

MBA Storm Joint Operations Committee

Meeting minutes

July 5, 2006

7:00pm Lee Community Center

Attending: Dan Aarhus, Jodi Crandall, Sue Helberg, Rob Jergenson, Mike Lee, Miriam Lindblad, Jim Rentz, Barb Schwarz, Steph Sherod, Juanita Staples, Todd Valnes, Ann Vipond

Meeting called to order and agendas distributed by committee chair Jim Rentz.

1. Chair Rentz reviewed the joint committee's goal as one of positive direction and communication to continue to improve a strong and growing hockey program. There are many ideas and ways to improve and look at future possibilities and our hope is to have two strong associations with funding to be able to support a great hockey program. It was recognized that expenses and money can either make or break a program; we hope to be a positive force to continue to provide a positive hockey experience to any youth who wishes to participate in the surrounding areas.
Each sub-committee is encouraged to meet and follow the guidelines in the joint article, also recognizing that many items connect with other sub-committees efforts and need to be well organized and blended. The communication of this can be done nicely using the email for each board member of last name and first initial @mbastorm.com.
2. Old Business
 - a. Jersey hand in almost complete, contact is being made by Juanita to the company to look at changing varsity number 7 to 13.
 - b. Handbook has been reviewed at previous meetings, agreed to take out the crossed out old information for final review in August. Plan to have the handbook online and print some to take to team meetings to allow for review.
3. New Business
 - a. Varsity Boys coach position has been offered to a graduate of Concordia College who will be living in Morris area, played hockey in British Columbia, CA. The assistant coach position has been offered to a new teacher in Benson who played high school hockey in Minnesota. Matt Thomas from the UMM has been contacted to assist.
 - b. No changes to the checking account, possibly one youth from Benson Association attended goalie camp.
 - c. The original signed Joint Agreement article will be kept with the secretary. Juanita will make copies for all board members.
4. Sub-Committees
 - a. Hockey Operations: Email was sent to parents of 12u/14u girls to ask for input about next season. Discussion agreed to have a meeting for all girls and parents on Wed July 19th 7pm at Lee Community Center. Discussion points; girls preference for next season play after 12u team, Varsity level of play, JV possibilities, 14u, playing other association levels; squirts, peewee, etc. Agreed all girls, parents, previous coaches and high school coach invited for input. Notice to be put on website and email, postcard to be sent out.
Plan to contact new high school coaches to talk about ideas and get input. Discussed briefly academic incentive programs such as SKATE. Some focus on GPA, suggested to consider improvement/effort rather than GPA or letter grades and for which ages. Incentives or drawings for prizes could be considered.

Planned contact with coaches to discuss equipment needs, newly purchased cross ice bags in Benson and possible effective cross ice practice or games. Possible sharing of resources, tapes, books etc. Coach certification dates are set by district, unavailable yet. Idea to have two large MBA banners made to have a youth skater skate out prior to all varsity games. Brochures about hockey are available at the District meeting and are free "How to talk hockey".

- b. Scheduling: Dates for districts and regions not posted yet. Boys and Girls high school schedules received by the athletic director in Morris and given to Mike Lee. Goal to have a practice schedule available at registration. Would like to see tournament dates set by registration. The scheduler position will be posted on the website with applications due in 2 weeks. Plan to have person on board by August.
- c. Communication: Will follow up with handbook to prepare for final approval. Will plan for budget ideas for web site.
- d. Registration: Joint picnic to register and kick off planning lead to discussion of individual association fee structure. After much discussion agreed to do as the district which follows the association the skaters' home is geographically nearest. Will have tables for each association for registration and their membership information, fundraisers, work hours, practice schedule, etc. Future goal for the associations to work toward the same fees. Both associations currently free for first year skaters. Possibly Sunday September 17th joint picnic with follow up registration on September 19th in each rink.
- e. Grievance none to discuss at present.
- f. Committees are encouraged to consider budget needs and plan for next meeting. Other MBA account expenses include: coaches payments, end of season party, away tournament fees, jerseys.

5. Next meeting August 7, 2006 7:00pm at Benson Civic Center

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Minutes by Miriam Lindblad, secretary