

Minutes

7.9.25

6:55 PM at Patterson's. Attendance: Dave and Becky Patterson, Phillip Humphrey, Steven Hardy, Amanda Hardy and Bobby Dernier.

Note: Brown indicates Scheduled Action/Person

Prayer

Minutes – May 7, 2025 - posted on website.

Sponsorships - Benevity from Jeff Sopha of the Royals.

Contacted Doughboys of Raytown

Not seeing much in grant opportunities so if we are going to reduce registration fees, it will be by sponsorships. We need to get parents involved.

Current – Patterson: Painter's Union, Realtor Minter. Barouth: \$5,000 for new pitching mounds.

Dernier: Markley. January – 2025 sponsor renewals.

Finances – Bank Account \$27,367

Expenses remaining: Background checks ~ \$500, equipment TBD

Financial report for the year beginning January 1 through June 30. Attached.

Grants JD Finish Line Grant - submitted 4/20 - \$5,100 for clinics at LBT and the Elementary schools; Answer - JD Finish Line has decided to go the Special Olympics route so this grant is out.

Players Alliance - \$18,000 for registration fees. Don't hold our breath 😞

MLB YDF was a one time grant - cannot apply for again. MLB YDF grant complete. Final report submitted July 7.

Patterson – Submit Royals Foundation grant for programming Sept. 6, 2025. Missed deadline for Truman Heartland -apply for next year.

Business – Royals Foundation grant work almost completed. Plan to replace the boards around the fence between fields 2&3. **Patterson:** online final report due in July.

-Director of Social Media Networking - Matt Hartmann with Raytown Parks and Recreation, Sports and Special Events Supervisor. Willing! Experienced. Connected. Already suggested 3 publicity events:

Raytown Live this Saturday, 7 PM. **Patterson's and Ehler's attend with Ehler canopy and Humphreys-designed banner.**

Ice cream social at Kenagy Park Thursday, July 17. (Anyone available?)

Gala/presentation at Raytown HS Saturday, July 19. (Anyone available?)

Hartmann approved by unanimous vote. **Patterson meeting-at RaytownLive! event Sat, 7/12 6PM.** Matt has great willingness to engage community support by increased social media presence. We will work together with Parks & Rec in maximizing sponsorship opportunities. We will mutually communicate about events and networking opportunities.

-New pitching mounds. Price at Netting Professionals - \$1750 for a 436 suitable for 12U. \$3500 for a 796 suitable for 14U. Decide based on money available. **Who? Time frame? Humphreys: Check with Graceway about availability. Store mounds appropriately.**

-Work day - August 23. Take down windscreens, Deep clean concession stand, Deep clean bathrooms, Replace wood between fields 2&3, Wasp spray in shed, Paint concession counter and

tables, Remove weeds, Fill hole beside parking area, **Fix sunken field #3 home plate. Publicize 8/4.**

-Refrigerator issues - the smaller one was repaired free of charge early in the season; the commercial one failed when turned on this spring. Cannot be repaired. Sell old one for parts ~ \$150. **Hopefully hauled away and receive check soon.** Decided to shop for used backup for about \$300. **Shop at place near Sutherlands, Ehler's: Facebook Marketplace, Amanda: Truman Heritage rehab Store 8/11, Sutton's: business contacts. Ask for donated unit via TeamLinkt.**

-Director of Softball Operations. Ashley submitted a job description:

- dividing registered recreational softball players into teams;
- identifying coaches for each team;
- preparing practice and game schedules;
- preparing equipment bags and uniforms for disbursement and restocking equipment as needed;
- receiving equipment bags when they are returned at the end of the season;
- preparing for Opening Day activities;
- collecting player evaluations at the end of the season; parent surveys, etc.

Additional expectations:

-supervision when LBT fields are being utilized.

-on call for team/parent issues.

Ashley submitted her resignation from the director position due to excessive time demands. She does plan to coach 12U softball next year. The Board understandingly accepted Ashley's resignation.

-Need for Softball Operations Director. **Patterson-Network through Kurt Morrison. Humphrey-Contact UMKC and Raytown School District coaches.**

-Director of Baseball Operations. The job description mirrors the softball duties above.

The Board accepted Steven's continuing as Director of Baseball Operations. Potential assistance from some qualified friends.

- What does 2026 look like?

7/1 Parent Meeting was positive. Parents now comprehend the difficulties RBI presented. They also understand the importance of growth of the league in order to be independent of RBI. Their support and ownership is vital to having sponsors to reduce registration fees.

To retain families after disastrous RBI experience and promote growth: we need to publicize the Parent Meeting, possible incentives: free registration for finding new sponsors, multiple child discounts, free registration if coach.

Ideas to have enough coaches to support the needed growth: Scholarships; Promoting this season's assistant coaches to head coaches; More participation in coach training.

Leadership - Dave and Becky will take on less responsibility next year-operations directors will shoulder more of the load

Divisions (potential for 14U), how to make sure teams get sufficient games. We will NOT partner with RBI for TBall and baseball. But that may mean some creative scheduling. Softball registrations really need to kick in. Partnering with RBI softball would require direct, mutual conversation. Potential sources: LS Parks&Rec (**Amanda research**), Grandview, Belton, Blue Springs, Grain Valley (**Patterson dinner with VanGundy 8/10**), IGSA.

Registration notes: Girls will play softball; boys will play baseball. Perhaps discount for early registration; Need definitive cutoff (LARGE late fee?) to enable ease of team formation

and scheduling; Open registration when elementary clinics start in early December; plan middle school clinics to expand upper age division.

-Special events: Fall clinics for throwing/catching; pitching and catching; hitting. **Steven set schedule.** Opening AND Closing (in place of team parties) Season Events.

-Need for Concession Manager. **(Becky)** For staffing, coaches take into account game and practice schedules when choosing the time slots their team covers.

Meeting Adjourned - 8:30 PM.