

SUN LAKES SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Oakwood Clubhouse Bradford Room
Wednesday, January 8, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

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

Guests attending were Gary Hillabolt, Bill McCoy, Dan Malachuk, and Rick Berry

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Warwick at 2:59 p.m.

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

Mr. Wolfe presented the December financials. We are pretty much on budget with everything. There were a couple of timing differences including budgeting the women's dues in December but they were received in January. Mr. Wolfe received an advance payment from the Dirt Dogs in late December. The \$2100 payment is for the four plus months they're using the field. It is included as deferred revenue on the balance sheet and will start showing up as revenue in January. Billboards are under budget on field supplies, but Gary Hillabolt will be buying more banner supplies in the future. We haven't purchased the chalk that was budgeted, but the chalk won't be needed until summer. Net net on the revenue side is \$172 to the good and on the expense side is \$532 under which makes us positive approximately \$984 versus budget. Mrs. Hilby moved to accept the budget. Mr. Kratz seconded. Motion carried.

Membership is holding at 104 full and 5 recreational memberships for a total of 109. We have 9 paid members for the women (Mrs. Hilby is a regular member of the association). There are a few men and women who have just joined us, and we'll get them squared away next week. Mr. Molter is monitoring the HOA memberships. Mrs. Hilby will notify managers to follow up. Mr. Molter continues to work with the Fitness Center to get an accurate list, and he will follow up as needed.

Mr. Rodgers shared that the winter session opened yesterday. A couple of different situations came up prior to the winter session draft. Because we were short players for the Sun Division fall draft, part time players were drafted to fill the spots. This made it difficult for the managers to find subs. To fill the positions with full time players, new players were allowed to come in to the league for the winter session. In an unusual situation, the Lakes Division was short players. In this turn of events, four players on the list for the Sun Division draft would not get drafted and would go to the Lakes draft. Three of the players agreed to go into the Lakes draft, with one person not being able to be contacted. The undrafted player is the only fully available sub. If he doesn't get picked up, a provision will be put in place to assure he'll play.

A sportsmanship issue in the Lakes Division was discussed. Mr. Warwick asked the managers to address it with the players who are involved. The Board does not tolerate poor sportsmanship. The situation will be watched carefully.

Mrs. Hilby gave an update on the Sluggers. The ladies had their first game on Monday, losing two games to the ViewPoint Gems. Their pitcher is having foot surgery next week, and they are struggling to fill that role. There are a couple of part-time players who may be able to help out, but they are not available to be regular players. There were some positives including a two-run homer and a bases loaded triple. They look forward to improving as they settle into the season.

The women are excited to be able to have a cookout at one of their games. It is scheduled for February 17. Of course, the membership is invited as well as the women's opponents and their fans. Mr. Neumann will make sure the propane tanks are full. Gary Hillabolt will give Mrs. Hilby a list of supplies needed. Volunteers will be needed for grilling and serving. Dan Malachuk shared that a woman named Barbara Ann who lives in Oakwood has reached out to someone about playing but has not received a response. We will try to find out who she is.

Mr. Neumann shared updated rules information. Recently SSUSA approved a rule change banning bat warmers. Icing, cooling or heating of any equipment is considered altered equipment. We will continue to allow bat warmers at our field. Mr. Neumann also clarified that a ball trapped is not a legal catch. This includes trapping the ball against the ground, base or the fielder's chest. Additionally, he warned that if a runner is using the fielder to stop his momentum, the umpire will have to call interference. Umpires will enforce the rule that the back foot cannot be in front of the front edge of the plate when the ball is hit.

The only purchasing update is that Mr. Molter has order balls for the ladies.

Regarding field operations, Mr. Kratz reported that the biggest thing that happened last month was an attempted break-in to the kitchen. Although the deadbolt prevented entry, the frame of the door and door itself were damaged. The HOA came over and measured the door and frame, but it has not yet been replaced. Fortunately, the deadbolt to the garage was replaced less than a week earlier. The Dirt Dogs are paid in full and can use the field as many days as they want under the agreement. Jay Yoakum is coordinating with Steve Imlay who is providing a hitting clinic to those who have signed up. There are seven people ready for instruction. He would like us to send another email as they can accommodate up to five more people. A date is being selected. No one knows why we have dead grassy areas in the outfield. As far as Gary Hillabolt knows, all the sprinklers are working.

