

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Oakwood Clubhouse Library
Wednesday, January 10, 2024, 3:00 p.m.

Directors participating were Messrs Warwick, Wolfe, Whitney, McCoy, Neumann, and Mrs. Hilby

Absent: Mr. Rodgers

Members attending: Dennis Kennedy, Dennis LePore, Gary Hillabolt

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Warwick at 3:00 p.m.

The minutes of the December Board meeting were previously sent out to all Directors. Mr. Whitney motioned to approve the December minutes. Mr. Neumann seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe presented the treasurer's report. He noted that revenues are nearly \$900 to the good after the first three months of the fiscal year. Both banner revenues and men's dues have exceeded the budget. He also explained that most of the expense variances were timing issues. We have not yet been billed for liability insurance and softballs for the ladies' team will be charged in January instead of December. The bottom line is \$1200 to the good, but half of that is due to the timing issues. Mr. Whitney motioned to approve the report. Seconded by Mr. McCoy. Motion carried.

Mr. LePore updated the Board regarding the status of the Winter Sessions. Everything is going well. He stated that we have five new subs in the Sun division and additional players will be coming back from injury soon, making a positive outlook for the upcoming spring Sessions.

Mrs. Hilby provided an update on registration. There are currently 98 full members registered and 13 recreational members for the men. The women are in various stages of registering but it will probably end up being 13 members. Registration should be wrapped up by Monday. Mrs. Hilby will get an updated list from Jeff Vance, Director of Fitness, for a final check of who has paid their HOA fees and cross check that with our membership. Nonresidents who have not previously registered have a two-step process which is complicating things. They must first go over and sign up for an ID number and then return to make their payment. There continues to be confusion when the women go to pay their prorated amount. Hopefully that has been resolved and can also be completed by Monday.

Now that the Medicare enrollment deadline has passed, an email went out to the membership explaining the Element3 Health program in hopes that we can expand the

participation. A representative would like to set up a Zoom call with Mrs. Hilby to explain a couple of big updates including a change in the name.

The Sluggers began their season on January 3 and will continue play on Mondays and Wednesdays through early March. Mrs. Hilby shared that the ladies are 3-3. There is a lot of talent on the team, and it is a great group of women representing Sun Lakes in the East Valley League. The women appreciate all the support SLSSA gives them including field prep, batting practice, umpiring and the cheering crowds.

Mr. Neumann gave an overview of points of emphasis for umpires and managers. He has been sending out periodic email covering a wide range of topics for umpires and managers. Mr. Hillabolt noted that new managers need to be aware of the substitution rules. It was recommended by Mr. Whitney that both managers consult with the scorer in the booth prior to inserting substitutes in the line-up to ensure compliance with the rules. Mr. Hillabolt additionally noted that some pinch runners were not reporting to the umpires before entering as a pinch runner. Managers need to be reminded of this requirement.

Mr. McCoy ordered three dozen 11-inch balls for the women and three dozen 12-inch balls for the men which will ensure we have enough to get us through the Spring Session. He continues to refill the soda and bottled water, the cost of which has been covered by the kitty. He is still waiting for an invoice for the purchase of softballs.

CPR training is scheduled for Wednesday, February 7, at 9:00 a.m. in the education center at Cottonwood. Thus far seven people have signed up. [Following the meeting, this updated information was provided by Mr. Warwick: Yesterday I was informed by Arizona Fire and Medical, with whom I was working on the CPR class, that their CPR instructors are scheduling classes every Thursday at 10 a.m. at the address below. They are asking our group to attend on Thursday, February 8th, at 10:00 a.m., or any other Thursday that is convenient for them individually. Therefore, the February 7 class is canceled.]

Board Election will be held in March. Board positions expiring are Mr. McCoy, Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Whitney who was appointed to replace John Whitman. Voting will be the week of March 11. Mr. Warwick has appointed a nominating committee of Dennis Kennedy, Tom Erpelding and Ron Carmichael. They will canvas the membership to see who is interested in running. The Bylaw amendment proposal has been posted for three weeks. The voting will take place February 5-9. Mr. Warwick will communicate with Mrs. Hilby when that email is ready to be sent to the membership.

With the establishment of an Alumni Association, Mr. Wolfe suggested a Board liaison be appointed. The liaison would help plan functions to engage the Alumni Association members. Currently they are invited to the cookouts and spring social function, but there isn't anything specific for the fall. Suggestions included an Old Timers game with alumni and an ice cream social on opening day. March 25 is the spring social event. The cookout is scheduled for April 4.

