

FGSA Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, September 12th

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Fleetwood Area Middle School 5/6 Cafeteria

Call to Order: (7:03 p.m.)

Kevin Manmiller, President

Attendance / Roll Call:

Kevin Manmiller, Shawn Moliatu, Richard Kaskey, Chris Malinowski, Joe Calamita, Mike Lazar, Earl Hemmig, Brad Kessler, Gretchen Manmiller, Tori Manmiller (non-voting), Dave Connor, Jim Frederick, and Keith Santangelo

Reading of the Minutes from Last Meeting:

August 8th, 2013 – no FGSA meeting (locked out of High School)

Requesting a motion for approval of both the June 17th, 2013 and July 18, 2013 meeting minutes:

Motion #1 made by **Mike Lazar**
Approval – **Yeah**

Motion #2 made by **Jim Frederick**

Officer's Reports:

President's Report (Mr. Manmiller)

✚ Reported on items --- located in old and new business.

Vice President's Report (Mr. Malinowski)

✚ Reported on items --- located in old and new business.

Treasurer's Report (Mr. Moliatu)

✚ A report was given at the meeting and an updated treasurer's report will be included as an attachment to the meeting minutes.

Requesting a motion for approval of the Treasurer's report:

Motion #1 made by **Earl Hemmig**
Approval – **Yeah**

Motion #2 made by **Jim Frederick**

Secretary's Report (Mr. Kaskey)

- ✚ Reported on items --- located in old and new business.

Committee Reports:

Concession Stand Committee Report (Mr. Lazar)

- ✚ New freezer has been purchased and is in use.
- ✚ No additional equipment is required at this time.
- ✚ Mike's oldest daughter will be using her artistic wizardry to create a food display board to better display what we have to offer in the concession stand.

Fund Raising Committee Report (Mr. Hemmig)

- ✚ Reported on items --- located in old and new business.

Facility and Equipment Committee Report (Mr. Manmiller)

- ✚ Reported on items --- located in old and new business.

Registration Committee Report

- ✚ Chris will start designing a spring 2014 registration form. The intent will be to distribute the form before the end of the fall season. Other spring sports such as soccer start their spring registration now, and we may be losing girls to other sports because we have traditionally not sent out our Softball registration forms until very late in the year.

Uniform Committee Report

- ✚ Reported on items --- located in old and new business.

Webmaster Report (Joe Calamita)

- ✚ Reported on items --- located in old and new business.
- ✚ Our web site URL: <http://www.fleetwoodgirlssoftball.org>

Special Orders: Important business previously designated for consideration at this meeting.)

- ✚ Requesting a motion for approval of both the June 17th, 2013 and July 18, 2013 meeting minutes.

Old or Unfinished Business:

- ✚ 501C-3 form still has not been received from the government, so to date we have been unable to solicit for sponsors.

- ✦ The purchase of weighted softballs for arm strength and conditioning.
 - Only a good idea with proper supervision.
 - An injury risk if not properly used.
 - As a result, the FGSA has decided against the purchase.

- ✦ Proposal for the girls to wear pants next year instead of shorts.

- ✦ Switching to Dick's Sporting Goods / Blue Sombrero.com as the host website to allow even more functionality which could possibly include on-line registrations and payments.

- ✦ Maiden creek Township is pursuing an option to have FGSA act as a facilities management firm to manage the property in an effort to get around the no sub-lease clause in the current lease agreement with the Fire Company.

- ✦ After being granted permission, we need to select dates and times to complete the following projects before spring season begins:
 - Move the home team bleachers nearest to the backstop. Relocate these bleachers to another location along the third base line (stone or concrete base).
 - Move the away bleachers on the first base line to a different location (stone or concrete base).
 - Construct home and away dugouts utilizing the existing paved areas (putting a roof over the area with a bench for the girls to sit on).
 - Extend the backstop (fence) on the side closest to the fire company to create an area for a batting circle, so that the on-deck hitter is separated from the bleachers. This would greatly increase safety during our games.
 - Purchase and install gutters or down spouts for the announcer's booth to divert the roof water away from the foundation of the building.
 - Cap the concrete pit behind the announcer's booth- will divert water and increase the chances of the extreme dry lock working. This should be done before the extreme dry lock is installed.
 - Purchase and apply extreme dry lock for the storage area of the press box which is leaking and making a mess of anything on the floor during heavy rains.

- ✦ Future consideration:
 - Installation of a permanent scoreboard or the purchase of a portable scoreboard that could be placed in the shed while no games are being played.
 - UPDATE! The Lyons Ball Field purchased the Reading Fightins' old scoreboard. Lyons is going to refurbish their old scoreboard with LED lighting and put it up for sale. FGSA have already told them that we want it.

- ✦ Select dates for an FGSA tournament in the spring of 2014.
 - Dates selected were 5/17/14 and 5/18/14.

- Decided that we would start “small” and only do 12U.
- Since Schuylkill Valley hosts a 12U-A tournament each year, our tournament will be 12U-B.
- Invitations will go out to all Berks County teams first. If we need to get more teams we will advertise outside of Berks County as a “Rec League” tournament.
- If there are 4 total teams, teams will be guaranteed 4 games. All games at the BFC Field. Three (3) games as part of a “round robin” play on Sat 5/17/14. Results of the “round robin” play will determine the seeding for a single-elimination bracket on Sun 5/18/14.
- If there are closer to eight (8) teams, we’ll use two (2) fields and determine the format of the tournament at a later date.

