jeffreys will help out whenever GHS needs help, but doesn't want there to be a conflict of interest. The following nominations occurred:

President: Brian Searle was nominated by Wes Mariner

Vice President: Jim Clark was nominated by Brian Searle

Secretary: There was no interest in this position. Nominations were made but those members were not interested. This position remained OPEN.

Trustees: Al Lewis was nominated by Wes Mariner; Jen Short nominated by Ashley Mease; Tim Shevel nominated by Wes Mariner.

Debbie Frabotta was nominated for **Concessions**, but since that is a committee position and voted on differently it has been tabled until committee nominations take place after officers are elected.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Wes Mariner and seconded by Jen Short.

Next Meeting will be Sunday October 13 at 5:00 PM at Grafton VFW.