

**P.G. Pony Baseball/Softball
Minutes of Board Meeting
October 26, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m., Bernadette Villarreal presiding.

Present: Rich Russo, David Book, Marcia Cody, Bryan Simmons, Bernadette Villarreal, Pete Huller, Randy Karasek, Sal Lucido, Maria Lucido, Sam Buttrey, Michele Amader, Crystal Hawes, Jeff Odell, Greg Tarola, Don Mothershead, Nick Hertel.

Opening Business:

A motion to approve the minutes of the September minutes with minor modifications was made by Jeff, seconded by Crystal, and passed by voice vote with no dissenters.

I. President's Report

In checking financial statements, Michele noted that Grove Market was apparently paid twice. There was also a significant drop between this year's Fall Ball revenue and last's (from about \$9000 to \$3000), but last year we received revenue from the entrants from all the local cities. There was some discussion of financials. The board will ask Treasurer Jerry Chyo for clarification.

There are a number of board members who have not been officially approved. They are Jim Lowell (Rookie rep), Joe Moses (Majors), Michele Amader (Sponsors and dinner dance), Bernadette Villarreal (President) and Pete Huller (Assistant Baseball Director). A motion to formally admit those individuals to the board was made by Don Mothershead and seconded Sam Buttrey, and passed by unanimous voice vote.

We still need Mustang, Shetland, and Pre-Rookies reps. David Book volunteered to be Mustang rep if he can be replaced in his concessions duties. Bob Vogelpool has volunteered to be Shetland rep, but will be unable to attend Board meetings.

Bernadette reported that Carmel PONY sent her a letter detailing some overhaul of their Board. Anthony Lombardi is the new President; Dave Bifano is the Vice-President.

Woodie has handed over the keys to Bryan. Bryan has changed the combinations on the locks at Robert Down, Forest Grove, and the PG JV field. There was some discussion of who should have keys to which locks.

Woodie also set up a meeting for 7:00 Nov. 1, at the P.G. Community Center, for the Rules and Regulations/ByLaws committee, which in addition to Woodie consists of Marcia, Pete, Greg, David, and Jeff O.

Bernadette was e-mailed a softball flyer from the Rich Taylor organization. That organization wanted us to get a feeling as to whether 12-15 girls would be interested in a clinic for three hours of pitching and arm strengthening? They're aiming at the middle to

the end of November, all age groups. Our current answer is that this may be difficult to coordinate, and that they should contact Sal and Maria.

Calendar: Sam will have calendars for the Board at the November meeting. Key dates so far: Signups will be Saturday January 6 and Friday January 19; picture day will be April 21th; and the dance is scheduled for May 19.

II. Softball Director: Sal Lucido asked whether we should let girls who have registered on an ASA travel team play in our league. These players will not be eligible for our all-star tournaments. Other cities allow girls on travel teams to play. Rich Russo suggested we have a box on the all-star commitment form (and maybe on the sign-up form, as well), so we know as early as possible which players are in this boat.

III. Fall Ball: David Book reported, first, on the vandalism and attempted break in at Arnett part. His idea was to give a token gift (perhaps movie tickets?) to the young man who took it on himself to cover the graffiti. Sal has some anti-graffiti sealer, to be applied next time the shed is fully painted, that he recommends.

David reported that Mustang Fall Ball had been going perfectly, and it now “good,” but that boredom is perhaps setting in. Not having the chance to play other towns makes things a little slow, although there was no opportunity to do that this year. David would like to do something exciting to end the season (under the lights, with umpires, perhaps?).

Randy Karasek reported on Bronco Fall Ball. This year’s was, he says, better than last year: the technique of starting each inning with runners on base has made things exciting. Eight weeks seems a sufficient length. He recommends that we do something similar in the future. He feels the players learned more through instructional games than in the usual “regular game” format. Bernadette notes that we should encourage other cities to set up their own fall programs.

IV. Other Notes: Greg Tarola, who had another engagement, addressed the board. Pony signups will have to wait. He’s not yet sure who will coach the high school’s JV team. It’s not clear whether Brad Boggan will return and this will affect Pony.

Greg also teaches instructional hitting in Soledad and would be interested in offering something similar to the P.G. players. He distributed some material to Rich and Randy and asked that they consider, for example, a three-hour hitting clinic, at perhaps \$30 per child with most of the money going back to the league. Rich and Pete will evaluate.

V. Field Improvement and Equipment Guy: Jeff Odell is still deciphering numbers for drainage and prep. Bryan and Jeff revisited the David Avenue site with a local contractor. A revised bid should be received shortly. That contractor is also working on putting together some guidelines for drainage at the other fields (material list, scope of work and so on) so we can get volunteer effort to implement the plan. That part of the job is being done at no cost to us.

There was some discussion of what “materials” would include. Jeff notes that the proposal will be able to be performed in pieces. Bernadette asked whether we can get any of this paperwork ready by the next (Nov. 16th.) board meeting. Jeff thought that was possible and noted that contractors of this sort work all year, rain or shine.

Jeff anticipates a call regarding Quick-Dri tomorrow and he has ordered two batter’s box templates (total about \$500). There are some equipments bags still circulating, but all of them are accounted for.

Finally, Jeff notes that some managers don’t scroll all four numbers of the combinations locks. The children have figured this out. Please remind managers to spin the wheels of the combination locks!

IV. Baseball Director: Bernadette asked Rich Russo whether “Feb. 26 – July 31st” was a good set of dates to put on field permit applications. Answer: yes. If [when] we make it to the Bronco WS, we can get an extension.

Rich asked if everyone was okay with re-hiring Ira’s group for umpires. There was no objection.

V. City Representative: Don Mothershead reported that there are some benches at the city yard like those at PG Municipal Field. The City would like us to take them and put them to use. Don suggested that might be put at the side of the Forest Grove Pinto fields. On November 4th the city will run the basketball “hot shot” contest for children up to age 16; the free throw contest runs up to age 13. Recreation Department basketball starts late this year (after PONY signups). Don distributed fliers.

NYSCA coaches’ certification classes for basketball coaches will be Nov 7th at the Middle School. The generic one for coaches of any sport will be Nov 8th here at PGCC.

Muni Scoreboard: last Friday, Don’s volunteer sent a colleague and they cleaned the debris from the city’s tree-trimming from the footings for the scoreboard, which are now ready for pouring

XIII. New business: No new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 16, 2006, 6:30 p.m. PGCC.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel E. Buttrey
Secretary