

**P.G. Pony Baseball/Softball
Minutes of Board Meeting
March 26, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m., Michele Amader presiding.

Present: Michele Amader, Stephanie Fife, David Book, Crystal Hawes, Craig Bell, Greg Fife, Neil MacLaren, Nan Johnston, Sam Buttrey, Staci Consiglio, Carlos Cuellar, Nancy Thompson, Rob Kershner.

1. Executive Board

A. President's Report:

(Nancy's stuff goes here.)

PG Pony received a generous donation from Kiwanis member Ted Rapalus. Sam will construct a letter for Michele's signature.

We have registered our softball teams through the national Pony organization, which makes them eligible for Pony-sanctioned post-season tournaments. The cost was \$100 for all the teams combined.

1B. VP Report: Nancy noted that the company in charge of photographs is new to us this year. She would love to get feedback on their operation from parents, coaches, reps, or anyone else.

The duties for the Good Old Days Parade have been delegated to Neil. Arrangements are unchanged from earlier years.

1D. Secretary/Webmaster Sam noted that the February minutes were not available for this meeting and apologized for that omission. He reported that the website continues to be updated. There was some discussion about allowing purchasers of Dinner Dance tickets to do so over the web site, via PayPal. Sam will look into the costs and technical requirements. Michele noted that the food costs us \$12.50 a plate; with insurance, the fee for the city staff and so on, our cost is just about the \$20 price per ticket. In the past, drinks have been free. This year we plan drink tickets (\$1 each). Michele will produce the tickets themselves.

1F: Softball Director: Craig observed that Opening Day is this Saturday, at Muni, starting at 10 a.m. There will be three games. Nancy noted that it would be wise to test the public address equipment before then. Craig asked whether we have a back-up plan for those visors which have not yet been delivered. There was some discussion about this year's uniform provider. Craig also noted that a few more Rookie-division registration forms have come in. They will be delivered to Staci.

II B Concessions: LuAnn thanked Greg for arranging to replace the water heater at GW Park. Apparently A&R donated the water heater and (with Greg) installed it. Sam will produce a thank-you letter to A&R for these generous acts. LuAnn has been dealing with Craig B. for cocoa and will take care of that outside this meeting.

LuAnn has had some discussion about staffing the snack shack at Muni during PGHS softball games. Barbara Chang will arrange for the shack to be supplied and staffed (she assures us that last year's problems will not be repeated). They will use our equipment and give us 30% of the proceeds.

Michele noted that parent Kent Speed will be buying, baking, and donating baked potatoes this weekend. Michele will donate sour cream, butter, and chives. Kent will use some of our foil.

1E. Baseball Director: David Boo has received a coaching application from a man who wants to help coach. He has not supplied references but David will call a fellow Pebble Beach employee with longstanding Pony connections. In any case the coaching staffs are pretty well set for this season.

Since all-stars are not far away, David thought it a good time to discuss all-star uniforms, in light of delivery difficulties from our current supplier. In past years all-star managers have handled uniform arrangements. Michele pointed Stephanie to a particular web-based supplier. She also suggested that we might consider buying one set of really nice all-star uniforms, re-using them year after year. Managers will continue to handle all-star uniform arrangements, but it was agreed that this would be a good opportunity to examine the quality of service provided by other local suppliers.

David noted that one manager at the Mustang level seems to be more "high-maintenance" than we might like and David will have a discussion with him. Some discussion followed.

David also observed that PG Pony pays for field prep during the week but that we rely on volunteers for field prep on weekends. Greg Fife has been doing it, but his golf cart has broken. He has a trailer and can do all four fields in an hour and a half when the cart is in order. David suggested that the board spend the money to have the cart fixed. The presumption, without much information, is that the necessary repairs will be in the hundreds of dollars. Bob has access to a gas-powered cart, but David's belief is that, technically, no gas-powered equipment is allowed on the fields. Michele felt that the money should be spent. Rob noted that without knowing the cost the choices left to the board are more difficult. Staci proposed approving the expenditure subject to a cap of, say, \$500. There was some discussion of people who can help out with different pieces of equipment. David's motion to formalize Staci's suggestion was abandoned when Greg volunteered to get a couple of bids and communicate them by e-mail.

David will look at changing the schedules for playoffs so that everyone can come to the Dinner Dance on time. Right now, all the Mustang and Bronco playoff games are at GW. We might avoid the last game being late by moving one or two of the games to Muni.

There is one pre-rookie game at Muni that day, which can be moved back to GW. It was agreed that this is a fine plan. David will make it so.

II A PR Coordinator: Stephanie reported that the uniforms are now almost complete. Softball uniforms (except for visors) were delivered today; visors (and coaches' jerseys) are due tomorrow. There was some discussion of specific issues: one new player got the wrong jersey; one Pinto sponsor's name is missing from his team's uniforms; one Bronco team got "Pacific Grove" in all upper-case; one team's jerseys went to the shop to have sponsor names attached and were returned just as they had gone in.

Michele notes that all-star manager applications are due by April 15th. Members of the manager selection committee will be Crystal, Staci, Robert, Bob, LuAnn and Michele.

II D. Equipment Manager: Greg Fife has nothing to report. There has been a bit of a challenge this year since leagues have different numbers of teams than they did last year, but everybody has everything they need and there's a little bit left over.

As far as fields go, Greg's been talking to Rocky P. from the city. He'll see if we can get permission to stockpile cinders at the city yard instead of at the fields themselves.

Softball Members: Staci Consiglio had no report.

Baseball Members:

IV. A. Umpire Liaison: Rob has the invoice from Ira the Umpire Guy, and has forwarded it to Karen. The check has not yet been cut, though, and Rob feels that to maintain our happy relationship with Ira, we need to pay him on time. Michele will take care of this.

Rob noted that there seemed to be a lot of new managers this year at the clinic. He asked about their quality. Reps seemed to think that the quality continued to be pretty high.

He also pointed out that people are still parking in the no-parking zone on Melrose. All we can do is to keep reminding people until the Police Department starts writing tickets.

Bronco: Nan had no report.

Mustang: Crystal reported that Mustang is off to a good start. There has been some minor re-scheduling but nothing too difficult. One of her managers still needs a key to Arnett. (Michele reported that she has already obtained it and is prepared to hand it over.) Crystal also noted that the plug that connects MP3 players to speakers at GW is not working well and she will replace it. She also thanked Greg for all his help on field preparation.

Pinto: Neil noted that the Pinto “fly ball” rule is not in the current list of rules on the Web site. He passed out a proposed version and moved it be added to the official rules. Sam seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Michele has received an invitation for a Pinto all-star tournament to be held in Marina. This will be put on the back burner for the time being.

Shetland: Bob DeStefano had no report.

Other Business: At the Dinner Dance we have often honored one (or more) people or organizations for particularly meritorious service to PG Pony. Michele asked that we honor PG Kiwanis this year. Neil seconded; the vote was unanimous. Details will follow.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Next meeting: April 23rd 2009.

Respectfully submitted,
Sam Buttrey
Secretary