

WHA Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, January 8th, 2024

Location: Fieldhouse Conference Room

Time: 6:00pm Board Meeting



BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeremy Johnson, Todd Randall, Amber Dahl, Kris Dorneman, Nate Shuller, Travis Young, Matt Engen, Adam Lalim

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Allison Mathews, Adam Sullivan, Eric Skott,

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES: Lucas Deutsch, Karen Gromis, Tori Simon, Molly Randall, Casey Shuller

CALL TO ORDER 6:08pm

AGENDA for January 2024: Nate Shuller moved to approve the January agenda, seconded by Travis Young. Motion carried.

MEETING MINUTES for December 2023: Jeremy Johnson moved to approve the December meeting minutes, seconded by Nate Shuller. Motion carried.

1. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Allison Mathews is traveling for work. Allison will email out treasurer's report to board. Approval will be tabled until February 2024. Molly brought up CD specials with the funds. Nate Shuller moved to approve the movement of balance of the Old Boys Funds (BIN) into a 7-month CD with 1st Bank and Trust, seconded by Kris Dornemann. Motion carried.

2. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Stick It to Cancer (SITC) Update:** Raffle baskets are in motion. Jerseys are here. All on schedule for SITC to be a successful event.
- b. **State Tournament Committee:** Girls Varsity state tournament committee has met. Laid out a plan of what we need to do and when. Theme is Premier at the Prairie, tailoring the tournament to a red-carpet, premier event. Jenni is looking for player gifts. Molly is working on program. Brackets are complete. Awards banquet will be 4th floor of LATC Friday night. Grants out to assist in funding the ice rental, hospitality rooms, programs, t-shirts, etc. Jenni will present the grant. CVB is assisting in putting together a formal package should we want to bid on future state tournaments for Boys.
- c. **Safety Plan of Action for Statewide (Risk Management):** Scott Gloe said there is no plan for PLIA as of right now. Looking for a sample expectation for other protocols – trainer, AED, who's going to assist if there is something. SDAHA guided to call 911. Idea was dropped at state level. There was state discussion on mandating trainers, etc. This fell through at the state level.
- d. **Admissions:** There was confusion on the Activity ticket for students. High School student IDs show "activity" on their IDs. Board made a decision that any Watertown Area Student IDs (High School & LATC) and activity tickets for lower grade levels are approved with no fee.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Locker Room Assignments:** Scheduler will be responsible for the locker room assignments. Job description for Scheduler will be revised.
- b. **Team Parent Training/Standard Operating Procedures for DIBS Positions:** Discussion of ideas on how to minimize nerves for parent volunteers. Ideas of videos, shadowing trainers, identify a trainer per DIBS area and create a training schedule, have a mandatory training

following a team parent meeting. There will be mandatory facility and equipment training for All Board Members and Team Coordinators which will be announced at the new rink.

- c. **Volunteers for Rink Move In:** Equipment, sharpener, pads, dividing boards, etc. will all need to be moved. Pickups and enclosed trailers will be needed once a day/time has been determined. This is an opportunity for families short on DIBS points to get caught up.
- d. **Coverage for Jamborees/Tournaments:** For next year, prior to the Mites Jamboree, ensure we have trainers and parents available to make this more successful for Mite parent volunteers. Schedule extra volunteers up front.
- e. **Player/Parent/Crowd Conduct:** SDAHA sent out a letter reminding all associations of appropriate conduct. WHA has had two complaints of crowd control of our own crowd at home. It is the responsibility of Team Coordinators and board members to be aware of crowd behavior and conduct. It is the responsibility of our own association to ensure we abide by good behavior. There will be no tolerance for inappropriate conduct.
- f. **Marketing Committee Expansion:** With our current YouTube and fundraising initiatives (i.e. preseason kickoff), a proposal was made to solicit more volunteers to the marketing committee. Ideal number would be 6-8 total volunteers for marketing. For any WHA members who have an interest in marketing, we'd like to hear from you.
- g. **Joy Ranch Tim Tebow:** Todd would like to know if there is interest in having our players attend the Tim Tebow night at Joy Ranch on Friday, June 21st. Amber reached out to Joy Ranch staff to get sponsorship and ticketing information. Packages range from \$500 (5 adult tickets, 5 student tickets) to \$5,000 (50 adult, 50 student tickets). Subject tabled.

4. **OFFICIAL COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS-** reports if any information

Scheduler, Jenni Wirkus: no report

Coaching Committee, Adam Sullivan, Vice President, Lucas Deutsch, Staff: Lucas reported on meeting. Coaches are very engaged. Lucas provided an update for each league level. Coaching committee solicited feedback from coaches as to what is needed. Adam Sullivan wanted an appointment of a future coaching committee in February so there is a succession plan for next year. This would allow for an overlap between committees.

Dibs/Volunteer Committee, Tonya Holien, Staff & Sabrina Welder, Chair: Open Skate has been updated for the remainder of January in the Maas.

Registrar Update, Jessi Eidson, Chair: no report

5. **GENERAL COMMITTEES**

Marketing & Fundraising Committee, Molly Randall, Chair: July 20th is the date being negotiated for the WHA Golf Tournament. A tournament committee is needed. If you are interested in leading or planning portions of this event, please let Karen or Todd know.

Nominations Committee, Kristina Suttin, Chair: no update

Grow the Game Committee, Aaron Roberts, Chair: Summer ice programs for 2024 are in progress.

Equipment Committee, Lindsey Stricherz, Chair: Lucas ordered netting so all associations have the same netting throughout the state for the Mite age group. Our new rink will come with all new nets.

Technology Committee, Jeremy Johnson, Chair: There are some volunteers within the association that want to be trained to support the state tournament. Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 16th at 6pm at the Maas Arena.

6. **STAFF UPDATES**

Operations Manager, Lucas Deutsch: No update

Business Manager, Karen Gromis: No additional update

7. **FACILITIES:** No report
8. **ASSOCIATION WIDE INFORMATION:** New contract not yet signed for PLIA. USA Hockey and attorney have reviewed the contract. Revisions were sent to PLIA and City Attorney. No response back at the time this was published.
9. **ADDITIONAL EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED)**

ADJOURN – motion made to adjourn by Nate Shuller, seconded by Amber Dahl. Adjourned at 8:22pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, February 12th, 2024, 7:00 pm, Fieldhouse Conference Room