

# MLGS Board Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Laurel House

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**Attendees:** Alan S., David C., Bob F., Chris M., Gregg W., John L., Joe F., Austin C., Ian T., Lauren M.

## **Meeting Notes:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

### **1. Financial Update**

- Approximately \$8,700 has been spent since the last meeting for Ground Troops, A.D. Starr, and J&J Hardware.
- MLGS received no income since the last meeting.

### **2. Donations Update**

- Freedom Mortgage will consider donating to MLGS if any Freedom employees are affiliated with the organization. Please reach out to John L. if you know anyone employed by Freedom.

### **3. Fields/Facility/Equipment**

- Joe volunteered to take on the responsibilities of the Facilities/Fields Manager and will meet with Mike to talk about what's involved. David will continue to serve as Equipment Manager.
- Joe will obtain a quote to expand sprinkler coverage to the Spencer infields and more of the outfields. Austin shared that the Township may be willing to help with this.
- Lauren will ask Mike about the status of the repairs to the damaged siding on the new shed.
- Joe requested that portable field liners be ordered for Spencer Fields A and B.
- New batter's box templates and rakes were ordered and are being used.
- Ian, Joe, and David will install the new field lining system.
- David will inventory the Spencer equipment room once Spencer and the satellite fields are closed.

### **4. Website**

- TeamSnap provided a quote of \$1,830 for the first year with an ACH fee of 1.99% and a credit card fee of 2.79%. David believes there is still room to negotiate these fees.
  - The board approved a two-year contract with TeamSnap for registration and website services.

### **5. Rec Program**

- Rec registration will go live in early December and will include parent/guardian signoffs for a photo release and the Code of Conduct.
- Ian will secure a vendor for background checks for all head and assistant coaches for all Rec and Storm teams.
- Players need to be at least five years old at the start of the season to play T-ball.

- Parents should be encouraged to keep their child in a second year of T-ball if they are in kindergarten or first grade.
- MLGS will review the registrations received to determine if a different approach should be used for 8U this year.
- Rec registration will be advertised through the elementary, Hartford, and Harrington PTOs, the Township newsletter, and various Facebook pages.
- MLGS will ask Chris Beeler to send an email about MLGS Rec registration to all Mount Laurel Basketball families later in their season.

## **6. Storm Travel Teams**

- Bob stressed the need for the Storm program to have consistent practice plans for all teams. He also offered to work with teams who need coaching support. Any coach interested in having Bob work with their team should contact him directly.
- Bob encouraged Storm coaches to start thinking about what they want to get out of their winter workouts.
- Spencer will be closed on November 16 at 10:00 a.m. All coaches, board members, and players are encouraged to attend.

## **7. Mount Laurel Township**

- The Township is getting vendor contracts back for the restroom project.
- The Township plans to paint the Spencer dugouts before the end of the calendar year.
- The board discussed the wish list that will be used to inform the organization's five-year plan.
  - John L. shared that netting for all five Spencer fields similar to what's at Laurel Acres was quoted at \$78,562. Netting for Fields A and B are the biggest priority.
  - John L. reported that using a smartphone to control the scoreboards at Spencer was quoted at \$3,900.
  - Bob shared that clay bricks are \$1,000 per field for the righthand batter's box and \$1,500 for the pitcher's mound.
  - Austin reported that upgrading the dugouts could cost \$5,000-10,000 per dugout with an additional \$10,000-15,000 per dugout for a metal roof. This comes to about \$100,000 total for five fields.
  - Austin shared that it would be helpful to have a better idea of what MLGS wants re: a new concession stand before obtaining relevant quotes. He shared that putting small concession stands at each field may make it easier to get volunteers. This discussion will be tabled until the restroom project is completed.
  - Bob reported that installing and using backstop cameras is a one-time charge of \$15,000 and an annual fee of \$4,200.
  - Lauren shared that the price of a pole barn in our area (pole barn only, no equipment or furnishings) can run from \$50 to \$150 per square foot. For a space 70 feet by 20 feet, this could be \$77,000 to \$231,000.
  - Alan shared that golf carts can range from \$5,000 to \$35,000, depending on our needs.
  - David reported that a playground like what is installed at Delran's softball/baseball complex is about \$600,000.
  - The estimated cost to put turf on the T-ball field is \$400,000.

- Based on the above information, the board will be asked to again prioritize items on the MLGS wish list. The upgraded sprinkler system must be added to the list before any ranking occurs.
- The board asked if it would be possible to clear some of the brush behind Fields C and D to increase parking. Austin said he would check with the Township.

#### **8. Board Positions**

- Chris volunteered to fill the role of Player Agent.
- MLGS has two board openings – one for Registrar and one for Concessions Manager. Rec registration should include a question about parents/guardians' interest in volunteering on the board.

#### **9. New Business**

- The MLGS table at Mount Laurel's Food Truck Festival received a lot of traffic despite the rainy weather. Lauren asked to purchase an MLGS banner or tablecloth for future community events to help better identify the organization.
- Alan shared that approximately 70 players participated in the Storm photo day. The photos are already in use on the MLGS website and Storm Facebook page.
- David shared that the netting between Fields C and D needs to be tightened. Austin committed to bringing this up to the Township.
- Bob shared with the Board the challenges of finding reliable individuals to work the fields for tournaments. He proposed that young people be allowed to take this on. The board supported this if there is some familiarity/affiliation with those who step up to take the job.

#### **10. Upcoming Board Meetings**

- Future meetings of the MLGS board will take place on the following dates: 12/2/2024, 2/3/2025, 3/3/2025, 5/4/2025, 6/8/2025, 9/7/2025, and 11/2/2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.