

**P.G. Pony Baseball/Softball
Minutes of Board Meeting
May 25, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 6:47 p.m., Bernadette Villarreal presiding.

Present: Nick Hertel, Jerry Chyo, David Book, Marcia Cody, Bryan Simmons, Bernadette Villarreal, Crystal Hawes, Randy Karasek, Jeff Gray, Sam Buttrey, Michele Amader, Don Mothershead, Jeff Odell, Jim Lowell, Joe Moses.

A motion to adopt the April minutes was made by Buttrey, seconded by Mothershead, and passed by voice vote.

I. Dinner Dance: Michele Amader, who coordinated the dinner dance, opened the meeting by reporting on it. The receipts were \$4,973; the profit target, \$2,490, was slightly exceeded by the realized \$2,533 profit. The event a success in every way. We will aim at holding next year's at the Sally Griffin Center.

Michele suggested that next year's event include a 50-50 raffle. She has ascertained that operating such a raffle will require a permit from the Department of Justice, which will cost \$20. A motion to authorize the expenditure was passed by general acclamation.

Michele has also received an additional \$900 from sponsors. Sponsor plaques will go out this week. There are six sponsors who have not yet paid, but they're all long-timers with a good history. Meanwhile, Pebble Beach Co. has donated \$300 for all-stars to defer costs. We're not permitted to put a sponsor's name on all-star uniforms. A suggestion was made that a banner be hung at one of the tournament venues. This will require permission from the city's Recreation Director and Recreation Board. Sam will draft a letter asking for permission to use the park and to hang banners, and send it to Bernadette and Nick. We also need to arrange the green screen to wrap the field for the tournaments. We have a potential supplier in mind.

II. President's Report

We will host the Mustang District tournament July 5th – 9th. Randy has already posted the dates for this and our other tournaments on the website. Marcia, as Bronco league rep, will be involved since next year P.G. may host Bronco Sectionals. For the Mustang tournament, Jim Edwards from Pony's Western District will act as Tournament Director. Nick will co-ordinate for both District and the Invitational (to be held June 15-18, at both Arnett and George Washington Parks). The organizing committee consists of Nick, Bernadette, Randy, Greg Tarola, Michele, David, Crystal, Pete, Marcia, and Jeff Odell. Its first meeting will be Thursday June 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the P.G. Community Center. Don M. observed that he currently has no provision for field prep for either of the tournaments but will continue to work on that.

All baseball all-stars have now been selected. Softball all-stars will be picked by June 6th.

The issue of portable toilets came up. The ones at Robert Down and Forest Grove will need to be removed. When leagues are finished the reps will communicate that to Bryan Simmons to arrange pick-up.

Maria and Sal reported through proxy that bathrooms at Arnett Park are disgusting. Don M. pointed out that traditionally PONY has cleaned these bathrooms, with the city supplying paper goods. There was some discussion about whether this was reasonable, given that the bathrooms belong to the city; David Book pointed out that nobody really uses them but us. More than one board member has cleaned them in the past. Maybe we can persuade Public Works' Building and Grounds Division to put cleaning the bathrooms onto the schedule. There was much discussion about (i) making them clean and (ii) keeping them clean.

There was a break-in at the PG Muni park two weeks ago. A police report has been filed. The loss was about \$350 cash but no food or merchandise seems to have been taken.

II. Vice-President: Picture retakes took place in the rain. If there are still unhappy parents who didn't get re-shot because of the rain, they can get a full refund. (Apparently there was a camera malfunction.) Bryan S. will get details to the reps. The photographers have also offered to hold another session.

III. Baseball Director: Rich Russo reported for Pete Huller. The season is essentially over and it went well. Pete has contacted the local cities regarding fall ball. Carmel PONY has informed us that all of its fields except Mission are available, but that organization doesn't sanction fall ball. It was agreed that we need to check our insurance to ensure it covers everyone. Meanwhile Monterey has said that Ferrante (off Casa Verde) and Aldrete (Via Paraiso Park) Ballfields will be available "three weeks at a time" if a Monterey Coach reserves the field. Without such a coach we will apparently have to pay \$50/hour. It is not clear whether the three-week rule would allow us to use several coaches to reserve a whole season's worth of park usage.