Mr. Warwick set the next meeting for February 14 at 3:00.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Cyndy Hilby
SLSSA Board Secretary

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Oakwood Clubhouse Library
Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 3:00 p.m.

Directors participating were Messrs Warwick, Wolfe, Neumann, McCoy, and Mrs. Hilby

Absent: Messrs Rodgers and Whitney

Members attending: Dennis Kennedy, Gary Alexander, Mike Gloyd

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Warwick at 3:00 p.m.

The minutes of the January Board meeting were previously sent out to all Directors. Mr. McCoy motioned to approve the January minutes. Mr. Wolfe seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe presented the treasurer's report. Banners are \$880 to the good. Men's dues are quite a bit more than budgeted. Little League is \$500 below budget, but it's just a timing issue. Banners are over budget due to the fact that we sold more banners. Billboards were less than budgeted but also a timing issue. On the expense side, we are still waiting for the invoice for the liability insurance. Bases were \$239 over budget because we didn't anticipate needing to replace the first base combo. Softballs are under budget, but that expense was just paid a couple days ago. Nearly all items that are under and over are timing issues. Overall, we are \$1,100 to the good on a year-to-date basis. Mrs. Hilby motioned to approve the report. Seconded by Mr. McCoy. Motion carried.

Mrs. Hilby provided an update on registration. There are currently 109 full members registered and 5 recreational members for the men. This change in numbers reflects some recreational members upgrading to a league membership. The women have 14 players on the roster. The Alumni Association is now up to 30 members. Mrs. Hilby continues to follow up on players who have not paid the HOA. There are three league players who have not paid their HOA fees in spite of being reminded.

Dennis LePore gave a report on the winter session. The number of games played is not even between the teams because of the rainouts, but we did the best we could with the time we had for makeups. The Sun Division is locked in for seeding for the tournament. But 3 and 4 in the Lakes Division is yet to be determined. Because the number of total games is not equal, percentage of wins will determine seeding. Mr. Rodgers is responsible for doing the seeding for the league tournament. Mr. Neumann will help if needed.

The cookout will be held on Thursday, February 22. Mr. Rodgers will talk to Ron Carmichael about the food and finding people to run the grills. We'll need people to help

set up the tables and chairs as well as volunteers to serve or monitor the food. Dave Martin has generously offered to supply the buns.

Dennis LePore reported on the status of the draft for the spring session for Mr. Rodgers who was unable to attend the meeting. We're at 44 in the Lakes Division, including a few that are unsure medically. The Sun Division is currently at 41 including one player with a medical issue. Six players will be on the sub list. If necessary, we can proceed with the draft one player short with a manager drafting an open spot and willing to get a sub every week. All managers are returning except Brian Brockman. Ron Carmichael will be taking his place. The draft is Tuesday, February 20, at 3:00 for the Sun Division and 4:30 for the Lakes Division. Mrs. Hilby will host the draft at her home.

The Sluggers are more than half way through their season. There have been two rainouts. The current record is 8-10 with 5 double headers remaining. The last game of the season is a home game on March 4.

Mr. Neumann discussed rules in question. The first is the topic of when a runner can leave the base. The rule book says "when the ball reaches the plate." Mr. Neumann reached out to SSUSA for clarification, and the answer is the runner may leave the base when the ball breaks the vertical plane at the front of the plate. Currently there is a rule in both divisions that if a player walks with no strikes thrown, he can stay at the plate. The rule states that the count stays the same, but this needs to be clarified. Mr. Neumann recommends we have a boundary on how many pitches can be thrown. If wind is a factor, the "wind rule" is in effect. The wind rule was then discussed including no walks but going to the plate with two strikes. It was ultimately decided the wind rule would have the batter starting with a 1 and 1 count and there will be no walks. No decision was made on the walk rule in ordinary circumstances. Currently the batter stays in the box until the third strike or he puts the ball in play. The count does not start over.

Dennis Kennedy gave a thorough explanation of his research regarding the science of excessive speed. If the pitcher is starting on the rubber and the ball goes above the height of the screen, it cannot be excessive speed. If the pitcher starts behind the rubber, then it is possible to have excessive speed even if it goes above the height of the screen and is the discretion of the umpire to call excessive speed. If the ball goes over the screen in the Lakes Division, it is not excessive speed.

