



OCEE PARK ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

September 23, 2006

MEETING BROUGHT TO ORDER

President Hank Wiley brought the meeting to order at 2:37 PM at the Ocee Park Pavilion.

Board members present: Wayne Henderson, Reese Jacobs, Bobby Lang, Eric Mathis, Julie Munoz, Lalo Munoz, Keith Siegfried, and Hank Wiley.

Board members absent: JD Rutledge

Booster Club Committee Chairman: Gillen Young - Absent.

Members present: Paul Belongie, Wayne Henderson, Rick Holcombe, Reese Jacobs, Bobby Lang, Rob Latzsch, Eric Mathis, Julie Munoz, Lalo Munoz, Dennis Sands, Keith Siegfried, Hank Wiley, and Michele Young (13 in total).

NEW BUSINESS

1) Secretary Report – Eric Mathis:

- Reading of Secretary's Minutes - Hank Wiley confirmed that the minutes had been reviewed from the last Annual Membership meeting held on October 9, 2005. A motion was presented, seconded, and carried unanimously to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accepted them as issued previously.

2) Treasurer's Report – Julie Munoz:

- Financial Report:
 - Julie presented the League Financial Report to the Membership.
- Julie presented the proposed FY 2007 Budget to the Membership.
 - After several adjustments were made, a motion was made by Bobby and seconded by Lalo to accept this Budget, it passed unanimously.
 - Capital Plan in 2007 Budget to provide for 5 Row Bleachers and Covers for Jacobs and Lang Fields. Additionally, the budget is to cover 3 Row Bleachers for Conklin Field.

3) State of the League – Hank Wiley:

- Capital Improvement Highlights:
 - New 21' wide, 5 row bleachers for Fields 1-4 purchased by OPAA, and erected by volunteers during the previous winter. The old bleachers in better condition were moved to Lang, Jacobs, and Conklin Fields.
 - Field 2 Improvements:
 - Installation of screening of outfield fence, and screening behind backstops.
 - 20' Flagpole installed behind centerfield.
 - New sod, field conditioner, pitching mound clay, spearheaded by Booster Club Chairman Gillen Young.
 - Yellow Fence Cap installed on Tee Ball, Jacobs, and Field 3.
 - Most recent improvement - Bleacher Canopies on Fields 1-4.
- Maintenance:
 - Equipment Shed foundation was repaired to support golf carts and tractor.

- Batting Cages - Installation of additional lighting on timers, and repair of existing lights.
 - Dugouts repaired on Conklin Field.
 - Repaired scoreboards on Jacobs and Conklin
- Improvements by Fulton County:
 - Restroom Facility installed near the playground.
 - New playground equipment installed.
 - Given a grant for \$10,000 to be used for screening around Jacobs and Lang Fields.
 - Ongoing Improvements:
 - New scoreboard for Conklin Field with wireless console has been ordered through a sponsorship of \$5,000 from Re/Max.
 - New bleachers with canopies for Jacobs/Lang/Conklin Fields.
 - Wheelchair ramps to cut thru the curbs around Concession Stand to be installed by Fulton County.
 - Success of Spring and Fall Seasons:
 - Spring Registration 1,012 Players
 - Fall Registration 687 Players
 - Summer Tournament Teams:
 - Fielded 12 Baseball and 3 Softball Tournament Teams.
 - 5 baseball teams reached the Semi-Finals in District 2 play.
 - The 10yo Softball team reached the Semi-Finals in State play, and the 11yo Softball team played the best 2 of 3 for the State Championship.
 - Ocee Park hosted the 11-12 Baseball District 2 Tournament with great success.
 - Ocee Park was in line to host the Softball State Tournaments, but this was taken away from us without explanation by the Georgia State Little League board.
 - Little League Organizational Issues.
 - Were placed on Charter Hold for Spring 2006 – Told to divide our park into Divisional Format for Spring 2006. This was appealed as the dictate came after our teams had been drafted and uniforms issued. The appeal was approved with the stipulation that we create two tournament teams per age group in baseball for the 2006 Tournament Season.
 - Currently on Charter Hold for Spring 2007 – Required to divide our park into two separately chartered leagues with two separate Boards of Governance. This would preclude being able to honor the innumerable special requests by parents.
 - Beginning last Spring 2006, the Little League Southern Region no longer approves waivers for players residing outside of our boundary.
 - The Little League Southern Regional Headquarters grants us no control regarding local issues, and has denied every local governance request that we submitted in 2006: to allow 11 Players on Juniors Teams; to allow games to begin with 8 players present; to allow for a Majors American league as a program for 11-12 year olds who don't make the Majors National League; or to allow 12 year olds to pitch in a minor league (AAA).
 - OPAA continues to lose baseball players to travel ball programs because advanced 10-12 year old players are not challenged on the 46'/60' diamond. Furthermore, the League Age change has created potential safety issues because older players are now remaining in the 12 year old age group.
 - OPAA continues to lose softball players to travel ball programs because the players want a program more closely aligned with ASA Softball.

