

The Crow River Valley League meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Jan. 11 at Dubb's in Glencoe, by acting president Dennis "Soup" Campbell.

All teams were represented, and guests included Bill Norman from the Herald Journal, Jarrod Peterson also from the Herald Journal, and Gerald "Beans" Roepke, Region 7C Commissioner.

Norman was granted the floor and discussed the Review Ads, as he disbursed the ads that each team had from last year.

He informed the group that if there are any changes to ads this year, to have those changes to him prior to the end of March, so they can make the changes.

He gave everyone his contact information cell phone number, (320) 405-9537 and email, mecca@tds.net.

Norman also informed the group that they are planning on providing the poster schedules and pocket schedules again this year, but those won't be done until April and he will distribute them through Secretary Kuerschner, as was done last year.

Norman also spoke about the bar cards, and asked if a couple of teams could contact their local bars to confirm their involvement for this year. This needs to be done as soon as possible so that the cards can be printed and ready for distribution at the March meeting. This is assuming that the league wants to continue this fundraiser.

Jarrold Peterson was then granted the floor, he introduced himself to the group as the new contact for stats and such with the Herald Journal. He provided his email address for the group, jpeterson@heraldjournal.com.

Next on the agenda was Bob Krie from HP Insurance; however, he was unable to attend the meeting, but provided information to Secretary Kuerschner for the upcoming season.

The insurance provider is Nationwide Insurance, and the premium is based off of the number of players in the league.

Secretary Kuerschner informed the group that he used the playoff rosters submitted June 30, 2015 as the number he provided to Krie for 2016.

Krie is estimating that the premium will be around the \$420 to \$425 range per team. The premium was \$415 last season.

Jim Zellmann (Norwood) moved to accept the insurance and pay \$425 per team. Brandon Stender (Young America) seconded, motion carried.

The next item on the agenda was Jeremy Stender and KGLB radio. Stender was not able to attend, but he did inform Secretary Kuerschner that he plans to broadcast 12 to 16 regular season games in 2016, as well as the Region 7C final eight double-elimination tournament. This is very similar to what he has been doing the past few years.

As Chris Dammann was in attendance, he confirmed that KGLB is planning on doing a Hot Stove show during the Glencoe Expo in February.

The meeting moved on to the secretary's report. Stephan Wiblemo (Glencoe) moved to accept the December meeting minutes as emailed, Adam Dammann (Plato) seconded, there was no discussion, motion carried.

The treasurer's report was then given. Treasurer Kuerschner handed out a five-page report for the group to review.

Kuerschner talked through all the income and expenses that the league incurred during the 2015 year.

The league started 2015 with a balance of \$2,071.49, and after all transactions, the current balance going into 2016 is \$2,089.39. This is an increase of \$17.90.

He also provided a projected budget for 2016 with all the expected income and expenses for 2016; this budget is showing a deficit of \$849.

Craig Pexa (Cologne) moved to accept the treasurer's report as given. Dennis Zabel (St. Bonifacius) seconded, motion carried.

Tom Lemke and Joe Kreger reported on the state board meeting that was Jan. 9.

They informed the group that the state website was updated over the weekend with more features and an updated layout.

They also said that beginning with the April meeting, the state tourney hosts will have different specific committee chairs reporting each month, along with the overall tourney chairs.

Examples given were the ticketing chairperson would report one month, and then the concessions chairperson the following month, and so on. The hope is that both the hosts and board will be better

prepared for the tourney.

Old business

Officer elections – both the North and Central leagues informed the group that they had already confirmed their presidents following the last meeting:

North President – Dennis “Soup” Campbell (Winsted);

Central President – Jim Zellmann (Norwood).

The West had not confirmed its president as of yet.

The whole group broke for a short recess, to allow the West League to discuss its presidency. Following this discussion, the meeting was reconvened.

West President – Dave Sell (Glencoe).

The vice president position was then discussed by all 15 teams. There was one nomination provided by Adam Dammann (Plato), Dave Tuttle.

Tuttle was not in attendance; however, there was a short bio provided and emailed to the league the prior week.

There was some discussion about other individuals, but no other nominations were made.

Stephan Wiblemo (Glencoe) moved to table the vice president election to the next meeting; Adam Dammann (Plato) seconded, motion carried.

The bar cards topic was brought up, to discuss if the league wants to continue with that fundraiser.

Doug Schuette (Brownton) moved to keep the bar cards as is for the 2016 season. Steve Mielke (New Germany) seconded, motion carried.

NW Umpires contract – Secretary Kuerschner clarified a portion of the contract that changed from what he reported at the December meeting. No further discussion.

The topic of the Region Tournament for 2016 was brought up, as per the December meeting, we must consider all playoff games as Region 7C Tournament Play.

As such, the revenue and expenses need to be accounted for in some manner so everyone knows what is needed to be accomplished.

Gerry “Beans” Roepke added to this conversation as he is the commissioner of Region 7C.

After discussion, Brandon Stender (Young America) moved that during the first round of Region 7C, the teams playing the individual series will share all revenue/expenses, Adam Dammann (Plato) seconded, motion carried.

It was further discussed that as these are Region 7C games, the region board will need to be in attendance for these games.

Currently, there will be six board members, and there should be at least two members at each game. There could be as many as four games on one night in four different locations. There will most likely need to be additional people appointed to the board for this first round of games to cover in case of protests or other issues. This will be addressed at a later date.

New business

Secretary Kuerschner brought up the following ads that had been paid in the past:

Hot Stove ad – Herald Journal

State handbook ad – League & Regions

Regular season KGLB ad

Regular season Herald Journal

Playoff ads – Herald Journal & KGLB

Stephan Wiblemo (Glencoe), moved to pay these ads as they are presented to the league, Dennis Zabel (St. Bonifacius) seconded, motion carried.

Team dues/insurance/review ads were further discussed, as insurance was approved that each team pays \$425 earlier in the meeting.

Review ads will also cost \$365 per team, and team dues were not changed from \$100.

The group was informed that at the March meeting, each team will need to bring a check payable to Crow River Valley League for \$890.

Treasurer Kuerschner will then pay the insurance and Herald Journal for their portions of the money collected.

Region hosts St. Bonifacius and secondary site Watertown (Lighted Field) were afforded the opportunity to speak about anything at their parks.

At this time, St. Bonifacius didn't have anything to report.

Jared Duske (Watertown) informed the group that the dugouts have been repaired since the wind storm they experienced last summer that took off the roofs.

Next item was the discussion of baseballs to use for the 2016 season.

Doug Schuette (Brownton) informed the group that the prices from Nicklasson's in New Ulm would be as such for this season – Rawlings \$54.50/dozen, Diamond D1-Pro low seam \$60/dozen.

Joe Kreger (Green Isle) moved to approve both the Rawlings and Diamond Low Seam baseballs for regular season league play, Ben Smothers (Waconia) seconded, there was some discussion, motion carried.

Doug Schuette instructed the group to provide him their team's orders ASAP, and he will get them ordered from Nicklasson's for delivery at the March meeting.

The constitution and by-laws now need to be updated, approved, and submitted to the state board by the end of April.

Brandon Stender (Young America) moved to have the league officers update the constitution and by-laws prior to the March meeting, Joe Berrios (Mayer) seconded, motion carried.

The next league meeting will take place Monday, March 14 at Dubb's in Glencoe at 7 p.m.

With no other business to discuss, Brandon Stender (Young America) moved to adjourn, Adam Dammann (Plato) seconded, motion carried.

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