There is a need for defining batting practice protocol to speed things up and ensure that everyone has an opportunity to hit. There are issues with people who arrive late and jump in line while others have been there waiting for a turn. We also have some people who take a lot of swings while many others are waiting. The recommendation is 15 swings for each of 2 trips to the plate. After two turns, the batter is expected to go out to collect balls and dry them off as needed. After everyone has had their opportunity, a batter may have another turn at the end if there are pitchers willing to continue pitching. The rotation of pitchers was also discussed. It was suggested that pitchers rotate out after 4 batters, which would be 8 sets of 15 swings. Mr. Warwick stated the number of pitches should be monitored by the pitchers. Mr. Neumann will prepare a document that will be shared with

the membership and ultimately posted at the field by the dugout and on the patio. Managers are reminded they should be the last ones to leave the dugout after games, making sure the bat warmers are returned to the dugout.

Mr. McCoy noted the HOA provided us with a new flag. They also repaired the post on the gate on the right field line. They have not done anything on the left field fence yet. We should have enough softballs to get us through April league play and the tournament. Gary Hillabolt has been setting aside used balls for the summer league. Rather than order more balls now, Mr. McCoy will evaluate in April if we need more. He's ordered two plaques for Mike Sellers and Dave McCormick who passed away. Marty's Trophies is interested in quoting on caps in the fall. We're in good shape for soda and water which Mr. McCoy continues to buy when it's on sale. People are doing a good job of paying as we're right about break even. There are still about a dozen hats remaining for the new players.

The vote on the proposed change to the Bylaws was held last week via email. Thirty-two members voted in favor of the change. One member was opposed.

A nominating committee report was provided by Dennis Kennedy. Ron Carmichael is going to be poling the Sun Division for people interested in running for positions. Dennis Kennedy is talking to each member of the Lakes Division. When the slate of candidates is determined, Mrs. Hilby will prepare the ballots and other materials needed. Voting will take place the week of March 11.

Mr. Wolfe reports that we've been building up a sizable balance in our savings account to be able to afford big ticket items. He'd like to take the majority of the funds and put them in a 6-to-9-month CD to earn interest. With the Board's approval he will explore options.

The annual social event will be Monday, March 25, at Palo Verde. The deposit has been paid, and Pat Wolfe has met with the banquet manager. Prices and selection should be similar to last year. Pat will be at the field the week of voting to sell tickets.

Dennis LePore asked if it's okay not to keep the stats for the league tournament as he could use a break for a week. The tournament statistics traditionally are not counted in the regular stats. The Board agrees that it's not necessary. Mrs. Hilby will get the tournament scoresheets to Mr. Wolfe for the article he prepares for the Splash.

Mr. Warwick set the next meeting for March 13 at 3:00.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Cyndy Hilby
SLSSA Board Secretary

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Oakwood Clubhouse Library
Wednesday, March 13, 2024, 3:00 p.m.

Directors participating were Messrs Warwick, Wolfe, Neumann, Rodgers, Whitney and Mrs. Hilby

Absent: Mr. McCoy

Members attending: Gary Hillbolt, Dennis Kennedy

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Warwick at 2:58 p.m.

The minutes of the February Board meeting were previously sent out to all Directors. Mr. Whitney motioned to approve the February minutes. Mr. Neumann seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe presented the treasurer's report. There were not many variances to talk about. Banner revenue is \$1,000 to the good primarily because we have a couple of new advertisers. Men's dues were also higher than budgeted. Field rental by Dirt Dogs and HOA maintenance are just timing issues. On the cost of sales, the billboards are quite a bit under, but we will be buying more boards for the banners. Operating expenses are close to what is budgeted. Softballs are \$600 to the good. Net net is \$110 less than budgeted. Mrs. Hilby motioned to approve the report. Seconded by Mr. Whitney. Motion carried. Mr. Wolfe has been exploring investment options per the discussion in the February Board meeting. After comparing many options, he recommended Desert Financial which is close by and has a money market fund that pays more than our current savings account. The current CD rates are right at 5% which would generate over \$1,000 a year in income. Mr. Whitney made a motion to move our financial accounts from Chase Bank to Desert Financial Credit Union. Mr. Rodgers seconded. Motion carried.

Mrs. Hilby provided an update on registration. There are 105 full members. Two new players in the league have not yet paid their fees. There are 10 recreational members. Several players are in various stages of completing paperwork and paying the relative fees. Dennis LePore will follow up with the players.

Mr. Rodgers reported that the spring session is going pretty smoothly. We've had one rainout and have lost two players to injury for the entire session. One player has been replaced. Mr. Neumann asked if the rosters could include ratings as that would make it easier for fill-in managers to find subs. Mrs. Hilby will distribute those with the fall session documents.