4) Cal Ripken / Babe Ruth Baseball and Softball – Hank Wiley:

- The current Board has researched other programs to include Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth, Dixie Youth, and Dizzy Dean.
- Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth is the fast growing baseball/softball program.
 - National and International presence including a World Series tournament televised on OLN.
 - Emphasizes “Local League Control” which will allow OPAA to structure our program in a way that best serves our players and community.
- Cal Ripken “Majors” League.
 - Has a 50'/70” program for a Majors National league, and will allow a 46'/60’ program for a Majors American league.
 - Each league has its own Tournament Team and World Series.

- Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth League will help curtail the loss of players to travel baseball with the 50'/70' program and the loss to travel softball since Babe Ruth is almost identical to ASA Softball.
- Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth League will give us the opportunity to host State, Regional, and World Series Tournaments at Ocee Park and will give us a leadership role in the State of Georgia.
- Discussion:
 - Little League Challenger League and Cal Ripken Buddy Ball:
 - We will need to investigate whether our team for players with special needs may continue to play against the LL District 2 Challenger teams.
 - Boundaries defined for new charter:
 - With the creation of the City of Johns Creek, there are potential boundary implications as Ocee Park will be a City of Johns Creek park.
 - Wayne Henderson presented potential logo designs for Ocee Park for Cal Ripken Baseball, Babe Ruth Softball, Babe Ruth Baseball, and Babe Ruth League.
- A motion was presented by Lalo Munoz to charter with Cal Ripken / Babe Ruth League for the Spring 2007 season. The motion was seconded by Keith Siegfried. In addition to the votes cast during the Annual Membership Meeting, 13 votes were accepted by proxy. The motion passed unanimously.

5) Remarks:

- Vice President – Bobby Lang. Thanked group for their efforts and expressed his confidence in the Board to move forward, his love for the program, and the recognition for all the improvements made in the park and operating processes.
- Vice President Softball – Lalo Munoz thanked everyone for a successful year and suggested he was happy were things are headed.
- Secretary – Eric Mathis. Thanked the group for the efforts made during the past two years. Mentioned that the background checks for the fall 2006 season were being held up by ChoicePoint process and they were not gaining on giving us access. Also updated the group on the potential cost of moving to alternate back ground check groups could increase our cost from \$1.50/check to \$15-\$20/check.
- Treasure – Julie Munoz. Thanked Hank for all his efforts. Referenced the need to update the signature cards for the bank once the new Board is put in place.
- Player Agent – Reese Jacobs. Presented a plaque to Hank Wiley to recognize his efforts and thanked the group for the past year.
- Safety and Equipment Officer – Keith Siegfried. Thank you to those who helped put together the equipment for Afghanistan this past week. Also mentioned the potential to eliminate the supply of batting helmets to players. Suggested an upfront charge for a new helmet as part of registration. This will need further refinement.
- Umpire-in-Chief – JD Rutledge. Absent.
- Booster Club Chairman – Gillen Young. Absent.

6) Questions for the Board from the Floor:

- No questions were asked of the Board.

7) Election of New Directors to the OPAA Board:

- The current Constitution dictates that we shall have a nine member Board of Directors.
- Discussion took place to increase the size of the Board of Directors to 10 positions to serve in the following positions, which are more closely aligned with Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth League:
 - President
 - Vice President Baseball
 - Vice President Softball
 - Secretary
 - Treasure
 - Player Agent
 - Equipment and Safety
 - Umpire-in-Chief
 - Committee Coordinator
 - Select Program Coordinator
- A motion was presented by Julie Munoz to increase the size of the Board to 10 positions and accept these proposed titles. The motion was seconded by Reese Jacobs and passed unanimously.
- Hank presented that the following four Directors are entering into the second year of their term.
 - Reese Jacobs
 - Julie Munoz

- JD Rutledge
- Keith Siegfried
- Reese made the report of the Nominating Committee. The committee presents the following slate of candidates to serve two year terms each, to fill openings on the Board:
 - Skip Hamel
 - Wayne Henderson
 - Rick Holcombe
 - Lalo Munoz
 - Kathy Rob
 - Gillen Young
- Nominations were opened to the floor.
 - There were no nominations from the floor.
- A motion was made by Bobby Lang to close nominations from the floor, seconded by Reese Jacobs, and passed unanimously.
- Presentations by those nominated: No presentations were made.
- League Secretary confirmed that 13 members were present and in good standing.
- A motion was presented by Reese Jacobs to accept the slate of candidates as presented by the Nominating Committee. The motion was seconded by Bobby Lang, and passed unanimously.
- The new Board membership will be:
 - Wayne Henderson
 - Reese Jacobs
 - Julie Munoz
 - JD Rutledge
 - Keith Siegfried
 - Skip Hamel
 - Rick Holcombe
 - Lalo Munoz
 - Kathy Rob
 - Gillen Young

8) Adjournment:

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was presented by Bobby Lang, seconded by Eric Mathis, and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 PM.