Doug Friesen's proposed policy for website postings was reviewed. Most importantly, all documents should include the author and date. Mr. Warwick will review and finalize the document.

An informational meeting was held at IronOaks regarding the proposed new Fitness Center. Several SLSSA members attended or watched online. No decisions have been made by the HOA, but we are watching intently as there are rumors the softball field may be a proposed site either for the Fitness Center or other amenities displaced as a result of the site chosen. A lively

discussion was held. We will continue to stay informed. This project is only in the planning stages and will have to be voted on by the homeowners.

Mr. Warwick is the only Board member going off the Board in April. The vote will be held the week of March 4. A nominating committee has been appointed to solicit candidates for the open position. They are Bill McCoy, Joe Commisto and Garnet Hammer.

Judy Gahide is supposed to reach out about Play it Forward which is scheduled for March 27. Mr. Warwick has not heard from her yet.

Mr. Warwick set the next meeting for February 12. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:26 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 12, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

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

Guests attending were Dennis LePore, Rick Berry, Dan Malachuk, Gene Granquist, and Tommy Vitolo

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Warwick at 2:57 p.m.

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

Mr. Wolfe presented the January financials. Everything is pretty much on track this year. Total revenues are within \$107 to the good with the prime reason being that the men's dues are \$150 more than budgeted. Cost of sales is a timing issue. We spent some money on additional banners which will show up next month. On the expense side, everything is within target with the exception of chalk which is \$240 below budget. With total expenses \$500 below budget and the overage on revenue, we're \$938 to the good. Mrs. Hilby moved to accept the budget. Mr. Rodgers seconded. Motion carried.

Membership is up to 108 full and 5 recreational memberships for a total of 113. We have 12 paid members for the women (Mrs. Hilby is a regular member of the association).

Mr. Molter continues to monitor the payment of HOA dues. There are three people who haven't paid. They are not currently playing, but will be expected to pay once they begin participating in association activities.

The Board election will be held the week of March 4. Mr. Warwick solicited input from the nominating committee, but hasn't heard back. He will follow up. Only one person has expressed interest to date.

Mr. Rodgers reported that the winter session is going well. The Sun Division is really competitive this year. Everything is on schedule with makeup dates scheduled for next week including a Lakes Division doubleheader and two double headers for the Sun Division. At this time the numbers for the upcoming session are 41 in the Sun Division and 43 in the Lakes Division. Mr. Rodgers asked if we should have a seniority system for the Sun Division. After a discussion, Mr. Warwick suggested the 41st player would have the option of going to the Lakes draft or be assigned to a team as the 11th player. No motion was passed. Situations will be addressed individually by the Board.

Mrs. Hilby shared a draft of the Spring schedule. The Southwest Championships will be an issue for the Sun Division. Mrs. Hilby will check with managers on their thoughts of moving the Sun Division games that are scheduled for the week of that tournament to Mondays earlier in the season.

Gene Granquist asked if we would consider moving the start times to 8:00 for the spring session. The position of the sun and the temperatures create issues for either 8:00 or 9:00 start times. No changes were made to the start times for the spring session.

Mrs. Hilby gave an update on the Sluggers. The women are half way through their season with a record of 9-9. Unfortunately, there have been a lot of injuries and emergencies that have called our players away from the game requiring the use of emergency subs to help field a team. Hopefully the second half of the season will be healthier for the team.

There are two upcoming cookouts. The first being February 27 at the men's league tournament. The second is our first cookout at a women's game on March 3. Mr. Neumann is coordinating the cookouts and would like volunteers to contact him. Usually, people from the first double header help set up. Getting the grill out is a major undertaking, and it needs to be cleaned and checked. The Coca-Cola cooler is old and rusted. Although it works, Mr. Neumann thinks we should dispose of it as it looks bad, is rusty and takes up quite a bit of space. The Board agrees, and a new large cooler will be purchased to replace it. The outlet below the water cooler hasn't worked in quite a long time. Mr. Neumann thanked Dave Kratz for working with the HOA to get it repaired.

Robson Reserve has offered to bring refreshments and snacks on Tuesday of tournament week. They are a current sponsor of our league and a potential team sponsor. They will come around 10:30 for a couple of hours.

