**DRAFT**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE**

**CAPITOL HILL LITTLE LEAGUE (CHLL)**

A meeting of the CHLL Board was held on January 4, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time by video. CHLL President David Fox presided over the opening of the meeting. Becky Skinner served as Secretary. In attendance were:

Melissa Beard

Jake Cumsky-Whitlock

Steve Fall

David Fox

Jason Goldsmith

Lance Hayden

Seth Kaufman

Becky Skinner

Ryan Smith

Justin Sprinzen

Ramin Taheri

David Toney

Lona Valmoro

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from December. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Registration Update

Jason Goldsmith provided an update on registration. There are 145 players currently registered. This is about half the number of players we had at this time last year but similar to the number at this time two years ago. AAA and AA have the largest number of registrations. Parents have been able to use their credit from the spring 2020 to register. There are 48 volunteers registered so far. The board discussed having a Q&A session to discuss COVID and the spring season for any interested volunteers. It was agreed that we would wait a little longer to do this until we had more information about how the spring season might look. Jason will start sending Monday registration reminders. One registration challenge is not being able to do outreach when children at not physically at school.

Spring Fields
David Fox has reached out to DPR but has not received any new information about fields. Lona Valmoro will be reaching out to the RFK fields. They are both trying to get information about possible field options if school fields are not available this spring.

Treasurer’s Report

Ryan Smith was unable to provide a complete treasurer’s report as Sports Connect just switched to daily deposits instead of bi-weekly deposits. He needs to explore how to account for the change. Ryan is working with Pat O’Rourke, pro-bono accountant and former CHLL board member, on accounting for the credits that were carried over from spring 2020. Ryan and Steve Fall are working on paying for the permits to do work at Payne. Ryan noted that it is easier from an accounting perspective if CHLL pays for any purchases. He is happy to coordinate with any board members on this. Ryan also noted that he is having trouble accessing the P.O. Box. He will be working on getting access over the next week or two. Melissa Beard offered to help with this.

Spring Calendar

Becky Skinner provided an update on the spring calendar that was focused on workout dates.

Payne Field Update

Steve Fall is working on obtaining a permit from DCRA to do the field improvements. He submitted the drawings that were approved by DGS and DCPS. He is waiting for DCRA sign off. Once we receive DCRA approval, Steve will reach out to our contractor to see if he still wants to do the project. It will take about 3-6 weeks to get the materials, but we will not purchase anything until we have approval. It will probably take two months from approval to complete the project. Installation will take 4-5 days. It would be ideal to make the improvements prior to the start of the season, but the improvements could also be completed during the season.

Growing the Softball Program

Seth Kaufmann discussed ideas for growing the softball program, such as softball-specific marketing materials, family engagement, and an introduction to softball for baseball playing girls at an earlier age. Seth will draft a letter to softball families to seek participants for a committee that will work on these issues. The letter will also remind everyone to register. The board discussed having an annual day in the fall to invite all baseball playing girls to a softball event before or after a game. Seth will also reach out to Jen Squires, softball commissioner, to keep her in the loop.

Reaching Out to City Government

There is a meeting next week for an outreach planning group to discuss strategies for reaching out to members of the DC government, including City Council members. David Fox reached out to all of the DC Little Leagues to see if they wanted to join in the effort. He did not receive any responses. David will raise the issue at the District meeting on Thursday. The board also discussed whether Little League International (LLI) or the Nats could help us in our efforts. David will ask Rico, District Administrator, to reach out to LLI. Lisa will talk with the Nats.

Next Meeting

The next board meeting will be on Monday, February 1 at 6:30 pm, unless the board needs to convene earlier, and will be conducted by video.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. EST.

Approved: Respectfully submitted,

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David Fox, President Rebecca Skinner, Secretary