The Sluggers concluded their season with a record of 12-16. The women would like to thank the association for their support, especially Gary Hillabolt for his flexibility in preparing the field, Tom Erpelding for umpiring, Lynn Tanner for scorekeeping and Randy Newmann for attending many of our games and filling in on the scoreboard.

Mr. Neumann shared that the new batting practice process is working well. Many of the players are not taking the maximum number of swings or hitting a second set. He has written up the batting practice guidelines, and they'll be sent out to the membership. In the February Board meeting, there was a lengthy discussion regarding the walk rule. Mr. Neumann made the following proposal. If a batter who has walked previously in the game with no strikes being thrown to the batter and that batter chooses not to accept another walk: If the pitcher throws three called balls to the batter, a courtesy runner shall be placed on first base and any runners on base that are forced to advance a base will do so. The batter will remain batting with a new count. The courtesy runner will be the last player who was put out and this will not count as an official courtesy runner for that inning.

Doug Friesen says he hasn't been getting any of the updates on the addendums to our rules. Mrs. Hilby will work with others about updating the rules addendums to be kept in the booth and posted on the website. There was a discussion regarding safety concerns when pitchers move out from behind the screen after pitching. If a pitcher is going to move out from behind the screen after delivering the pitch, he is required to wear shin guards and a face mask. The umpire should warn the pitcher, and if he continues to do it, he will be removed as a pitcher.

Bill Jacobson would like a cart that can be hooked up to the tractor and used to haul dirt to the infield. Gary Hillabolt said he and Bill have noticed the field is getting really hard and wonders if we should put some more Turface down. The edge on the infield needs to be cut down again with a sod cutter.

The Board election is underway. Mr. Warwick asked Dennis Kennedy to have his committee tally the votes at the end of the day Friday and report the results to him.

Pat Wolfe is selling tickets to the social event. Forty tickets were sold the first day. We normally have attendance of about 120. Mr. Wolfe needs names of the award winners by Tuesday, March 19, so he can get the certificates prepared. Mr. Warwick will contact the managers to solicit input for rookie of the year, most improved player, and sports person of the year. Mrs. Hilby will get the women's information to Mr. Wolfe.

The request by an IronOaks resident to allow his Montana little league to use the field was discussed. When Mr. Wolfe spoke to the resident, he was agreeable to working around the Dirt Dog schedule for March 20. Mr. Warwick asked Mr. Wolfe to tell them they can practice before the Dirt Dogs on that day which would allow the Dirt Dogs to prepare the field for league games on Thursday.

Mr. Whitney had an inquiry through the website from the Rotary Club of Sun Lakes and Neighbors Who Care about having an Oktoberfest event at our facility. They are planning to have food and beer. They don't think they'll need a stage although they might find a polka band. Mr. Whitney explained about overseeding and proposed they plan it for the first weekend in November. They will have to get permission from the HOA. Mr. Warwick asked Mr. Whitney to communicate that they should first get approval from Park McDonald and Chris Hall.

Mr. Warwick set the next meeting for April 10 at 3:00.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m. so the Board could go into Executive Session to discuss the Steve Hilby Spirit of Sun Lakes Softball award.

Respectfully submitted

Cyndy Hilby
SLSSA Board Secretary

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Oakwood Clubhouse Library
Wednesday, September 18, 2024, 3:00 p.m.

Directors participating were Messrs, Warwick, Wolfe, Rodgers, Kratz, Molter, and Mrs. Hilby

Attending by phone was Mr. Neumann

Guests attending were Jon Hendrikse, Dennis LePore, Gary Alexander, Dennis Kennedy, Bill McCoy, Gary Hillabolt

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Warwick at 2:58 p.m.

The minutes of the April Board meeting were previously sent out to all Directors. Mr. Wolfe motioned to approve the April minutes. Mr. Rodgers seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe presented the April through October financials. There were two or three variances compared to budget on the Income statement that caused the bottom line to be \$2,110 to the good. Banner revenue was \$2,100 to the good and dividends from the money market fund and CD that we didn't budget were almost \$700 to the good. The social event revenue was down because we had fewer attendees, but that meant the costs were down so we were \$84 to the good. All expenses were within a couple hundred dollars. Softballs were significantly under but we recently purchased softballs for the year. Net income compared to budget is nearly \$5,000 to the good. This was one of the best years we've had in a long time. Including checking, money market, savings, and CD, we have around \$50,000. Mrs. Hilby motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Mr. Molter seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe went on to discuss the budget for the upcoming year, highlighting two particular items. First, banner revenue will be budgeted lower for the upcoming year because we did so well this year. Next year will be down as there are only five banners up for renewal. Including those who pay yearly rather than all up front, only ten will generate revenue next year. It's just a timing issue. Second, included in this budget is a reduction in proposed men's and ladies' fees. The fees will be \$10 for rec play, \$15 for league play, and \$10 for the ladies. These reductions are made possible because John Robinson generously donated the cost of the hats, and only one set of jerseys needed to be purchased. Mr. Rodgers motioned to accept the 2024-2025 budget; Mr. Kratz seconded. Motion carried.

