

WASHINGTON COUNTY SENIOR SOFTBALL LEAGUE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2018, MEETING MINUTES

Washington County Senior Softball League President Theresa Emery called the league's Monday, December 3, 2018, monthly meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in Hagerstown's Western Sizzlin Steak House.

League officers in attendance were:

Theresa Emery, President

Tim Doyle, Secretary

Cheryl Gouker, Treasurer

Other league members attending were: immediate past president AJ Nicolosi, Tom Hyme, Bob Thomas, Rodney Knable, Brent Taylor, Jim Taylor, Brian McKenzie, John Rowe, Jim Flick, Ken Oyler III, Marvin Oliver, Frank Hood, Timothy McCown, Bob Kuhlman, Dan Elgin, Lew McIntyre, Frank Emery, and Paul Brown.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes of the league's November 5, 2018, monthly meeting were read aloud by the secretary and approved by the members in attendance.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Cheryl Gouker reported a checking account balance of \$1,577 with three additional \$50 player registrations received for the 2019 season. The league's savings account balance of \$5,700 was the same as last month.

Cheryl also reported that the league received a heartfelt thank you card from league member Mike Conley expressing his sincere appreciation for the many cards, prayers, emails and words of kindness he and his family received from league members following the recent death of his sister.

PITCHER PROTECTION SCREENS

League members in attendance voted unanimously to purchase three protection screens for

pitchers to stand behind during batting practice and other league practice sessions.

League member Frank Hood explained that the large square protection screens sell for about \$75 each at Dick's Sporting Goods. The screens can be taken apart and stored in the league's Hagerstown City Park storage boxes and/or in the Halfway County Park storage shed, Hood said. Replacement nets are about \$25 each.

Alternative L-shaped screens cost about \$150 and can cause a ball to bounce back rapidly at the batter, he said. League member Bob Thomas opposed the pitcher protection screens saying he believed they were "not necessary."

BONANZA FUNDRAISER TICKETS

WCSSL member Jim "J.T." Taylor announced that 149 tickets are now available for the league's January Bonanza fundraising dinner banquet.

League members should contact J.T. to buy their tickets and/or to obtain tickets they can sell to their friends and neighbors. Each \$40 ticket will admit two persons or one person attending alone.

The event's all-you-can-eat fried chicken dinner will include scalloped potatoes, green beans, beer, soda, coffee, water, and a cupcake desert. The evening also will include tip jar gaming, 50-50 drawings, deejay music and dancing.

The Bonanza is scheduled for 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, January 26, 2019, at the Fairplay Fire Company Banquet Hall in the Washington County community of Fairplay, Maryland, about six miles south of Hagerstown.

J.T.'s brother Brent Taylor is arranging the event's "one-day pour" liquor permit. League treasurer Cheryl Gouker is helping J.T. arrange the event's tip jar gaming license. Frank Emery plans to build corn hole game target boards that can become part of the 50-50 drawings.

Bonanza proceeds will help support the purchase of field maintenance materials, equipment and storage. Anyone interested in volunteering to help with the Bonanza fundraiser activities should contact J.T., Brent or Cheryl.

TEAM SPONSORS

Tim Doyle reported that a favorable \$400 Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) team sponsorship

decision is expected in January.

In addition, Younger Toyota's formal charitable contribution request form was completed and submitted in time for the company's December 1 deadline. A Younger decision on a separate \$400 team sponsorship is expected soon.

Team sponsorship letters are being forwarded to a total of 10 potential team sponsors. League members should contact Tim or Cheryl with additional team sponsorship or donation suggestions.

INFIELD DRAINAGE

Ken Oiler offered to provide his mini-excavator, skid loader and dump truck to help correct infield drainage problems at the league's two City Park fields.

Tom Hyme said the league has permission to do whatever it takes to correct the City Park infield drainage issues. Tom said he hoped seek advice from the person who keeps the Hagerstown Fairgrounds Park softball infield surfaces leveled and sloped correctly.

J.T. said he would prefer to have the same level crushed stone infield surface that the league uses when playing games at Halfway County Park.

TEAM MANAGERS NEEDED

Theresa emphasized that the league needs two more league members to commit to being team managers next season. To date, five league members have committed to managing teams in 2019. These stalwart fellows are Rodney Knable, Tom Hyme, Jim Taylor, Frank Emery and Brian McKenzie. The league fielded seven 14-member teams last season.

NEW SOFTBALLS

Immediate past president A.J. Nicolosi recommended that the league consider purchasing new softballs for next season as soon as possible because new softballs can be "hard to come by" in March or April. WCSSL season games run from May through September. Open spring practice sessions take place in April. Tom Hyme said the league usually needs 10 dozen new balls each season.

NEXT MEETING

The next league meeting will be held Monday, January 14, 2019, in the meeting room at the

Washington County Sheriff's Department in Hagerstown.