Meeting Minutes - May 25th

Attended: Ken, Jenn, Craig, Diane, Donna, Andrea, Sport, Mark M, Mark P, Dan C

Agenda: Scheduled Meeting Dates

-      40th Anniversary (Al)

-      Financial Review/Update (Rich)

-      Moose Lawsuit (Craig)

-       Marketing Review (Andrea)

        -      Scholarship

        -      Catch-a-fire

        -      Summer Kickoff

        -      Golf Outing

        -      Other Upcoming Events

-      Flag Update (Sport/Greg)

-      Tackle Update (Mark/Mark)

        -     Men/Women Season Update

        -      HS Season Update

-      New Items

40th Anniversary:

Dinner/Dance: Saturday, November 25th - committee is set

$38/pp + 18.75% grat + 7% tax for a buffet/cash bar + band- charging $75/pp

$500 deposti to the Mountain Lakes Club on Route 46 - can fit 150 people (+/- 25)

Alumni game during the day

Picnic : Saturday, August 5th

Black River Barn (Tom Grego)

Pot luck - families bring salad, dessert, appetizer / club provides hot dogs, hamburgers (Keith Mennella will donate)

Will sent out a "save the date" and post on the website

Blazing7s: (UPDATED based on Blazing 7s meeting)

Saturday, July 22nd (UPDATE: Horseshoe Lake Fields in Roxbury) - committee is set

No backup plan for rain

We need to set up fields - can do a few days before

Registration will take place thru the Morris Website

Chappy confirmed, this is a Morris Rugby tournament

Divisions: M/W Elite , M/W Club, B/G High School, B/G Middle School (very small)

Insurance - Jenn to get for new location / check on weather insurance

Need to be sure fees are comparable to other tournaments in the series

Split between Morris/NJ Blaze needs to be determined and NEED to work this out next year in January, not wait until 2 months before

Moose Lawsuit:

conference call with the Moose lawyers this week

suit doesn't seem credible

settle for approx $1000 - Club did not do what is claimed in the write-up

$215/hr for the lawyer - estimating $1,000 total

no active lawsuit is filed as yet

Marketing Review:

Scholarship: application completed, initial $100, add'l $150 available with 400-600 word essay explaining what they have contributed to Morris

receiving donations for the scholarship fund

student/athletes must be: active & in good standing with Morris, played at least 6 months, used for advancement of rugby, provide copy of camp invite, written recommendation from coach, good academic standing, submit 30 days prior to attending, only 1 per fiscal year, not more than 50% of total cost,

Catch-a-fire: RWJ Foundation - volunteers for Non-Profits to obtain add'l resources. RWJ is covering the cost (normally $200/mon) till Sept, 2017. We will submit for help with Grant Writing and Growing Membership/Sponsorship

Summer Kickoff: no-one at Roxbury (1st year), rained out of Lake Hopatcong, Just Jersey Food Truck festival = June 17, Donna to check with Allison for others

Golf Outing: Friday, June 23rd - tricky tray prizes coming in, still need additional sponsorships & foursomes. Team Snap reminder went out last week

Mission/Vision: Craig & Andrea to take a cut at updating, will bring to a future meeting

Tackle Update:

Men: Tough loss for men that ended their Nationals bid, finished up 5th for the season - moving into 7s season

still having trouble getting info from Men on their $$, will try to reach out to Tom W again, money needs to come into Morris then reimbursed. Men had a concern about how the money would be handled and wanted to make sure any excess from this season would roll into the next

Women: Lost to Providence in the Atlantic North regional finals

Tom F has created a 7s elite & social women's team to compete this season - getting past HS girls back into the Morris fold

Boys: 12s did well, 14s struggling but getting better, 18s is a young team / starting 7s with Omar as HS boys coach & Karl assisting

Girls: finished up 5th at Nationals (went in ranked 6th) / starting 7s with Gene as coach

Flag Update (including fields):

Rookie Rugby registration is up & running

Coaches are able to take the level 100 course online with no fee, being recommended to all

Uploading spreadsheet to register on website

Season starts on June 12

250-300 signed up so far, approx 800 last year

Have Denville, Montclair, Morristown, Ridge, BaseCamp, Black River (new person). Sparta is optomistic they'll grow, MineHill has folded, Byram having issues -may fold

Need a minimum level of marketing for each program - lawn signs up & flyers to schools have gone out

New items:

Rutgers Training: PJ is trained, first session on June 7th to be held at the Moose from 7-10 pm. Will accept other sports teams (fee)

USA Men training at Drew University - will host Meet & Greet at VFW, see NJ Rugby website for info

Coaches Clinic: June 3rd & Ref Clinic: May 30 for new, June 1st for returning will send out a team snap email to HS players

All money (including sponsorships) have to go thru the Corporate account and will then be earmarked for the specific team

Rich & Jenn to have a meeting with all the Finance & President (or Head Coach) of each team to explain how the money needs to flow (non-profit rules)

Uniforms: Women are interested in Cantebury, waiting on info and costs from Laurence. HS Girls just purchased from Paladin. As a Board we don't want to dictate what uniforms should look like, but we need to make sure that "Every effort is made to stick to the Morris colors and represent the club when purchasing new uniforms". Crest has to be approved to make sure current one is being used and we aren't infringing on any copyright images (U14 Girls?)

MVP Store: another sale happening soon

Board of Advisors: Kai, Kevin & Harpal are trying to keep it going, Craig will get an update

Rich's dad passed away, sending flowers and Jenn will forward info on times/location for arrangements