Mrs. Hilby provided an update on registration. We finished the 2023-2024 year with 109 full members and 12 recreational members. That is two more than last year and eight

more than 2021-2022. Including 14 women, that brings us to a total of 135 paid memberships.

Mr. Warwick read a letter submitted by Ron Carmichael thanking all the people who volunteered to make the summer season successful. That letter follows the minutes.

As a follow up to the April meeting, Mr. Neumann revisited the walk rule. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided the managers will get together and agree on a walk rule for the upcoming season. Mr. Kratz will head that committee. Gary Hillabolt asked for clarification on whether a foul tip that is caught by the catcher has to be over the batter's head. SSUSA has changed the rule a couple of times which has caused confusion. Mr. Neumann will research and report back. Another carryover topic from last spring is whether the flip flop rule should be lowered from ten to eight runs. Mrs. Hilby will get scoresheets from the spring session from Dennis LePore and gather data on the frequency of eight and nine run leads going into the open inning. It was confirmed that the veering off rule will be reviewed with each team prior to the start of the first games of the season. Mr. Neumann will arrange a short umpire training meeting near the start of the season. Dennis LePore will send Mr. Neumann a list of the umpires and their arrival dates, and Mr. Neumann will decide the best time to schedule the training.

Mr. Rodgers gave an update on numbers for the fall session. Although it is hard to pin down because people are gone, it looks as though there will be a total of 88 players for the fall session. The current plan is to have 42 Sun players and 46 Lakes players. Dennis LePore asked for clarification on what constitutes a player's seniority. Summer is considered recreational play. To have seniority in the league, a player must be drafted into the league (fall, winter, spring). New players from summer rec play are not considered to be returning to the league.

Mr. Molter shared an example of the new caps. Thank you to John Robinson for donating the money for the hats. The jerseys for our new sponsor, First Response Roofing, have arrived. First Response Roofing is owned by Bob Zeidler's wife. She also purchased two billboards. Mr. Molter ordered enough balls for the entire year. Mr. Rodgers shared that the lawn roller has been purchased, coming in under budget at \$258. It's already in use, and Bill Jacobson is finding it very effective in reducing the lip on the infield. Mr. Molter has reserved Snedigar from October 1 to October 24 from 8 a.m.-10 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Overseeing field maintenance, Mr. Kratz has been working on communication with Blue Star. He has developed a relationship with the gentleman who does the work at the field and has been able to get sprinkler heads repaired within a day, as well as receiving information about the overseeding schedule. The overseeding will begin September 23, and the field will reopen October 27 with the Music in the Park event. The new roller will help with the problems we experience after Music in the Park. There was a rattlesnake down at the field this summer. The next day the entire field was scanned to make sure it was safe to play. There has not been another sighting. Mr. Kratz has learned there is no fence replacement in the current IronOaks budget this year because they had to replace a

water heater. Next week Mr. Kratz will reach out to Chris Hall to pursue the replacement of the three fence poles that are rotting out. Last year the HOA replaced a pole and a gate, so hopefully they'll be willing to work on the poles that are in most need of being replaced.

Regarding awareness, Mr. Neumann has registered for a table at the IronOaks activities fair. Gary Alexander will check to see if we can still register for a similar event at Cottonwood on October 5. The brochures are in the kitchen.

Our current \$30,000 certificate of deposit expires October 1. It has a 5% rate, but that could change. Mr. Wolfe recommends rolling it over. The Board agrees.

Mrs. Hilby shared that there are members who would like to try to find ways to build more camaraderie amongst all members of the association. Ideas include an ice cream social on opening day, recognizing birthdays on a monthly basis through emails and cookies at the field, sunset tailgate parties, adding a cookout at a Sluggers game, an alumni event (possibly an Over the Line game), and a goofy Olympics competition. Most of these events won't cost anything. Mr. Wolfe has added a modest amount into the upcoming budget to support a few of these activities.

Dennis LePore asked for clarification of the policy for guests and new players who come down to the field. All nonmembers are required to sign a waiver before participating in activities on the field. Guests who are underage must have a responsible adult sign for them. The policy is that a visitor can have three visits before having to pay. Although Dennis LePore, Gary Hillabolt and others are often there to assist with this, we are relying on members to follow the policy regarding number of visits and that their guests sign the waivers which are kept in the scorer's booth and kitchen.

Reyes Gonzales is interested in providing personal instruction at the Field of Dreams. Because this is a business venture and the field belongs to the HOA, the Board refers these requests to the HOA.

Mr. Molter expressed his appreciation to former Board member, Bill McCoy, for putting together purchasing information.

Gary Hillabolt reported that the tractor will be picked up on Monday, September 30, for the annual service. Gary will haul all equipment to Snedigar.

Mr. Warwick set the next meeting for October 9 at 3:00. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Cyndy Hilby
SLSSA Board Secretary

From: All Summer League Players September 15th, 2024
Dear SLSSA Board of Directors and Officers,

On behalf of all the Summer League players I would like to thank all involved in the operation of the SLSSA Summer program. There are a number of members that have contributed their time and efforts but none more than Gary Hillabolt and Dennis Lepore. Both were instrumental in organizing the league from start to finish, rosters, managers, schedules, umpires, field prep, subs, rules, and addressing any issues from excessive temperatures to player temperament.

Then how about the field conditions? Thanks to Gary and Bill Jacobson our field was always lined and ready to go. While many of us were enjoying a cold drink after our games, Gary and Bill were dragging the field or working on repairing anything that required attention. After games were not the only time they were working on improving our field. There were a number of off days that I've driven by only to see Bill out in the heat edging the foul lines, warning track, and fence lines or Gary working in the garage. Thanks also to Dave Martin who on many occasions arrived early to help prep the field and address any areas requiring attention.

Although Gary and Dennis arranged subs, the teams still needed someone to manage and submit lineups. Thanks (again Gary), Larry Maggard, Kim Whitney, Joe Commisto, and Dave Kratz. You all made a conscientious effort to be fair and competitive.

How fortunate are we to have scorers and umpires for the Summer league? May I remind everyone, there is no air conditioning in the booth and the hottest area on the field is behind home plate. Thanks again Cyndy Hilby, Bob Molder, Larry Maggard, Dennis Kennedy, Craig Pochardt, Kim Whitney, Joe Commisto, Joe Byrne, Denny Davidson, Jim Entwistle, and Gary and Dennis again.

As a player, the Summer League provides us an opportunity to continue to stay active while playing a game we all love. Just as importantly it allows everyone camaraderie and stewardship resulting in growing friendships. As we move into the Fall session let's extend these new friendships into support of all players in both leagues.

On behalf of the 31 different Sun Lakes players that participated on Friday's team we'd like to thank the league for all their support. The team was assembled to play every other Friday against Robson and derived as a way to level the playing field against Robson. I am so very proud to report that every last SL player that took the field proudly represented SLSSA, the games were competitive, the sportsmanship was outstanding and we finished 15-3-2.

Play Ball!

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Oakwood Clubhouse Library
Wednesday, October 10, 2024, 3:00 p.m.

Directors participating were Messrs Warwick, Wolfe, Rodgers, Neumann, Kratz, and Mrs. Hilby

Absent: Mr. Molter

Guests attending were Larry Maggard, Gary Alexander, Dennis Kennedy, Bill McCoy, Doug Friesen, and Gary Hillabolt

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Warwick at 2:56 p.m.

The minutes of the September Board meeting were previously sent out to all Directors. Mr. Wolfe motioned to approve the September minutes. Mr. Kratz seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe presented the September financials. This is the end of the fiscal year. Banner revenues continue to be over budget at \$2,100 to the good. We also had \$800 in dividend income that wasn't budgeted and the issue with the social event previously discussed. Net total expenses were \$527 less than budgeted mainly because we didn't buy nearly as many softballs. Net net we were \$4,800 to the good. Mr. Wolfe discussed a separate report comparing this year to last year. Everything was pretty comparable. Banner revenue was down. Total revenues year-to-year were within \$400 of each other. Expenses were \$900 lower this year mainly because we're not spending nearly as much on infield dirt and Turface which was well over \$1,000 last year. No caps were purchased last year but were purchased this year. Uniforms kind of wiped each other out. Overall net income this year was about \$1,500 better than last year. Mr. Wolfe also prepared a Net Contribution Report to show where our money comes from on a net basis. The player dues only account for a little over 21% of the income. The major contributor is banners at 26% of overall revenues. Other contributors include team sponsors revenue which provides 14% of income, maintenance reimbursement from IronOaks (19%), and field rental from Dirt Dogs (14%). If we didn't have outside resources of revenue, dues would need to be approximately \$150 per year. Mrs. Hilby motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Mr. Rodgers seconded. Motion carried.

