

Attendees:**Board Members:**

Al Foice, Mauricio Rosales, Dean Bartlett, John Laliberte, Craig Butkus, Paul Murray, Kibby Horsford, Estelle LeClair, Will Gonyeau

Other Attendees: none

Notes:

- Meeting called into order 7:06 – with a quorum.
- Minutes were approved from 3/17, and 3/20 with no discussion
- Open discussion from visitors – none
- VSAHA Update –
 - New slate of VSAHA offices (see VSAHA web site)
 - Paul Murray provided an overview of the meeting regarding VSAHA’s proposal for regionalization of girls hockey (combining girls into regional (6) teams). Paul noted tha there was lively discussion during the meeting and that no associations were in favor except for the two individuals that wrote the proposal. The proposal was dropped by at that point and the conversation then focused on girls recruitment as the best course of action to ensure sustainability of the local programs. Another meeting is scheduled to discuss various success stories and how these can be applied elsewhere as needed. Information was shared that indicated that there is a large number of girls statewide in local associations in the U8 category. Examples include Hartford with 41, and St Albans, CSB and Essex that have 20+. General feeling is that player numbers are good for the future. State is open to local associations having creative solutions in joining possibly for a season to bridge seasonal shortages
 - Board discussed potential grouping of U8 girls/cross-ice if the interest is there.
 - VSAHA reminded us that special events require State waivers (e.g. family skate, parent player games.) Maurice is the insurance point person for added insurance and should be contacted as needed.
 - New girls coaching requirements will now match the boys (e.g. Level 3 for 12 and under)
 - If there are 4+ girls U10 teams in the VSAHA indicated it may run a State tournament
 - State may have reimbursement for cross-ice spending. More to follow.
 - General concern regarding Hartford and Lebanon merging and being over-powering in the future was discussed. As noted, Hartford has the most girls in the U8 category statewide and with the addition of Lebanon, those numbers could be significantly more than the current gap. Question regarding the real state of Hartford’s membership issues was raised.

Treasures Report

- Budget in black – stronger fundraising increased total revenue
- Down in income from fees and registrations for the year from budget
- Backstage contribution highly appreciated – funded in full all capital outlays. Calcutta options at

the Backstage need to be a consideration to show support for their generosity.

Financial Considerations. items for next season

- Concept of team based fundraising presented
 - Pros and cons discussed
- Need golf tournament coordinator, several folks will be contacted for committee or to run it
- Local option for rink needs to be investigated for the possibility of Highgate not being available.

Equipment

- Some sponsor tags still need to be collected
- Inventory collection in progress
- Dean will coordinate and ensure all is complete

New Business

- Al Foice elected in as President unanimously by the voting members present at the meeting
- John Laliberte elected as 1st VP unanimously by the voting members present at the meeting
- Paul Murray elected as 2nd VP unanimously by the voting members present at the meeting
- Maurice Rosales elected as Treasurer unanimously by the voting members present at the meeting
- Lisa McGinnis elected as Secretary unanimously by the voting members present at the meeting
- Jerry Heath elected-at-large as Tournament Director for a three-year term.
- EYHA will need to consider Jerry's appointed replacement as State Representative. Discussion ensued regarding the board's desire to ensure that the appointed State Rep has the appropriate experience and knowledge regarding the various topics being handled at the state level. Possible candidates with this experience will be identified to assess interest. Interested candidates must possess effective communication and diplomacy skills and have the requisite knowledge to discuss issues at the state level and appropriately represent the EYHA board at state meetings. Possible alternatives include having Jerry continue in both roles with periodic support as needed by other board members based on the nature of the issue.

Registration

- Need to re-visit web option setups for next season
- Need baseline ice pricing estimates and player projections to set a registration price
- Intend on getting registration pricing by the end of May (target date)

There being no further business for the open session, the meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm.