

## WHA Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Location: Fieldhouse Conference Room

Time: 7:00pm Board Meeting



**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jeremy Johnson, Allison Mathews, Todd Randall, Amber Dahl, Adam Sullivan, Eric Skott, Kris Dorneman, Nate Shuller, Travis Young, Adam Lalim

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Matt Engen

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:** Lucas Deutsch, Karen Gromis, Tori Simon, Tonya Holien, Jenni Wirkus, Molly Randall, Aaron Roberts, Casey Shuller, Kristina Suttan, Sabrina Welder

Call to order 7:03pm

**AGENDA for October 2023:** Nate Shuller moved to approve the October agenda, seconded by Jeremy Johnson. Motion carried.

**MEETING MINUTES for August 2023:** Eric Skott moved to approve the September meeting minutes, seconded by Nate Shuller. Motion carried. Motion carried.

1. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Allison provided an update and financials. Allison suggested a review of accounts and cleaning up accounts no longer in use. Eric Skott moved to approve the treasurer's report, Travis Young seconded. Motion carried.
2. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - a. **Rink Clean Up:** Thanks to Jenny Kasuske for heading up the event. Feedback was that it was very organized! Thanks to all volunteers who cleaned up the rink!
  - b. **All Association Meeting & Agenda:** Meeting will be Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at Studio 212 at 7pm. Agenda was discussed. All board members, team coordinators and committee members will be introduced. All Association Meeting would like Mite level on up in attendance. Player participation is welcome. Jerseys will be distributed at the meeting. Squirts level and above (even adults!) can be a referee. Team pictures will be scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. **Meeting with City of Watertown Update:** No updates on the meeting. There will be a meeting following the BIN Radiothon with Jodi Driscoll, Scott Gloe, Lisa Carrico to knock out details of what is available to sell for WHA marketing.
  - d. **Cell Phone Equipment Update:** Karen has a cell phone working and will have Venmo account set up prior to the All-Association Meeting. The purpose of this
  - e. **Job Descriptions:** Todd introduced the binders for all Board Members. Business Manager and Operations Manager job descriptions are still in review. All other job descriptions are complete. Job descriptions will be posted on the website.
3. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - a. **Build It Now (BIN) Radiothon & Pledge Forms:** Those that indicated last year they'd like to donate, there were not invoices created. All day long on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Radiothon  
Website: <https://www.watertownsd.us/1051/2023-Build-It-Now-Radiothon>. The \$10M goal is going to fulfill the bond that the City is covering. We're around \$800k away from hitting the goal. Goal is to raise \$500k in the radiothon.

- b. **Review of Reimbursement Policy (Coach Reimbursement):** Lucas proposes the SDAHA expense reimbursement form for the WHA including the reimbursement rates. Process will be coaches submitting an expense reimbursement form to the Treasurer. Treasurer will load a Juice card to pay for the expenses. Coaches will submit receipts following travel. Expectation is that coaches are submitting their expenses within the month of travel to ensure the financials are accurate.
- c. **State Tournament Committee:** There will be the Girls Varsity state tournament in Watertown. We want to ensure this year is well run so we have opportunity to host for years to come. Opening Ceremony will be held at LATC and is already reserved. There are needs in advertising, coordinating volunteers and hospitality, technology, safety and security measurements, players trinkets, etc. It takes an army to make this a successful event. Todd is asking for the State Tournament Committee to be a 2-year commitment for stronger transition year to year. Dates are March 1-3, 2024.

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

**Scheduler, Jenni Wirkus:** No update

**Coaching Committee,** Adam Sullivan, Vice President, Lucas Deutsch, Staff

**Dibs/Volunteer Committee,** Tonya Holien, Staff & Sabrina Welder, Chair: Parents are encouraged to sign up for their own league levels. Tonya mentioned Open Skates through the end of December will be released tomorrow.

**Registrar Update,** Jessi Eidson, Chair: Lucas provided update on behalf of Jessi. There are new coaches who have to complete their Safesport training, etc.

5. **GENERAL COMMITTEES**

**Marketing & Fundraising Committee,** Molly Randall, Chair: We'll be getting fundraising off the ground soon. Group met with Pivotal, Elite Signs and Technicolor for dasher board pricing. There will be a raffle similar to last year. Ideas for prizes are welcome. Brookings had a Hot Hockey Nights last week that raised upwards of \$90k. Molly would like to see an event similar to Brookings in Watertown's future.

**Nominations Committee,** Kristina Suttan, Chair: no update

**Grow the Game Committee,** Aaron Roberts, Chair: Fliers for Try Hockey for Free (THFF) and Figure skating are being released in the elementary schools tomorrow. Later this week, we'll get surrounding schools distributed. During THFF, Aaron's looking to have a video made to recruit kids to the THFF event. Aaron also suggested we schedule an event where we could line up a field trip for kids to tour the new rink. In addition, ideas were brought to have players attend gym class in the elementary to allow us to share benefits of hockey.

**Equipment Committee,** Lindsey Stricherz, Chair: no update

**Technology Committee,** Jeremy Johnson, Chair: Jeremy worked with the Arrow TV team at a WHS football game. Jeremy stated we're currently at a spend of \$4,194 for equipment. Eric Skott made a recommendation of increasing the budget to \$4,500 and allowing the Technology committee to make a determination on equipment, seconded by Nate Shuller. Motion carried.

## 6. STAFF UPDATES

**Operations Manager**, Lucas Deutsch

- SDAHA Fall Meeting Recap: SportsEngine – Sioux Falls will not field teams for anything below JV and Varsity (except for GU14). It was decided at the SDAHA Fall Meeting that Sioux Falls would be split geographically for BJV and BV. This affects us as it takes 7 teams out of Bantams, PeeWees and Squirts. WHA will now be playing PeeWee A & B rather than A & C.

**Business Manager**, Karen Gromis: Karen is working with Tonya on Google Suite and organization of documents. Karen is training with Tonya. Thank you, Tonya, for your leadership as Interim Business Manager and training Karen!

7. **FACILITIES:** Todd Randall believes pricing would be reasonable with the grants we received to build a dryland area. To get into a dryland area, we'd need shooting targets and tiles.
8. **ASSOCIATION WIDE INFORMATION:** Boys JV will not be going to Cedar Rapids, IA in November due to team numbers. PeeWees will have one consolidated team due to players numbers. Hotels have been secured. Information to secure individual rooms will be sent out within the next week.

## 9. ADDITIONAL EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED)

ADJOURN – motion made to adjourn by Kris Dorneman, seconded by Amber Dahl. Adjourned at 9:09pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 7:00 pm, Fieldhouse Conference Room