

Fall 2008

Bowling Green
Middleton, Wisconsin
October 26, 2008 12:30 pm

Fall Meeting of the Board of Directors of Wisconsin NAFA

The Agenda (Drafted by Loren Lathrop)

1. Call to order
2. Recording of attendance
 - A. Discussion of attached letter
 - B. Filling vacant position if any
 - C. Clarification of filling future Board vacancies
3. Presentation of minutes from spring meeting
4. Presentation of treasurers report
5. Appearances before Board (if any)
6. Umpires
 - A. Report from umpire-in-chief
 - B. Concerns of any Board member regarding umpiring
7. Travel League
 - A. Review of 2008 season
 - B. Establishment of 2009 dates and sites
8. State Tournament
 - A. Review of 2008 event
 - B. Establishment of 2009 date and site
9. National NAFA
 - A. Review of 2008 event in Mankato
 - B. Classification concern of a particular team
 - C. Dates and sites for 2009
10. Board member comments and concerns
11. Establishment of date and place for 2009 spring meeting
12. Adjournment

Please be in attendance

October 7, 2008

NAFA Board Members:

As I am sure all of you remember, right before the spring meeting I turned in my letter of resignation. It seems that I may have been premature in that announcement.

The reasons were two with the minor one being health and age. Last November I was in the hospital for three days due to a severe asthma attack. No it was not dementia nor any STD episode but a breathing problem that I was afraid would escalate at the ball park due to the dust. But with a change in medicine and learning to pace my self, had no health problem at all this summer.

Yes am not getting any younger but as someone close to me keeps telling me, age is just a number. Plus this is not construction work and there is no evidence of Alzheimer's setting in.

The biggest reason was disappointment in the decline of the men's game. My hope was that someone from this board would come forth, volunteering to take over with fresh ideas and enthusiasm. But no one came forth so I looked at what I did on the softball front this past summer. Eight weekends (that is counting the two weekends in Mankato as one) I ran or helped run a tournament. My involvement was to the extent that I was there virtually from the first pitch to the last out. Those eight weekends do not count being at tournaments in Bristol, Marshall, and Walcott, Iowa where I was promoting the NAFA. Some other things come to mind: doing the Travel League schedule; selecting the All State team; answering inquires; preparing an agenda for meetings; listening to a team scream at me that they were never coming to a NAFA event again (they have been to two since) and making classification decisions that as we shall see in our agenda are not always popular.

Now there is not a single one of you that can not do everything I did as well or better than I did. But do anyone of you have the time and inclination to put in the hours I do? Fearing not, I had a long meeting with Benji Hedgecock, Executive Director of NAFA. One definite revelation came out of that meeting, softball is my life. What he proposed is that I retire over a four year time frame, cutting two weekends a year. With permission of this Board, I am willing to do that.

All of us are Packer fans (right Bill) and we know what happened to Brett Favre when he rescinded his retirement. So if there is a Aaron Rodgers waiting in the wings to take over who promises not to hurt himself tripping over the foul line, I will graciously step a side. But if not I will continue on.

Yours for fast pitch softball,
Loren Lathrop

WISCONSIN NAFA STATE MEETING
BOWLING GREEN RECREATION CENTER
BOWLING GREEN, WI
OCTOBER 26, 2008

Fall Meeting of the Board of Directors of Wisconsin NAFA

Board Members Present: Ronn Kopp, Loren Lathrop, Larry Duerkop, Mike White, Bob Neville, Dan Slama, Greg Spindler, and Bill Erickson, Bud Olson, and Steve Vail.

Board Members Absent: Kevin Musolf, Mark Nelson, Jerrod Dulmes, Matt Pronschinske and Tom Marquardt.

The meeting was called to order at 12:48 p.m. by State Director Ronn Kopp.

Moved by Veil, seconded by Olson to rescind the resignation of Lathrop. Motion passed unanimously.

In accordance with NAFA By-Laws, Matt Pronschinske was removed from the board, due to missing three consecutive meetings.

Moved by Spindler, seconded by Veil to implement an application process to fill vacant positions by February 1st. Bill Erickson will put an application on the website. The board will discuss applicants via email. Motion passed 9-1.

Spring meeting minutes were not available. They will be approved at a later date via email.

Moved by Neville, seconded by White to accept the Treasurer's report as presented to each member in printed form. Motion passed 9-1.

Terry Knight made a guest appearance at the meeting.

Umpire-in-Chief Neville reported on a few minor umpiring situations throughout the past year. Lathrop voiced concerns that WI NAFA umpires should still be under the control of the NAFA Board, not an entity in and of themselves.

Travel league 2008 was reviewed. Thirteen teams participated. Wilber Lime was champion.

Two bids were submitted for the 2009 Travel League: Bowling Green & Medford Area.

Moved by Spindler, seconded by Slama to have Bowling Green host on May 9-10 and Medford Area host on May 16-17. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held on possibly initiating a “start-up” tournament, possibly during the NAFA state tournament, to encourage younger teams to play. Discussion was tabled until the spring meeting.

There were two bids presented for the 2009 WI NAFA state tournament. Bowling Green bid \$600 and Baldwin bid \$500. A vote was conducted. Bowling Green received 9 votes and Baldwin 1 vote. The state tournament will be held in Bowling Green on July 11-12.

The board plans to continue to have an AA tournament as long as there are at least four teams.

The 2008 national tournament was discussed. Mankato received good reviews. Discussion was held on the concerns of the Sawdust City team related to previous NAFA decisions regarding the team classification.

The 2009 national AA Major tournament will be held August 6-9, in Bay City, Michigan. The national A tournament will be August 6-9, in Appleton, Wisconsin. The national AAA tournament will be July 24-26, in Bowling Green, Wisconsin. The national AA and A Major tournaments will be August 13-16, in Appleton, Wisconsin. The NAFA open tournament will be August 6-9, in Kimberly, Wisconsin.

The date of the spring meeting will be April 19, 2009 at the Hixton Legion.

Motion to dismiss the meeting was made by Neville, seconded by Erickson. Motion passed 9-1, with Kopp voting nay.

Minutes taken by Larry Duerkop