Mrs. Hilby reported that registration began on October 8. The first day produced 41 full and 3 recreational memberships. Registration will continue through October 24.

Mr. Neumann confirmed that he will be the field inspector in case of rain. He'll check the field early and communicate with Mrs. Hilby who will send an email if field conditions

cause a delay or cancellation. The walk rule was discussed. Mr. Neumann made the following motion: If a batter has walked previously without a strike being thrown to him, at his subsequent remaining bats he would need to have two strikes thrown to him to not be walked. The motion failed with a one to five vote.

Mrs. Hilby was asked to collect data regarding the number of times a flip flop would have occurred if the rule was 8 runs instead of 10. After reviewing the third session scoresheets, a difference in the score of 8 or 9 runs after the 6th inning only happened twice. The data doesn't support changing the rule.

Mr. Rodgers gave an update on numbers for the fall session. We're tracking well at this point after one day of signups. There is already a waiting list for the Lakes Division. The Sun Division should come in right around the 40 number. Mr. Rodgers doesn't anticipate any problems.

Mr. Molter sent a purchasing report in his absence. Caps are ready for delivery. Regarding the question of durability of the patches, he shared that the vendor confirmed they are permanently fused and should not be affected by the heat. Mr. Wolfe reported that all the team sponsors are paid but one, and that should be taken care of this week.

Mr. Kratz related that overseeding happened a few weeks ago. The grass is turning green. There is the typical dark brown spot in left field, but there were two workers there reseeding that area today. Music in the Park is the 27th which is a Sunday. Mr. Kratz called the person in charge for information on the timing of everything. Her first quote for the removal of the stage and equipment was mid-morning on Monday. After Mr. Kratz explained our batting practice timeline, she arranged to have the crew arrive at 7:00 which then shouldn't interfere with batting practice. Right field will be bumpy because of the heavy carts and equipment brought on the field for the event. With the use of the recently purchased roller, we should have the field in better condition this year. Mr. Neumann explained that last year they had agreed to put boards under the wheels of those carts. Mr. Kratz will check on that. Following up on the HOA declining to replace the fence, Mr. Kratz was able to talk to Lynelle Glysson, Executive Director of Community Services, about our safety concerns. She assured him that it would be addressed before our season started.

In charge of the awareness effort, Mr. Neumann shared he will be manning a table at the IronOaks activities fair on October 26 from 9:00 to noon in the ballroom at Oakwood. Ron Carmichael will get the brochures to him. Gary Alexander reported that we didn't get a table this year at the Cottonwood/Palo Verde event because it was too late to sign up, but we're on the list for next year. He shared that Larry Wolfe wrote an article about the upcoming season which Gary Alexander has arranged to have in their newsletter.

A friend of Rick Oien's is interested in volunteering to umpire league games. It was suggested she might come to Snedigar and umpire a few games for an introduction to our league as Joe Byrne did. There will be umpire training at the Field of Dreams on Monday, November 4, after batting practice. Mr. Neumann confirmed the rule that a foul

tip must go over the batter's head to be an out. He also shared a rule change about the safety bag. In a close play, the runner can be partially on the white bag, but the fielder cannot be on any part of the orange bag. Once the base has been earned, either bag can be used by the fielder and the runner.

Bill McCoy got an email from the national group that they're closing out the Trump balls. Although we ordered enough balls for all three sessions, Mr. Wolfe stated more were ordered to take advantage of the discounted price.

Gary Hillbolt asked to review the issue of seniority for players who come in during the summer league. The priority order is IronOaks, then Sun Lakes, then non- residents. When a player starts playing league play, the date is noted and carried forward in all future rosters. Seniority is determined by that date for returning players. At the last meeting, the Board agreed that playing in the summer league doesn't count as playing in the league because summer league players are considered recreational players and pay the recreational fee rather than the league fee. Gary shared that we had four or five guys who played all summer but we're not giving them any credit for playing all summer. He would like a system to give that person some type of seniority. Mrs. Hilby made a motion that a player who plays in the summer league establishes seniority for league play. Mr. Wolfe seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Warwick set the next meeting for November 13 at 3:00. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Cyndy Hilby
SLSSA Board Secretary

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Oakwood Clubhouse Library
Wednesday, November 13, 2024, 3:05 p.m.

Directors participating were Messrs. Warwick, Wolfe, Rodgers, Molter, Kratz, and Mrs. Hilby

Absent: Mr. Neumann

Guests attending were Tom Erpelding, Dennis Kennedy, Gary Hillabolt, Dennis LePore

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Warwick at 3:04 p.m.

The minutes of the October Board meeting were previously sent out to all Directors. Mr. Wolfe motioned to approve the October minutes. Mr. Rodgers seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Wolfe presented the October financials. Income statement compared to budget is very close on everything. The bottom line is that we're within \$56 of budget. The only differences were team sponsor fees and banners. The sponsor fees were \$300 to the good and that was a timing issue of when they were paid versus budgeted. Banner revenues were \$250 below budget. One long-time advertiser hasn't renewed yet. Mr. Wolfe has reached out to them but hasn't heard back. Revenues net net were \$135 to the good. Under cost of sales, banners were within \$12 of budget. Billboards were below budget, but Gary Hillabolt will be buying more plywood and paint. Expenses are all pretty close to budget except for tractor maintenance which was budgeted for November rather than October. The tractor maintenance was budgeted at \$400 but came in at \$632. Everything else is very close to budgeted numbers. Mrs. Hilby motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Mr. Molter seconded. Motion carried.

With a majority of registrations received, Mrs. Hilby reported there are 104 full memberships and 5 recreational memberships. There are three people on rosters who have not yet registered, but they are players who arrived in town after registration. Mrs. Hilby will follow up. The HOA amenity fees go on sale this week. Mrs. Hilby will get information from the fitness center and send an email to the membership. All members will need to pay the 2025 amenity fees by January 1.

Mr. Rodgers gave an update on the league. There were enough members to field 40 players in the Lakes Division and 44 players in the Sun Division. There have been issues with the length of the double headers in the Lakes Division, some lasting well over three hours. Apparent causes for that are injuries, inexperienced players, pitchers walking more players, and the courtesy runner process. Umpires and managers have been asked to have a sense of urgency and the situation has improved somewhat. To that end, there will be no infield practice after the first inning, pitchers are limited to three warm-up pitches per inning, two batters should be on deck at any given time, players who are having a courtesy runner should leave the base as soon

as a runner is called for and both should hustle on and off the diamond. Mr. Rodgers will continue to monitor the situation but he feels we're trending in the right direction.

There were no updates on purchasing, however, Gary Hillabolt asked about hats for the umpires and also an alumnus would like to purchase one. It was determined we have enough hats to give to the umpires, but we'll wait to see how the membership increases before allowing purchase by nonmembers.

Mr. Kratz reported the left field fence has been repaired, and a sprinkler head was replaced in center field. In an attempt to coordinate batting practice, Slugger practice, mowing and field prep on Wednesdays, Mr. Kratz met with his contact, Park McDonald, who agreed to change the mowing to 11:30. Today there was some confusion, though, as the mowers arrived at 10:30. Mr. Kratz has also been tasked with kitchen duties which includes the water and soft drinks available for purchase. He has found everyone to be very responsible about contributing, and he's very appreciative of that.

Under new business, the umpire training was held and well attended. Mr. Wolfe shared that it was beneficial.

The HOA Board is monitoring softball field usage and has asked that a report be submitted. As the Board member responsible for field usage, Mr. Kratz will work on the report and submit it to the appropriate person.

On the IronOaks Board Workshop agenda for Tuesday, was a discussion on profit and loss analysis for the softball field. Mr. Warwick called John Reyhons, General Manager of BlueStar, for more information about this. Mr. Reyhons returned his call and said the Board wants a very simple profit and loss on the field and that this is routine and done periodically for all amenities. Mrs. Hilby expressed her concern given the above-mentioned monitoring of our field usage.

Due to an error in scheduling by Palo Verde, the annual social event has been moved to April 1.

Judy Gahide reached out to Mr. Warwick to ask if we would participate in a community fundraiser event on March 29, 2025. Play it Forward started with tennis, then pickleball joined in, and now golf and billiards. Mr. Warwick said we will participate. More information will be forthcoming.

Mr. Warwick set the next meeting for December 11 at 3:00. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Cyndy Hilby
SLSSA Board Secretary