Marina is interested in a possible joint fall-ball sponsorship. Marina would co-ordinate with Toro Park and Salinas; we'd have two teams from each of PG, Monterey, Seaside, and Carmel. Toro has not replied to Pete regarding field availability.

There was much discussion regarding fall ball. Rich suggested a more informal set up with clinic-style practices, and pick-up games (that is, without set teams) on Saturdays, with a small set of children drawn only from P.G.

A motion to dissolve fall ball, as it has operated, passed unanimously. It will be replaced with a smaller program derived from Rich Russo's idea. Pete will talk to the other cities. Children from other cities will be permitted to sign up, though all the games will be in Pacific Grove. We will form a committee will form to set up numbers. Pete will head the

committee; other members will be Nick, Marcia, Crystal, Randy, and David. Our existing insurance coverage should suffice for this.

Trophies have been ordered; Pinto and Shetland medallions will be picked up May 30th for the June 3rd ceremony. Mustang Invitational trophies will arrive June 16th; Pete will pick them up. That tournament is scheduled for the weekend of June 15th (if necessary) to 18th at George Washington and Arnett Parks. There will be awards in both the A and B divisions. Toro will enter 2 teams; Carmel up to 3; we haven't yet heard from Monterey, Seaside, or Marina. PG will, of course, enter two teams. Once we know who's playing we'll start scheduling. We need volunteers from among the parents of the Mustang all-stars. Pete suggests a mass e-mail to Mustang parents. Bernadette notes that the Bronco A and B will be in a Marina tournament at the same time. Pete has volunteered to be the announcer at some games, but others will need to be covered. Lots of these details will be covered at the June 1st meeting. Marcia thanked Dean Paxton for working on the PA and scoreboard at George Washington. Pete will be the tournament director, but he observes that he will need a co-director for the tournament since he may be Bronco "B" manager.

Pete also reported that Carmel wants a discount for entering three teams. They claim they had one last year, though we don't recall it. The price is currently \$350 a team for a three-game guarantee. The board decided that no discount would be offered.

Randy Karasek will write a letter thanking the powers-that-be at the Presidio who allowed our teams practice there.

Pony: Greg Tarola was not present. All-star selections were made tonight.

Bronco: Marcia Cody reported that All-star selections were made Tuesday. The 'B' manager will not be announced until after Red/Gold. The 'A' manager will be Randy K., with assistant coach Rich R. The Championship game (won by the regular season champion Nationals) went well. Patches and pins will be distributed. The Red/Gold games will be Tuesday, May 30th at 5:00 p.m at George Washington Park.

Mustang: Nick Hertel reported. The Championship went to the Dodgers after the A's won the regular season, and all went well. Nick thanked Michele for announcing and David Book for handling medals. The Red/Gold game is May 31st, 5:30 p.m. George Washington. The 'A' team manager is Bryan Simmons, with Brian Wood as business manager and Andy Miller as assistant.

Michele A. noted that she had to silence a obnoxious parent at a Mustang game. She was roundly thanked.

Pinto: Crystal Hawes reported that Pinto had a good year. One team's parents seemed unhappy about the distribution of children among teams. The children loved playing at George Washington, so Crystal suggested that that continue. Perhaps a tee-ball game ahead of the Pinto game during Science Camp week would also work. The last game of the season will be June 3rd; Shetland games will start at 9:30. Crystal needs an announcer. Pinto games need to start by 12:30 because a couple of the coaches have outside

appointments. With the current schedule the day will end at 4:30. David Book is prepped to organize concessions.