Mr. Kratz gave an update on field maintenance. He was able to change mowing times to accommodate the women's league. He has been communicating with Park McDonald about the condition of our outfield grass. Park acknowledges the grass looks terrible. The explanation is that the HOA changed the seed they used this year, and they're going back to the old seed next year. Everything happens so quickly with overseed, Music in the Park, and then the start of our league. Park says the field could use another week. One of the outfield sprinkler heads was stuck open and a sprinkler in the infield wasn't oscillating. The door to the kitchen has been replaced after the attempted break in. Mr. Kratz wanted to thank everyone for obeying the honor system with the beverages. A couple of weeks ago the scorer's booth was unlocked. The people who clean the bathrooms, etc. noted that the kitchen was open on a Sunday. We need to make sure those who have keys accept the responsibility of making sure everything is locked up before leaving the field. We all need to be more diligent, especially with the recent break-in attempt. Recently Bill Jacobson was at the field and handed Mr. Kratz his keys with the explanation that he's done his time. We all appreciate greatly the time and effort Bill has made to keep our field in such good shape. Mr. Kratz shared a conversation he had recently with Dennis who is the new director of facilities. Mr. Kratz shared our concern that there may be a threat to our field. Dennis says he loves the field, and it's not going to happen. Mr. Kratz suggested we extend an invitation to our cookout to the people who cut our grass, the security

guard who counts us every day, the people who clean our facilities, the head of facilities, Lynnelle Glysson, and John Reyhons.

In his update on rules, Mr. Neumann addressed the prevalence in the Lakes Division of runners going to first base to run on the inside of the foul line and then make a quick sidestep to the orange bag. Runners should be on the outside (in foul territory) when within 30 feet of first base. If the runner interferes with the first baseman, the umpire can call him out. If a throw takes the fielder off the bag, there could be a collision when the runner is on the inside of the line. Mr. Kratz will ask Gary Hillabolt to chalk a running lane to first base as a reminder that runners should not be on the inside of the foul line. Mr. Neumann also noted the rules addendums need to be updated with changes we've made over time.

Mr. Molter had nothing new to report for purchases.

The annual social event is coming up on April 1. Larry and Pat Wolfe do all the planning and organizing for the event. Last year attendance dropped from 120 to 88. Sun Division participation was really low. In hopes of increasing participation, Pat is going to sell tickets on additional dates. It would help if managers would promote it.

Mr. Warwick discussed the upcoming charity event on March 29. We've been invited to join pickleball, golf, tennis, and billiards in participating in the Fourth Annual Play it Forward charity event that benefits Neighbors Who Care. This is a Sun Lakes organization that helps seniors to be independent and live in their own homes longer. Statistics show these efforts help seniors stay in their own homes five years longer with this non-medical assistance. Some of the services provided are respite care for caregivers, phone calls just to talk, welfare visits, transportation services, help with grocery shopping, dinners delivered, help with paperwork, etc. It's a wonderful service to members of our community. Mr. Rodgers has an idea to have a Top Golf type of event. For \$20 you get 20 swings to hit a softball off a tee to try to get as many points as you can. It will be held the morning of March 29 around 8:30 or 9:00. SLSSA will provide \$100, \$50, \$25 prizes to the participants. More information will be coming soon.

Tommy Vitolo attended the meeting and wanted to thank everybody for all their support during his difficult year with health issues.

Mr. Warwick set the next meeting for March 12. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Cyndy Hilby
SLSSA Board Secretary

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Oakwood Clubhouse Library
Wednesday, March 12, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

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

Guests attending were Alex Santucci and Mike Gloyd

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Warwick at 2:59 p.m.

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

Mr. Wolfe presented the February financials. Revenues were to the good a little over \$500 primarily due to a couple of new signs that were not budgeted which increased banner revenues. We are \$125 below on Grouper revenue. Net net we are over \$500 to the good on revenue. Total cost of sales is up because we had to buy more banners. The actual cost of banners was \$286 higher than budgeted. On the expense side, the main variances are timing related. We budgeted buying additional items for billing and supplies but haven't had to buy them yet. We are about \$150 less than budgeted. On field supplies we are \$300 less than budgeted primarily related to chalk. Gary Hillabolt bought some last week so that will come through on the March financials. The ladies' cookout was budgeted for February but was moved to the first week in March, so that is a timing issue. We were \$55 over budget on the men's tournament cookout which came in at \$655. Net net we are \$1,137 to the good. Mr. Molter moved to accept the budget. Mr. Kratz seconded. Motion carried.

Membership is up to 111 full and 5 recreational members for a total of 116. We have 12 paid members for the women (Mrs. Hilby is a regular member of the association). Twenty of the members are IronOaks residents with an additional four women. Thirty-seven members are from Sun Lakes with an additional three women. In total there are 24 IronOaks residents and 40 Sun Lakes residents, for a grand total of 64 Sun Lakes members.

Mr. Molter continues to monitor the payment of HOA dues. He will follow up on the new players.

The election for one Board vacancy was held this month. The winner was Alex Santucci. Mr. Warwick congratulated Mr. Santucci and thanked all of the candidates for their willingness to serve.

Mrs. Hilby reported the Sluggers season wrapped with a 17-13 record. We had some great new players join the team this year. Some highlights included discovering that two returning players could pitch and welcoming a player from another team who runs like the wind and had four in-

the-park homeruns. The women would like to thank the umpires and grounds crew and everyone who helped out at the first ever cookout for a women's game. It was definitely a highlight.

Mr. Rodgers gave an update on the spring session. There has already been one rainout. People are asking if the games will be made up. Mr. Rodgers will talk to the managers to find a time to schedule makeup games. There are 12 players on each team in the Lakes Division. Yesterday in the first game, two players batted only one time. There have been some complaints from players and spectators of profanity. Mr. Warwick will craft an email to the membership.

Mr. Neumann reported he had good help for the cookouts including Stan Weiss, Evan Hansen, Pat Wolfe, and Santa Marie Giordano. Dave Martin arrived early and set up all the tables. Many people pitched in to help with set up and take down. Mr. Neumann counted 37 nonplayers for the women's cookout so we had over 60 people.

The Play it Forward fundraising event is scheduled for March 29. It's our first time participating. Mr. Warwick will be out of town so has enlisted the help of others. People don't have to play, but we are hoping for donations for a good cause. Mr. Rodgers described the plan for scoring. There will be \$100, \$50, \$25 prizes. Mike Amato will be the contact for Mr. Wolfe. People can sign up in the scorer's booth. We need to talk it up to the members. Mr. Warwick will send an email to the managers to encourage participation.

Bob Molter reported a new cooler has been purchased and supplies including tees and paints for the Play it Forward event have been ordered. The Coca Cola cooler is still available to anyone who will take it away. We'll put it out with a "free" sign.

The Music in the Park event was held a few weeks ago. Mr. Kratz shared that the field was left in much better shape than in the past possibly because this is a better time of the year than fall when they've just seeded and watered the field. The soda supply in the refrigerator got a little weird after the cookout and the Robson Reserve leftovers that were comingled with the regular supply. He suggested we might want to communicate next year about how we're going to handle it. Perhaps an inventory can be taken before the cookout. There was a leaky valve behind the pitcher's circle, although it doesn't seem to be a problem now.

Mr. Neumann has been working on updating the rules addendum for the Organization page on the SLSSA website. Several rules were discussed. It was decided to leave the walk rule as it is. The wind rule will be at the umpire's discretion. If the Sun Division is short-handed, they may use Lakes players, and Lakes players are eligible to bat. If both teams are missing one player both managers can pick up a player of any rating as long as both pick up a player of the same rating. A discussion was held about a recent a situation when a player was injured and left the game as a defensive player but later wanted to return as a batter. Mrs. Hilby motioned that any player may return to the lineup at any time as long as he returns to his original position in the batting order. Mr. Neumann seconded. Motion carried.

Currently in the Sun Division, the pitcher is allowed to pitch as far back as 10 feet from the pitcher's plate. At the time this rule was put into place, the Sun Division didn't use a screen.

Going forward, Senior Softball rules apply for pitching which will change the Lakes rules to match the Sun Division rules. If not wearing equipment, the pitcher must be behind the screen when the ball is hit. Mrs. Hilby will send an email to umpires and managers.

People have been donating to the food drive boxes in the kitchen. The Robson Reserve event went well, and they would like to do it again next year.

Ticket sales for the annual social event on April 1 have been going slowly. Only 58 tickets have been sold. Hopefully sales will pick up these last couple of days before the number has to be turned in to Palo Verde. Mr. Rodgers will get input from the managers for awards, and then the Board will vote by email. Mr. Wolfe will prepare the award certificates once he has the names of recipients. Mr. Molter will order the plaque. All this must be done by March 26.

The Board went into a special session to discuss the Steve Hilby Spirit of Sun Lakes Award.

Mr. Warwick set the next meeting for April 9. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Cyndy Hilby
SLSSA Board Secretary