



Otsego County Hockey Association

PO BOX 835, Gaylord MI 49738

OCHA Board of Directors
Special Meeting

April 16th, 2020
Via Zoom Meeting

Attendance: President: N/A, V. President: Michael Hutchens, Secretary: N/A, Treasurer: Emily Barber, Coaching Director: N/A, ADM: N/A, Checking Director: N/A, Non-Checking Director: Nathan Mattson, Registrar: N/A. Travel Director: Lindsay Kline, Tournament Director: N/A, Equipment Room Manager: N/A, Scheduler: N/A, PR/Website: N/A

Meeting Called to order at 7:34pm by Michael Hutchens

Roll Call for Attendance: Adam respecki, President
Michael Hutchens, Vice President
Nathan Mattson, Non-Checking Director
Lindsay Kline, Travel Director
Emily Barber, Treasurer

Introduction to Adam for newly appointed President. Adam provide some background pertaining to him self and his desire to be president of OCHA. His three main goals are 1.) transparency with all assocaiton members, 2.) cost of hockey, grants and relationship with Boill Michaels. 3.) build up OCHA's programs. He discussed a letter of interest for midget teams from gentleman named Kevin. (Adam will upload that letter into google drive for all board members to review) Adam would like to review roles and responsibilities of each current member. His goal is to make sure that all board members are doing their job duties along with support the other board members and their duties. There has been a history of board members doing other jobs than what is in their job description. Adam would like open and honest communication with the board and the association members.

Opened for any questions for Adam regarding his background, experience, etc.

Previous Minutes from 4/15/2020 were very thorough. Emily asked if they were too descriptive or thorough, over all concensus was that they were perfect and would show the association a transparent meeting. Adam stated that when he reviewed them, it was descriptive enough to make him feel as though he was at said meeting.

Motion to approve meeting minutes from April 15, 2020, by Lindsay, second by Michael. All in favor, yes. Nos'- none.



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Michael requested a moment to address a situation that arose after Wednesday's Zoom Meeting. It was brought to Michael's attention by Shayne, D7 Representative, that someone made contact with Jennie Carr after Wednesday's meeting and told her that at the meeting there was a significant amount of "badmouthing" Jennie by the board members. Shayne was contacted by Jennie Carr with the frustrations and more, Shayne reassured Jennie that that did not happen. The only conversation was to appoint Jennie Carr to Scheduler position as we need that position filled to move forward with a successful season. It was agreed upon to table that conversation to the next meeting, as there was a lot discussed at this meeting. All board members agreed. Michael attempted to reach out to Jennie prior to this meeting, He left her a message. Emily offered to reach out to Jennie via text during this meeting to see if she was available to join in. It was also expressed that all current board members value Jennie's experience, and knowledge. Jennie was unavailable to join the Zoom meeting per text with Emily. She is still interested in the scheduler position.

Michael sent an email to all those that ran for a position to give an update on the status of OCHA's board and how we are moving forward.

Adam went into conversation about committees for the association and some findings he has done. He would like to have at least the following committees: Sponsorship Committee with Michael and Emily on it, Communication Committee with Emily, Lindsay and Andrea on it.

Emily brought up conversation she had with Andrea after yesterday's meeting. They talked about not filling anymore positions until the bylaws are redone and adopted. We also talked about Andrea's interest in helping and being on the committee for communication, promotion, website and PR. She is still very interested. Emily asked if there was anything she would like to see implemented or used. Discussed the difficulties of Sportsengine. Emily and Andrea talked about third party email account...they discussed using Mailchimp or constant contact for association communication. Also discussed using an app like Remind for association wide reminders.

Emily asked for a motion to approve the use of mailchimp for email correspondences with the association and utilizing the app Remind for association wide texting reminders. Motion to move forward with this by Nathan, second by Lindsay, all in favor-Yes, No-nos

Motion to move forward with remind app by Michael, second by Lindsay, all in favor- yes no no's.

Motion to appoint Jennie Carr into scheduler position by Emily, Seconded by Lindsay, all in favor- yes, No- No's.



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Discussing Coaching Committee- Nathan Mattson would be the chair of this committee with the help of Joe St. John to move forward with all coaching related matter for next season.

Bylaw Committee- Adam needed to connect with MAHA regarding this committee. Due to the board and voting, there may only be two voting members allowed on this committee. This allots for a fair and even, unbiased vote to approve the bylaws by the board of directors. Also discusses having two committees, the roles, responsibilities and policy and procedure committee, and the the player side committee. This would help when it comes to the voting part. Adam is going to do more research and let us know at next meeting.

Emily stated that Jerry from MAHA sent over Grand Traverse Bay's Bylaws with the recommendation of following them. This is a model association.

