

SYBA MINUTES FROM MEETING

September 15th, 2019

Shakopee Bowl – 7:30 pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday October 15th – 7:30 pm (Shakopee Bowl)

Attendees: Brad Menden
Jeff Schmitz
Eric Schroeder
Allen Larson
Rod Hicks
Sean LaCoste
Dave Johnson
Aaron Olson
Adam Colby
Chad Stensrud

Not in Attendance:

Tom Schleper

Guests: None

- Board discussed financials
- The board discussed the city meeting that Brad Menden and Allen Larson attended

Five year strategic plan - City recently updated its Parks and Rec five year strategic plan. Trails are #1 priority for the City of Shakopee. There is no money budgeted for baseball field development. Any money that was in previous strategic plan (Tahpah West Lights) has been removed.

Westminster scoreboards and dugouts - City is open to putting scoreboards up at Westminster but are concerned about the large size in a residential area. They would like to see pictures/options of a smaller size. They also appear ok with SYBA adding dugouts similar to those at Green Meadow but would not have any money to help with the cost.

Tahpah West - We asked if the city would give us a discount if we pay off the remaining \$30,000 early. They were going to look into it and get back to us.

Phase 1 is done, Phase 2 is on hold. We are not exactly sure what was in phase 2 but we think it was things like lights, scoreboard, and dugouts. Lights were in the 2021 budget but have been removed. Phase 3 (smaller field at Tahpah West we think) is on hold indefinitely.

The city thought that putting up a large shed at Tahpah West (storage, concessions, and bath rooms) would be very expensive due to water source being a long way away. City is ok with the idea but has no money at this time to help pay for this.

Dugouts at Tahpah – We talked about building in stages (roof, slab, fence) and working with other groups (Lions, Fastpitch, Slow pitch, City). We asked for help in setting up a meeting to discuss. No commitments were made by the City. They did suggest we talk to the Lions. Jay

did say he would like to have a meeting with groups that use baseball fields to see if priorities align.

Sheds at Green Meadow and Tahpah West - We made our case to move the State Am sheds to Tahpah West and Green Meadow. Bill Egan said he wanted to build a shed at Green Meadow that was similar to the one at Riverview. We said that the State Am shed would be a temporary solution until a "Riverview Like" shed could be built. Bill do not say when the "Riverview Like" shed would be built. Hard to believe building something would be soon give the lack of funds. No next steps were identified.

Green Meadow – The city said they would be able to rebuild the mound at Green Meadow but they did not say when it would happen. Hopefully this fall. The clay/ag lime box is built and the city will deliver it shortly. We need to find out if we need to fill it up or if the city will do that.

Aglime – Aglime is applied to all baseball fields (city and school district owned) every fall. Time and weather conditions (and maybe money) may prevent some of this from happening. If there is a field that we think needs it more than another, we should communicate to Keith. City also does infield edging in the fall as time allows and field need. We should ask Keith if there is a field that we think really needs it.

City Approval Process – The process to get ideas approved by the city is as follows:

1. Discuss with Jay, Bill, Keith, Sherry
2. Approval by Park and Rec Advisory Board – meets every month, 2nd Monday of the month
3. Approval by City Council – prefer consent order but can be an agenda item

Any of this can be started when ever but if we wanted the city to pay for anything (or help with labor?) the budget process needs to start in Jan and finalize in May. The 2020 budget is already finalized and there is no money for baseball.

Planning Department - Any dugout or larger building plans (maybe scoreboards?) would now need to go through the planning department. In the past this went through Park and Rec. City Planning would also be the people we would need to talk to about getting a variance for fence slats at Green Meadow and Tahpah West.

Space scheduling - Starting the fall of 2020, we will schedule indoor space with who owns them – City facility requests go to Sherry and school district facilities would likely go to Jahnke. There is a meeting tentatively schedules for Nov 6 for all stakeholders who are impacted to discuss this change. Outdoor space scheduling will switch to whomever is the owner in Jan 2021.

Fees - Fees to city are low when compare to national averages and will likely change (aka go up). National average is \$50 and we currently pay \$17. The city will switch from paying one fee per participant (covers both city and school district space) to more of a space rental fee concept. This fee will go to whomever owns the field. We emphasized that we would need to know the details about the new fee structure early (no later than Jan) so we could incorporate any changes into our registration fees. We also asked that any fee structure to be similar between city and school owned space.

Sponsorship – The city has created a new position (Carla Kress) who will be in charge of all Advertising, Sales, Volunteers and Sponsorships. Any money earned on a specific space would likely stay with that space/field. In other words, money made selling advertising space on the

hockey arena would not be used to build baseball dugouts and any money earned on a baseball field would not be used for lacrosse projects. Selling advertising (including field naming rights) may be one way to pay for things like scoreboards, dugouts and even fields (small Tahpah West field). Any sponsorship ideas/opportunities need to go through Karla.

Volunteer Hours – The city would like information about the number of volunteer hours worked by SYBA. They record the number of hours worked through the Adapt A Park program and asked if we could communicate the number of hours worked maintaining and improving baseball fields. Karla Kress is the contact. They also said that if we did some field clean-up work like edging the infields, they would be willing to clean up the scraps. All we have to do is let them know when we are doing the work.

New field at Jackson Elementary - School District may need (?) to build another skin infield at Jackson Elementary. We said that this would be of very limited value to us. We should see if this money could be redirected to something else – lights or turf at Stemmer?

Concessions - Jay has ideas about concessions but we did not get to talk about his ideas

- Fall field cleanup update
 - Dave Johnson will be reaching out to all head coaches to coordinate winterization of the following fields:
 - Westminster
 - Green Meadow
 - Jackson Township
 - Riverview
- Fall Ball update
 - Rod Hicks discussed that fall ball is going good and that there is 11 teams total this year.
- Board discussed the Shakopee 2020 tournament and with Shakopee softball having fields reserved for their annual fathers day tournament on the weekend of June 19th-21st what options we would have.
 - Option 1 would be move the tournament to over 2 weekends-June 12th-14th and have AAA and A teams only and then have AA and 9 year olds on June 26th-28th
 - Option 2 would be move it to June 5th-7th and have all teams participate over one weekend.
- Aaron Olson discussed that we are all set for Starters off season training. We are set up for Tuesdays and Thursdays this winter. Player development will be at Savage dome and West Middle School with Tom Schleper and help from High School baseball players.
- Dave Johnson discussed that the pitching mounds will be assembled and placed at the following fields on Wednesday September 25th.
 - West Middle School
 - Green Meadow
 - Riverview
 - Jackson Township
 - The city will fill in the mounds

- Board discussed getting bids for apparel this year. Board agreed to follow up on this at a future board meeting.
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm