

**P.G. Pony Baseball/Softball
Minutes of Board Meeting
December 21, 2006**

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

Present: Don Mothershead Karen Cepress, Sal Lucido, Jo Crisp, Nan Johnston, Randy Karasek, Rich Russo, Marcia Cody, Pete Huller, David Book, Bryan Simmons, Bernadette Villarreal, Crystal Hawes, Jeff Odell.

Excused: Joe Moses, Angie Mathews, Jim Lowell, Nick Hertel; Greg Tarola resigned.

Opening Business:

A motion to accept the minutes of the November meeting was made by Pete Huller and seconded by David Book. It passed by unanimous voice vote.

City Rep Don Mothershead, who had another appointment, addressed the board first. Work on the Municipal Field scoreboard continues; Don is seeking volunteers for a work party on Saturday, January 6th. Volunteers will pull wire and conduits; the cement should be poured by then.

Sam Buttrey distributed calendars, by-laws, rules and regulations, and committee duties. The master copy was signed.

Personnel: Three new members were proposed: Nan Johnston (Mustang Rep), Angie Mathews (Pre-Rookie Rep), and Karen Cepress (Treasurer). All three were accepted by unanimous voice vote.

In other personnel matters, Crystal has identified a party interested in becoming Shetland Rep, but that person wasn't able to make it to today's meeting. Nick Heretel will consider being Pony Rep but will in any case help Nan in her new role.

I. President's Report

Bernadette has paid the insurance bill, and notes that the right way to do this is to keep softball and baseball separate. That has apparently not been done uniformly in the past. Field permits are finally in. Sign-up fliers have been placed in a number of places including Forest Grove, Robert Down, Calvary Chapel school, and others.

Jim Edwards from PONY returned Bernadette's call regarding shared boundaries. PG PONY had asked whether we can extend boundaries slightly into Monterey and into Pebble Beach and still have children from those areas be eligible for All-Stars. The current answer is in the negative. The PONY president's meeting will be the 2nd weekend of January, the same day as our sign-ups.

II. Vice-President's Report

Bryan distributed a projected 2007 budget showing a deficit of about \$4000 (before any income for fundraisers, concessions, or dinner dance); this is, of course, just a "best guess" based on last year's numbers, and, in particular, signups at the proposed new rates, a copy of which was distributed to the Board. The proposal involves a \$25 raise per child, and a cut in the number of umpires (from two to one for Bronco and Pony).

There was much discussion about fee structure among members. It was observed that even with the increase, PONY baseball is more expensive elsewhere (but not in every local jurisdiction). It was observed that Shetland subsidizes the older kids, and, to some extent, regular-season activities subsidize all-stars. It was generally agreed that all-stars and even regular-season activities should encourage (or require) a fund-raising commitment on the part of the players.

The vote on the proposed fee structure carried the stipulation that Bryan will produce a document to be displayed to parents at sign-ups giving some of the details of where the money to operate PG PONY comes from and goes to. The vote was 14-1 in favor of the new fee structure, Book dissenting.

Sign-ups are set for January 13 and January 19. Bryan will convene a meeting of volunteers before the meeting of 13th, at around 12:15 p.m.

III. Other Reports:

Bronco Rep Marcia Cody has three Bronco managers lined up: Pete, Randy, and Rich, and will e-mail Brian Wood.

Webmistress Jo Crisp had nothing particular to report regarding the softball website.

Webmeister Randy Karasek has posted the Rules & Regulations and other documents on the Web site. The document detailing new fees will go there as well.

As to concessions, Randy notes that there is normally about \$5,000 in the concessions account. There is now about \$10,000. Normally Randy would write a check to the treasurer for the excess but has held off because of the turnover in treasurer. Bernadette will get incoming treasurer Karen Cepress together with outgoing treasurer Jerry Chyo.

Pete proposed an idea for concessions: a punch card that would allow parents to spend money "up front" that might encourage spending. It was noted that this would make inventory control difficult. There was other discussion of concessions and its value in raising money, with particular notice paid to prices charged by other local cities.

Sponsor Rep Michelle Amader e-mailed, before the meeting, the draft of the sponsor letter with changes for this year. It mentions the increased cost (\$400) and other steps. The Dinner Dance is set for May 19; it can't be at the Sally Griffin Center because the maximum there is now 100 people without a dance floor. Therefore the dance will be held at the PGCC. That date is reserved (together with the liquor license and other

things); Michele also obtained a state license to hold a 50/50 raffle. The idea is that (for example) a GMC dealer would give us a Sierra or Silverado truck valued about \$15,000, and PONY would undertake to sell 400 tickets at \$100 each. Other suggestions for raising money included putting the children to work (perhaps in a sponsored beach clean-up). Michele has given Bernadette the checks from last year's but one sponsor never paid and has been given up.

IV. Baseball Director: Rich Russo has spoken to Ira the umpire guy. Ira has not yet announced his fees. Nate Trosky wants to do a free coaches clinic; details will be announced

Pinto Rep Crystal Hawes reported that she has a couple of coaches lined up. Details will follow.

V. Softball Director: Sal Lucido reported that we will finally have electricity up at the FG field. Martin Sublett drew up a plan that is to be submitted to school officials; Sal reports that the PGUSD is on board. The work will be done in January. Some volunteers have stepped up to provide equipment and time.

BV noted that getting fields was surprisingly difficult this year. Jeff O. noted that we shouldn't take for granted our relationships with the schools. We're having trouble getting fields, partly due to the needs of new lacrosse program.

Nan J. took an informal survey of kids at Robert Down. A bunch of them suggested that the school produce a baseball team to play Forest Grove, in parallel to the successful flag football games that have been held between the two schools for some years now. Nan noted this might be an opportunity for PONY to get involved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

The next meeting will be January 25, 2007, 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel E. Buttrey
Secretary