Michael reached out to Katie Kucharek via email regarding he registrar belongings and old email. Katie responded with needing to change the email password and gather the items that belong to the association and remove items belonging to the Sportsplex prior to pick up of the association's belongings. Michael to connect with Corrie to obtain the secretary's belongings as well.

Michael stated Jess Rich reached out to him to get the trailer of bottles and cans from him. He needs his trailer and does not want the returnables sitting in his yard. Adam is going to connect with Jess and arrange drop off of returnables in Adam's barn.

Adam asked each board member what area regarding the association is a concern that he can assist with addressing and/or making sure it is approached and at least investigated to resolve the current board's concerns.

- Lindsay: the flow of the board. Seems like the board is constantly beating a dead horse and never gets anywhere. The lack of open communication between board members and association members is a concern. Along with the lack of following our own policies and procedures. She would like to see roles, responsibilities and committees readdressed and given so everyone knows what they are too be doing and not stepping out of their lane.
- Nathan: Wanting to have the monetary area cleared up and more transparent for the coming seasons. He was asked a lot where does my money go and he was unable to respond. This seemed to be a common area of concern for many. More positivity with parents and better record of game count for MAHA, following the rules. He would like coaching hunt to begin along with team managers being educated on what they are doing. (Emily discussed adding a check box to registration form for anyone willing or



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interested in being a team manger) Nathan would like readily available print outs to give to parents to educate them on the rules and policies we are to follow so that they have the information at the beginning of the season.

- Michael-concern was the way that the board presents them self, body language and facial expressions. He would like for the board currently and the future board to be accountable of the way they present themselves to members when asked questions, etc. The board all agreed. It was also noticed between board members from previous board and not just between the board and the associaton members. He also wanted to find a way to welcome new members and make them feel empowered and more.
- Adam- He would like to follow Roberts rules of order when it comes to conducting meetings. He would like to work on common courtesy, repsect, honesty and building reputable relationships between the board , between the board and the association. He would like meetins to be conducted in a neat and orderly fashion making members feel welcome.
- Emily: Emily's concern was that the board has a lot of things to tackle on the "to do list" she pointed out that we need to pick one thing, assign it to whom is the apporpaite role to execute and execute it before moving on to another item. We as a board need to be able to hold each other accountable for tasks assigned and more to promote a well oiled board and success. Emily also took a mimute to address the "Blind Squirrel" gathering that has been referenced on numerous occasions. It was clear there was some misinformation provided about that gathering. When U6 and U8 were in TC at a hockey Jamboree, parents were notified at about midnight on Saturday that their kids would not be able to play the second day of the tournament due to a Safesport complaint filed against the U8 coach, Jess Rich. Immediately in Emily's mind was immense concern for her childs safety as in most cases of safesport complaints resulting in immediate suspension tend to involve players and are serisous. Emilys Daughter was with the Rich family that night. Emily immediately contacted Tom Pratt for clarification on her childs safety. It was at this time she was directed to Shayne D7 rep. She called Shayne. He was unaware we werew at a Jamboree and gave temporarily lifted Jess' suspension from coahcign to allow our kids to play for the remainder of the Jamboree. Practice and future games were undecided at this time. This resulted in multiple U8 parents and U6 parents texting about the future of their Kids hockey season. In which one parent offered to stop the texting conversations and arrange a time to "grab a drink" at Blind Squirrel. It was at this time that multiple familes from U6 and U8 gathered at the blind squirrel to discuss the situation. This was the day that parents and board were informed that the president and Vice president resigned effective immediately. This caused for more questions and information. Nothing at this meeting was a coo or plan to remove any board members or take over the assocaiton. It was parents meeting to talk about the future of their kids hockey season. Multipl topics were brought up, along with some



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dirking. Needless to say the entire gathering ended abruptly with conflict arising between parents and it was a mess. Emily wanted the air cleared as we are a working board and need to be open and honest with each other in order to do so with association members. Michael and Adam both acknowledge this situation and agreed there were no intentions or anything just concerned parents gathering to discuss our kids future. Lindsay and Nathan were happy to have the air cleared as they were not present at the gathering and only heard information second hand.

Difference of a STAR report and SAFESPORT report were discussed along with setting up appropriate flow for these complaints.

Adam asked that each board member research other association bylaws and bring their suggestion back to the board meeting at which time he will have committee done and we can start plucking away.

Next Meeting is Zoom Meeting on April 30, 2020 at 7:30 pm

Emily was asked to text Jennie and let her know of meeting date along with bringing her ideas for bylaws to next meeting.

Michael asked that all think about positions OCHA currently has and if any can be merged. Also to look at other board member positions. Most are in the 7-9 range.

Review fees, ice fees, registration fees, etc to get projections started to present to board as well. Emily and Adam will work on this.

Create a list of needs- then categorize into immediate need/focus and what can be held off on. Google Drive

Adjourned at 9:24pm Motioned by Michael, seconded by Lindsay all in favor, yes.