

**P.G. Pony Baseball/Softball  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
August 24, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m., Bryan Simmons presiding.

**Present:** Nick Hertel, David Book, Marcia Cody, Bryan Simmons, Crystal Hawes, Greg Tarola, Jeff Odell, Pete Huller, Randy Karasek, Maria Lucido, Sam Buttrey, Rich Russo, Kenneth Olsen, Robert Kershner. Jeff Gray, Don Mothershead.

**Opening Business:**

**I. President's Report** Bernadette Villarreal was absent. Bryan delivered the president's report. A motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting was made by Pete Huller, and seconded by Nick Hertel, with approval by unanimous verbal vote.

**Nominations.** All present board members are interested in returning for another year, except for Brian Wood and Jeff Gray. There was some discussion of the roles of board members and the procedures for re-election. There was general acceptance by the board of the candidacies of all those present. Jim Lowell would like to move up. Others marked "tentatively accepted" pending confirmation.

Rob Kershner also presented himself as a candidate for a board position. It was generally agreed that he has already provided lots of help for a number of events, including the Mustang invitational and the Bronco tourney. His candidacy was approved and he was designated, at least temporarily, a member-at-large.

Bryan was happy to praise the coaches and kids involved in the Bronco World Series. He also received a nice letter from the Carmel organization. The Pacific Grove City Council will honor the Broncos at the Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

Thank you's have been offered to people and organizations who contributed for the dinner and other things. Particular thanks are due to Deanna Karasek, Janice Russo, and Dana Moldenauer.

**By-laws/Rules and Regulations Committee:** Woodie will solicit inputs for changes to the Rules and Regulations from managers and reps; he has some inputs already.

**Field Improvements:** Bryan, Jeff O., and Nick looked at Arnett with regard to drainage. Jeff described a long-term solution that involved words like "manifold." Bryan had a conversation with a contractor who has worked on greens at the PG golf course. They trench 9" deep, 16" on center, fill with sand, then run pipe and the water dumps into the storm drain. The unofficial estimate was \$23,000 for Arnett Park.

Michele has paperwork for grants from Major League Baseball. There may well be other agencies that issue grants for this sort of thing, as well. We'll need a scope of work

statement, estimates, that sort of thing; we would then have to show how we do fund-raising.

Jeff O's opinion is: "let's do it right for the long term." \$23,000 seems a reasonable cost to him. David Book asked whether we should be spending our money to maintain city property. Randy observed that we have money, and might as well do something with it. Woodie notes that the "\$5,000 chunks" that we seem to spend from time to time might not buy as much as one big expenditure. It was noted that this is an election year and we have goodwill from the Bronco Series. There was general thinking that the three big projects – drainage at Arnett, drainage at George Washington, and the new fields at David Avenue – are all important. At GW in particular there seems to be a broken pipe or something; that should be city business.

Woodie has looked over David Ave. but agrees that that project might be third priority.

Rob Kershner asked about maintenance: after we spend our \$23,000 (say), what needs to be done thereafter? Much of that will be city business. Rich R. suggests we focus current money on Arnett/GW and maybe grant money could go to David Avenue as it becomes available. Rich asked whether it might be possible to take care of (only) left field in GW and only RF in Arnett, rather than having to do all of both fields.

Greg T. noted that the tennis court and kids' park here at the Rec Center were repaired with State money and wondered if that sort of money might be available for ball fields. Pete suggested the national PONY organization as another potential source of funds.

The Field Committee consists of Bryan, Jeff, Nick.

The question of whether the Field Committee may spend money without board approval arose. The general thinking was that the Committee should be empowered to act quickly if need be; the committee's members said that they would get plans together, get estimates and pass that information on to the Board, possibly by e-mail.

Bryan notes that September's meeting will be cancelled.

## **II. Fall Ball:**

David Book reported that Fall Ball signups were good: 24 Mustang, and 21 Bronco. He will need a couple of bags of equipment. Question (from David): We'll be playing against some kids who are doing CSUMB camp, and also against Carmel. If these games are at Arnett, do we need to worry about liability insurance? In past years, we took the money and assumed the liability, but this year they're not paying us. Rich R.: if they're officially Carmel PONY, that organization should cover them. Woodie recommended that David call Camel League President Jeff Johnson. If children aren't covered insurance, they can't play. David will make calls there and to Dave at Cages.

Field permits: does David need permits for Fall Ball? Nick says yes. David will check. If our current field permits don't apply to the fall, he'll go to Don.

There was some discussion about whether Mustang coaches would be required to have NYSCA cards.

Randy Karasek reported on Bronco. There will be no inter-city games; games will be held at P.G. Municipal Field. Someone asked where the \$70 fee was going, since we don't have umpires and so on. The board's thinking is that for 16 days of 2 hours each, \$70 is pretty inexpensive day care. David will take care of hats and shirts for Mustang, and Randy for Bronco, through Cages.

Randy observed that e-mail notifications worked well and recommended that we do that for spring baseball and softball.

### **III. Baseball Director:**

Pete Huller reminded us that in May we had talked about changing from an innings limit to pitch count limits for pitchers. There's an optional limitation of this sort in Little League. He'll propose it to Rules and Regulations committee. While we think this is not much of an issue in our leagues, we agree that arm protection is key. There was some discussion of different pitch count rules in different leagues.

**Pinto:** Crystal Hawes observed that we need a new lock for the shed at Robert Down.

**Shetland:** Jeff Gray: will be moving on. Bob Vogelpohl he said he might be convinced to be Shetland Rep, but wasn't present.

### **IV. Field Improvement and Equipment Guy:**

Jeff Odell is missing a few equipment bags. People will arrange to have them moved. We are going to need a lot more baseballs. He was also look into Quick-Dri.

### **V. Concessions:**

Randy Karasek reported that the past season was not a good one for concessions. Mustang Invitational made \$1,093 more than last year. Sectionals, though, had income drop from \$3,583 to \$1,243; the first two days sold nothing. Woodie observed that the same thing happened two years ago. Partly, it's because Carmel brings in their own food. Arnett was down \$1,100; GW down \$410; HS softball down \$1200 down (partly because \$300 was stolen, partly because there were lots of rain outs).

Randy didn't collect the gate from Mustang District, which amounted to \$2,260 last year. It has been accounted for somewhere this year, but we don't know where (it might have gone directly to treasurer Jerry Chyo). Overall there is little concern; this year just had lots of rain, plus we hosted a district instead of a sectional tournament. It was acknowledged that tournaments just don't produce that much money. There was some discussion as to whether we should consider hosting a district again. Even sectionals don't produce that much. Woodie talked to Dave Bofano in Carmel; he said they made money at Mustang sectional in Carmel Valley, but their biggest money-maker was the auction.

**VI Keys:** Brian Wood has gone over the list of people who have keys, and has a list of outstanding keys, including keys to the Arnett shed and general concession keys. The reps need to go talk to the managers to get keys back. Woodie's last official act (at least, until Rules and Regulations Committee meets again) will be to turn the keys over to Bryan.

**VII. Other business:** No other business.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 26, 2006, 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel E. Buttrey  
Secretary