



Buffalo Fenians GAA
Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 20, 2021 @ 7:00 pm

Officers Present: Matt Lomot, Mike Reiser, Tim Flanagan, Damien Brady, Adam Hayes, Megan Corcoran, & Ed Reiser

Others Present: None

Officers Excused or Absent: None

1. Chairman addressed new board: Matt welcomed new and returning officers to the board.
2. Treasury: Damien is going to reach out to Tim Callahan this week to get all the accounts transferred over. *During the discussion on the Midwest raffle tickets, it was suggested we set-up a Venmo account, which Damien said he will do once he has secured the bank account information.
3. Women's Team Update: Matt spoke with Gabe Wilson about the team, recruiting, and her position as player rep. Gabe is still interested in supporting the team and will take some time to determine what role she would like to play. Mike Reiser discussed the potential of holding a meeting for the women's team to discuss the upcoming year. Matt suggested we wait until the player rep position is settled and then we can move forward. Mike will reach out to Kathleen D. to have her discuss this with Gabe.
4. Email accounts: The club has a chair, secretary, vice chair, & PRO account. Mike will reach out to Bill to get the log-in credentials for the VC account. All other accounts have been turned over to the new officers.
5. Club Registration: Technically, club registration is now open and the USGAA platform normally opens by February 1st, but this has not been confirmed yet. Discussion focused on having players register with the club & USGAA at the same time to avoid any delays. Adam will send out information about registration to the players once we determine when to open registration. Ed Reiser will post an FYI to the men's team on the GroupMe app. Tim F. proposed setting all club registration fees at \$20 (this is for all players & social members). The board approved this through unanimous consent.
6. Midwest Raffle Tickets: We have 255 tickets (\$10 per ticket cost). Meg will post information about these on our Facebook page and will compose a write up, which will be sent out to all members via the club email account.



7. Golf Tournament: Damien asked if we are still interested in hosting a golf tournament for this year---the board agreed we should continue this event. We will look into other courses, including Glen Oaks. Discussion focused on setting up a golf committee to handle the planning & running of this event. Damien is going to reach out to Kevin Hennessy and see if he would be interested in serving on this committee.
8. USGAA Convention: Matt discussed the ballot each club must submit this year. It was agreed we would vote for John Young as vice chair, Tim Flanagan as secretary, Tom Lagan as registrar, & Mary Ruane as PRO. The convention delegates will be Mike Reiser and Tim Flanagan. The convention will be held virtually from Chicago on Saturday, January 30th at 11:00 am.
9. PRO Report: Meg is going to post general content to the Facebook page at least twice a month to help increase traffic and visibility. She would like ideas about content from board officers sent to her as we think of items to post. It was agreed to merge the 3 club pages into 1 Facebook page/account.
10. Sponsorship: Matt asked about the AGL deal and where we stand with it. Mike said he believes we still have 1 year left and will check with his uncle Jon about this. He also noted that the AGL seemed willing to provide additional funding for club needs beyond jerseys, etc. Matt spoke about working with Sullivan's to secure a club sponsorship and reaching out to community companies and bar/restaurants. Matt suggested we hold events/meetings/after training sessions at a different bar each month as a way to strengthen our presence in the community and build future relationships with potential supporters/sponsors. Tim F. brought up a point of order that the AGL sponsorship may have run out in 2020, as we received our final check from them last year. He will look into past correspondence to confirm this, as we may be able to move forward with a new club sponsor in 2021 instead of waiting another year. Board officers also shared their view that we should/will move back to O'Neill's as our official apparel provider.
11. Playing Venues: Mike is going to compile a list of venues and begin reaching out to West Seneca and the City of Buffalo to secure a new training and playing field.
12. Fenian Run: Matt suggested the idea of holding a Fenian Run as a kick-off the season event following the historic path of the original Fenians soldiers. This could possible happen in early June.



13. Recruiting: We need to come up with ideas on how best to recruit new players for the men's and women's teams, as well as youth program. It was suggested that we invest in placing an ad on Facebook---Meg will price this out and get back to the board. We also need to update our ad in the Buffalo Irish Times---Tim F. will reach out to get this taken care of.
14. Youth: We need to have a conversation with Paul Mulcaire and determine what exactly his youth group is doing, who they are supporting, and what they will be called. Matt mentioned that Padraig Walsh & Ray Clarke would like to help with developing youth players and that we may need to take control of the Fenians youth program by keeping everything under the one club model. Further discussion will need to take place on this.
15. New Logo: The board agreed that we need to clean-up and reimage our logo. Mike will reach out to his cousin Seamus to create some mock-ups for our review.
16. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Matt, seconded by Damien
Time: 8:49 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 10th at 7:00 pm.