New Business:

- ✚ Need to purchase lime for BFC and FAHS fields.
- ✚ Need to purchase a new pitching rubber and home plate for BFC field. Need a pitching rubber with a metal plate under the rubber like the old one that we have. The new one we purchased in the spring without the metal plate is already damaged so badly it cannot be used. If we can’t find a rubber with the metal plate, Jim Frederick volunteered to try to fabricate something that would work.
- ✚ A concern about players visiting the concession stand during games.
 - Coaches should be providing guidelines to parents prior to the start of the season that girls are expected to “be in the game” the entire game, which means they should not be visiting the concession stand between innings or while they are sitting out an inning!
 - Further, if a girl is seen doing this, coaches should be making it clear at that time that it’s unacceptable behavior, and will not be tolerated.
 - It was also noted that concession stand workers could do their part by refusing to serve girls in uniform who they know are in the middle of playing a game.
- ✚ After being granted permission by Maiden creek Township, we need to select dates and times to complete the above projects (listed in old business) before the spring season begins.
- ✚ Berks County Girls’ Softball League (BCGSL) meeting dates:
 - September, 19th at 7:00 pm (President & Vice President ONLY)
 - November, 21st at 7:00 pm (President & Vice President ONLY)
- ✚ BCGSL plans to discuss elimination of most if not all BCGSL specific rules for 10UA, 12UB and 12UA teams, and instead going strictly by American Softball Association (ASA) rules. That would mean possibly inclusion of base-stealing, taking leads, dropped-third-strike, and scoring from third on a passed ball and stealing home.

- Secondary discussion came out of this regarding teaching all of our girls, even at 8U and 10U, how to slide, and having catchers practice blocking pitches in the dirt, and throwing to 2nd and 3rd. Even if there's no use for those skills at 8U and 10U, our girls should be learning those things before they get to 12U.
- Also noted that coaches at 8U and 10U should be encouraging their girls with the best skills to at least try catching since at 12U and certainly at 14U, the catcher needs to be one of the best defensive players on the team.
- ✚ The FASD School Board has approved the installation of a wooden shed next to the existing High School shed. They would not accept our metal box idea. The **Manmiller Family** was designated to go shopping for a shed.
- ✚ Fall Ball Rules. We know of at least 2 instances where FGSA was involved in a rules dispute. We want to find out if there were any other issues prior to sending an e-mail to the league for clarification. The issues will be addressed at the BCGSL September, 19th meeting.
 - Coaches noted no other issues.
 - Recommended that coaches keep a copy of most recent version of the League rules with them during games.
 - Need to confirm at the most recent league meeting if the rules on the BCGSL website are the most up-to-date version. It seems as if they are not.
- ✚ FGSA Breast Cancer Awareness Month Fundraiser
 - Girls will wear pink socks for all games in October.
 - Coaches will wear pink hats
 - **Socks and hats are being funded by Gretchen Manmiller and 31.**
 - Coaches versus Girls game with the proceeds going to cancer research scheduled for Saturday, October 26th at 12:00 noon. Rain date: Sunday, October 27th at 12:00 noon.
 - Tori Manmiller (11 years old) is leading the efforts of organizing "coaches vs. girls" game.
 - Donations will be accepted by parents and spectators. 50% will go to FGSA and 50% will be donated to the American Cancer Society.
 - Parents are welcome to supply baked goods to be sold at the concession stand during the game.
- ✚ Pitching Skills
 - Hire a specialized pitching coach to work with the young ladies and teach them drills they can use during the off season to get them ready for the spring season.
 - Are there are volunteers from Kutztown's team who may be willing to help with pitching?

- Can we get any of the girls on the Fleetwood Varsity team or Fleetwood graduates who may be willing to mentor our pitchers?
- ✚ Requesting a motion for approval of the following: All levels 10U and above will be required to wear long black pants during the 2014 spring and fall softball season.

Motion #1 made by **Mike Lazar** Motion #2 made by **Earl Hemmig**
Approval – **Yeah**

- ✚ Review of Current FGSA By-Laws (Sections I, II, and III)

- ✚ Nominations for 2013-2014 FGSA Board

- A motion/recommendation was made to keep the same four (4) FGSA Board Members for another year.

Motion #1 made by **Mike Lazar** Motion #2 made by **Earl Hemmig**
Approval – **Yeah**

Note: A vote approving this recommendation will occur at the October 10th meeting.

Announcements:

- ✚ Received the first reimbursement check for the damage/theft at the BFC field.
- ✚ Job Johnny at the FAHS field --- bill needs to be paid
- ✚ Extra scorebook and ASA rule book available to any coach who needs one.

Adjournment:

- ✚ President Manmiller adjourned the meeting at **9:22 p.m.**

Next FGSA Meeting:

October 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School 5/6 Cafeteria

Future Meetings 2013 (all at 7:00PM):

November 14th, and December 12th.

Future Meeting 2014 (all at 7:00PM):

January 9th, February 13th, March 13th, April 10th, and May 8th.