



# MINUTES

*Town of Binghamton Youth Commission*

*Monthly Meeting*

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Thursday February 20, 2020 | 6:00pm

*Attendance:* Chris Streno - Youth Director, Dave Birtch, Steve Hughes, Fred Lawrence, Mark Leighton, Josh Spisak

*Call to Order:* 6:00pm, minutes from last meeting recognized

## *I. Old Business*

- Still aware of needing to plan on reviewing the policies that were created in the 1970s and update those policies and procedures to modern times
- There are five coaches from the winter season that will need to complete the required sexual harassment training and three that need to verify information pertaining to the background check procedure
- The sexual harassment training must be completed once every calendar year
- Basketball season went well overall with minimal issues with games needing to be rescheduled and getting games rescheduled all things considered with limited gym access at times
- Eight out of nine teams will be competing in the Slim Sylvester Tournament
- Tony Lindsey will be crediting the Town \$165 from our referee balance towards the entry fee for the Slim Sylvester Tournament on top of a “multiple team” discount that he continues to give us - overall, instead of paying \$1500 without the credit and discount, the Town ended up paying \$885 to have the eight teams participate in the tournament
- The commissioners from baseball and softball met with Conklin to discuss the potential of joining Williamsport Little League Organization and to find uniformity concerning rules and ages even if the towns do not decide to not affiliate with Williamsport
- Dropped third strike for majors must be implemented this season, regardless of whether or not the both towns join Williamsport Little League

## *II. New Business*

### **A. Williamsport Little League Inquiry**

- Pat McGinnis from City of Binghamton Little League attended to answer any questions the YC had in relation to joining the Williamsport Little League Organization. Some main points and information discussed included:
  - Options for players that are no longer age eligible for Little League under Williamsport rule that will now have to play Teener ball - possibly combine with Binghamton and play in a Southern Tier league
  - Binghamton’s map currently includes the Town of Binghamton - this would have to change



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- Possibility of forming a league with the City of Binghamton to ensure enough games be played to meet the required number of games under Williamsport rules - games must be played against affiliated teams to count towards total
  - The cost is \$10 per team to participate in the season and \$200 per team for the end of the season District affiliated tournament
  - Those players who live outside of the proposed district can be grandfathered in to play if they played for the Town the previous year
  - End of June/early July is District Qualifying
  - Would need a four-person board and unify under the name of “Susquehanna Valley Little League” that would include Town of Binghamton, Conklin and Kirkwood
  - Williamsport organization offers potentially free programs and upgrades to fields
- After meeting with Mr. McGinnis, the members discussed some of the negatives associated with move that centered upon some players would now be aged out and unable to play Little League this coming year and with other players being impacted each year moving forward when the situation presented itself – it is in some of the members’ view there is not an equitable option available for them as an alternative
  - Some other concerns of the members present with the move to Williamsport was losing autonomy as a town when it came to decision making that is in the best interest of everyone, pitch-count concerns with adding games to meet games played requirements and whether or not 10U would be impacted at all by the Williamsport age limits

## **B. Baseball/Softball (*General Topics*)**

- Josh Spisak will be Baseball Majors commissioner
- Nicole Kariam will be Softball commissioner for Majors, Minors and Softball Coach-Pitch
- Registration forms will be sent out to schools the week of 2/24
- Waiting on numbers and registrations to see if there will be a need for a Minors baseball commissioner
- Pony League/Tee-Ball commissioner still needed
- Still waiting on confirmation from the District to begin open gym sessions
- Try-outs are tentatively scheduled for 3/26 and 3/27

## **C. Miscellaneous**

- A code of conduct for coaches and potentially parents will be given out starting this spring season - members will review sample form obtained by Chris Streno prior to release

*Meeting adjourned @ 7:50*

***Next Meeting Thursday March 19th @ 6:00***