Present: Mary Ryan, Martha Jamieson, Jeff Szymaniak, Mark Milville, Mel Laughton, David Reid, Chris Barbarotta, Josh King, Mike Gerrish, Shawn Rickan, Joe Gamache, Avery Esdaile, Gus Chester, Shawn Thornton, Annette DiMascio, Rich Lewis, Sherry Bryant, Rachael Moo, Michele Blackburn

1. Meeting called to order at 10:36 am by Chairperson Martha Jamieson.
   Introduction of new member Avery Esdaile (Boston Public Schools)

   Governance Role – was explained by Sherry Bryant
   (How the MIAA functions)

   Conflict of Interest Statement – must be signed by each committee member and passed in to the MIAA.

2. Minutes of February 11, 2016 meeting were accepted with the addition of Dave Reid as present.
   Motion to accept by Dave Reid 2nd by Jeff Szymaniak 11 – 0

3. Election of Officers for 2016 – 2017
   Chairperson – Martha Jamieson
   Vice Chair - Dave Reid
   Secretary - Rich Lewis
   Motion by Mary Beth Ryan
   2nd by Shawn Thornton
Once again a “LANDSLIDE VICTORY” 11-0

4. Voting on RULE CHANGE PROPOSALS
   1. 11-0 -0
   2. 1-10-0
   3. 10-1-0
   4. 0-11-0
   5. 11-0-0
   6. 0-11-0 Amendment 18 games two per week 9-0-2
   7. 11-0-0
   8. 2-9-0
   9. 0-11-0
   10. 0-10-1
   11. 0-11-0
   12. 0-11-0
   13. 2-9-0
   14. 4-7-0
   15. 2-9-0
   16. 4-7-0
   17. 0-11-0
   18. 0-11-0
   19. 0-11-0
   20. 10-0-0
   21. 0-9-1
   22. 9-0-0
   23. 9-0-0
   24. 9-0-0
   33. 2-8-0
   37. 3-6-0
   38. 0-8-1
   39 0-8-0

   The Committee will update February meeting the format
6. **Four Year Alignment** -

   **Four divisions or three divisions**

   Sub-Committee will meet again before the February meeting and present the recommended alignment to the full committee for discussion and vote.

   The problem that was identified was the North Division 3 was overloaded with a greater number of teams, which creates an imbalance of teams in each division.

   There was a lot of discussion on how to fix the problem and to be fair and equitable to each of the schools. It was proposed to align the schools in all divisions according to:

   1. Enrollment
   2. Vocational Schools move down one division
   3. All Boston schools will be moved to Division 3
   4. All schools would then be afforded the opportunity to appeal their placement before the FULL SOFTBALL COMMITTEE.

   This information will be forwarded to the Softball Committee members as soon as the information is formulated.

   **ELTRONIC VOTE WILL BE TAKEN**

   Motion to proceed by Mark Millville  2\textsuperscript{nd} by Mary Ryan  12-0-0

7. **NFHS RULES** -  Rachel Moo

   The rule changes for the upcoming season were included in your packets along with the points of emphasis.

   There was a spirited discussion on how the official tournament softball is chosen. Many expressed their desire to have the DUDLEY ball as their choice. Worth
ball was described as much lower quality and scuffs more easily therefore rendering it unsuitable for play. How does the BID PROCESS work? Why does the Softball Committee not have a say on what ball is chosen for tournament play? GOOD QUESTIONS Perhaps at the next meeting Sherry or Rachael could explain to the Committee

Softball survey was suggested as way of expressing the will of the Ad’s and coaches as to what ball they would like to see as the OFFICIAL BALL of the MIAA

8. SOFTBALL SURVEY of Tournament
Rachael reported that the tournament venue’s, TD, and umpires all received EXCELLENT / VERY GOOD in all categories.

9. ELECTRONIC TICKETING
Reported that six electronic tickets were issued at the State Finals. Perhaps as people get more familiar with the process it will catch on in the spring tournaments. Long lines in the spring do not seem to a problem.

10. Other
WALKER SYSTEM was voted in unanimously as the seeding procedure that will be used in Central Massachusetts Softball tournament this year. (2017)

NEXT MEETING FEBRUARY 9, 2017 10 AM
At the MIAA Office in Franklin, Ma.

Respectively submitted,

Rich Lewis