There will be a Pinto all-star team for the first time. Sam Buttrey will be the manager, assisted by Bret Boatman, Robert Boerner, Mario Villacres and Neil McClaren. The tournament will be in Marina and Toro Park the weekend of June 16th-18th. There will be one Friday, two Saturday, and one Sunday game. The cost to us is \$300. If this works out, we can consider adding a second team next year. The tournament will be played under modified Mustang rules: there will be ten fielders, for example. Photographs will be needed.

Shetland: Jeff Gray reported that the season ended successfully and that the whole experience was a positive one.

Nick added that one game, on April 29th, ended up with no umpire. Nonetheless the general feeling was that the umpiring was consistently good both in quality and promptness.

IV. Softball Director: Joe Moses reported that Softball Director Sal Lucido wants to arrange for electricity to be delivered to the Forest Grove practice fields. Joe has rounded up an electrician to donate his time – parts will be about \$300. Power will come from the baseball fields. This was apparently approved (or maybe discussed) a few years ago, at which time Martin Sublett had made the arrangements. Joe will talk to Martin and to Robin Blakeley from the School District. Rich Russo recalled that power was to come from a light pole. There was some concern over who is going to pay the electric bill. There was general agreement that PG PONY is prepared to pay the bill, and that bringing electricity from the existing poles is superior to buying a generator.

Majors: Joe noted that all-stars have been selected. There will be three tournaments this summer, including those in the Salinas and Twin Creeks areas.

Minors: No report.

Rookie: No report.

Pre-rookie: Jim Lowell reported. The season ends June 3rd. There will be an all-star team chosen for a tournament in Carmel the weekend of June 10th, if the organizers can get teams.

V. Field Improvement and Equipment Guy: Jeff Odell asked that Mustang and Bronco managers bring their equipment bags to the Red/Gold games. Jeff will not be available June 3rd, so Crystal and Jeff G. will collect Pinto and Shetland equipment on that day. Jeff O. will re-issue equipment for all-star games.

In the equipment locker we have several sun canopies. Jeff asked the board if PG PONY would lend them to the high school's Sober Grad program? There were no objections.

VI. WebMaster: Randy Karasek has been doing lots of updating. He will e-mail Mustang and Bronco parents about the commitment letter: they must sign and bring (with their child's birth certificate) to the Red/Gold game. Stacey, Nick's wife, will collect the

forms at the Red/Gold game. The letter will specify required volunteer hours for Mustang parents at the tournament.

VII. Concessions: Randy Karasek reported that concession income is about \$3,300 lower than 2005. That may be because of the rain. Inflow from high school games is well down (that's about half of it) and we have a lot of inventory at Muni, but we won't make it up even with the District Tournament. We played approximately seven fewer Mustang games this year than last because of the weather.

David Book reported that about half the coaches and teams provided what he characterized as "adequate" help and half the teams didn't. Many coaches didn't fulfill their responsibilities. David points out that for next year we, as an organization, need to do better. There was some discussion about interactions between coaches and concessions coordinator.

Allowing kids to do their "community service" in the concession stand can be an imposition. There needs to be some sort of qualification; not all of the children were doing quality work and clearly an adult needs to be present. We will try to monitor this.

VIII: City Rep Don Mothershead reported. Last Saturday there was no field prep at the Robert Down School fields, and Don apologized for not letting Crystal know. Don observed that the board scheduled 6 fields preps by 11 a.m. Saturday. Don has a key to the PA system at PG Municipal Field. He asks that there be no children in the press box, and no loud music. The story of the scoreboard at Muni continues: a new volunteer has been found and he has discussed his plan with the city's engineer. Another meeting is scheduled for Tuesday.

IX. Treasurer: Jerry Chyo distributed a balance sheet. He and Bryan Simmons have worked out a budget. Jerry declared that we are ahead of last year, in money terms by a little. There was some discussion of which of the capital projects on our list ought to have priority with no definitive conclusion.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Next Meeting: June 22, 2006, 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel E. Buttrey
Secretary