

Sun Prairie Youth Hockey Association
Board of Directors Minutes
December 19, 2010

President	James Trent	LTPH Reps.	Paula Walker Jen Voge
President Elect	Jeff Thornton	DC Diamonds Rep.	Chris Herwig
Past President	Tony Rehm	Mite Rep.	Absent (Mike Weber)
Secretary	Betsy McCrary	Squirt Rep.	Dave Batterman
Treasurer	Tim Butcher	PeeWee Rep.	Jen Kurtz
		Bantam Rep.	Gary Pfann
		High School 2 Rep.	Chris Gehrman
		Coaches Rep.	Absent (Rob Wisniewski)

Audience: Nate Rosin, Dale Ripp, Steve Traut, Seth Blahnik, Mark Waitkus, Derek St. Clair

President James Trent called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

1. Public comments

Nate Rosin asked about the status of the Cardinal Cups. James reported that the Squirt C tournament is full, and the Squirt B is verbally full. Nate is disappointed but understands that volunteer hours will not be given for Cardinal Cups.

Steve Traut presented a \$10,000 pledge from his family to the Capital Campaign.

Mark Waitkus and Derek St. Claire made the request to roster Zach Carey on the U16 team. They have a good chance to make it to state with this team. James proposed that the discussion for this be tabled for discussion at the level rep report/

Dale Ripp provided some feedback on the locker room policy. Some really like it, some hate it, and some are ambivalent. It's his opinion that it's dependent on the attitude coming in. He's satisfied with it. Jen Kurtz and Gary Pfann indicated that the USA Hockey locker room policy was discussed at the Region 4 meeting. Chris Herwig, Dave Batterman, and Jen Voge indicated that they have not traveled to other rinks enforcing the policy. Someone mentioned that there was a policy in DePere. Jeff Thornton thought this has been a good trial period.

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Secretary – Betsy thanked the Board for approving the November minutes by email. She noted there was an executive committee meeting last Wednesday, but the minutes haven't been written yet.
- b. Treasurer – Tim presented a profit and loss handout and a statement of cash flows. First half dues are in, second half dues are due December 31st. Tim noted that the audit should be finalized by the end of the week. They have asked for one more meeting with Tim and one to two more meetings with the bookkeeper. They've caught some unpaid dues. One control measure they like is the separation between accounting and the treasurer. We've had a fair amount of success with collection: about 5-10 people haven't paid anything or have bounced checks. Regarding the information Tim handed out, about 90% of accounts receivable is real – some things, like dashboards, wouldn't be if the business is defunct. Chris Gehrman is concerned about who hasn't paid: there are two HS2 and about 3 LTP kids. A few are also on a payment plan. Tony and James agreed that they are trying to be tough, but also keep kids skating. The discount cards need to be reconciled by the Annual Fundraising committee, too.

It was noted that the age of the computer is becoming a problem. It takes 15 to 20 minutes to boot up and is very slow due to the amount of data involved.

- c. President Elect – Jeff Thornton
Nothing to report. (Dave Batterman pronounced this a Christmas miracle.)

- d. Past President – Tony Rehm
Nothing to report.
- e. President
Tourism Brochure – We've been asked for dates for the tourism brochure: the FaceOff Festival and Golf Outing dates came to mind. Chris Herwig will email the date to Gary Pfann, and Gary will pass on the FOF date, too.

Seth Blahnik asked about an adult 3 x 3. James said it would depend on interest.

3. LEVEL REP REPORTS

- a. LTPH – Paula and Tony hosted a LTP meeting last week to talk about evaluations and other things. Kathy Thornton presented information about needs for New Year's Eve. It was well-attended, with lots of new families. There was time for questions. Kimberly Trent was able to find families for the last few minutes for the mitten tree. The evaluations have been done, but Betsy needs to track down where the evaluation list is. Chris Herwig sent a copy of the Mite B roster to Tim Butcher for invoicing.
- b. DC Diamonds – Chris Herwig shared that the Diamonds' seasons are going well.
U10 is young, the U12 team is about .500 and took third at a tournament in Fond du Lac. The U14 is doing very well and took first at Baraboo.
- c. Mite – Mike Weber was absent. Paula Walker mentioned that the Bite A took fourth at the Oregon tournament last week. The Mite B team has been picked and has 16 players. They are short a few jerseys. Tony will take care of it.
James mentioned that U8 proposals for ADM cross ice programs have come in. A meeting was planned for Monday night, but it was pushed off because it was bad for SPHL coaches. James will see when it can be rescheduled. After a discussion with coaches about the feasibility of the program, it will come to the full board.
- d. Squirt - Dave Batterman noted that the squirts are winning. The A team is 14-4-2, with one loss to the Capitals, B is 10-6-1, and the C team is 11-2.
- e. PeeWee – Jen Kurtz didn't have overall records for everyone. The A team hosted the Cardinal Cup last weekend and won one out of four. Three of the tournament teams (ones that were from outside the area) went to the Badger game. The B team is about 9-7, and took third in Sheboygan last weekend. The C team is about .500. Jen noted that Shawn Lane has had some problem with scheduling: Rockford cancelled a home. Sun Prairie game that ended up being played at Hartmeyer at their expense. Oregon scheduled with the PeeWee A team, but also cancelled because they felt it wouldn't be an appropriate match. Region 4 cannot do anything about this as it is a nonleague game (Oregon is in league 4). They are playing our PeeWee B team.
- f. Bantam – Gary Pfann reported that the B team is 8-5 and the A team is still working to get their first win.
- g. High School - Chris Gehrman said the team is a little over .500. Verona JV beat U16 badly, but otherwise they have been competitive. Five players don't play on U16. Scheduling has gone well. The one problem with suspension and a Region 4 hearing was due to referee error. James stated he only wanted to do it (go before Region 4) once. Regarding the coaches' request to allow Zach Carey to play U16, it is felt that safety-wise the ability is there to play U16. Chris agreed that he should have been playing bantams, but that is water over the bridge. James is concerned about the precedent that is being established. Jeff is torn between what's in the best interest of the player and what's in the best interest for the player AND the association. Gary also sees two sides and is also torn. He wants the kid to play, but the policy was put in place because it was important.

After additional discussion, Jeff made a motion that we allow the bantam age player who has been excluded from U16 to be allowed to play in the remaining U16 games. Chris Gehrman seconded the motion. After a roster roll call, the motion passed unanimously (11-0). Chris Gehrman will notify the coaches.

- h. Coaches – Rob Wisniewski was absent. Jen Voge asked on behalf of the PeeWee coaches hoping for combined group at practice at each age level. Tony noted that four games versus two practices is out of balance. Dryland is the only option we can offer. The coaches could contract for extra ice, but there really isn't any available. Outside ice might be an option. Dave pointed out if we had a new rink we'd have more

ice. The board suggestion was to try to find dryland time. USA Hockey has suggestions for the maximum number of games.

4. OLD BUSINESS

a. Region 4 Report

Jen will email a summary report. Highlights from the meeting included news that the Fenton Kelsey scholarships have been awarded. The Region 4 Board is still considering separating girls teams in Region 4. There are scheduling concerns with both Rockford and Dubuque. Their continuation as part of Region 4 will be discussed after this season. SPYHA is welcome to have an official recommendation regarding these teams. Region 4 is also considering doing ALD elections in the spring rather than the fall. Dubuque, Reedsburg, and Stoughton are facing fines for missing three consecutive meetings (\$100/organization), with \$100 for each additional meeting missed. January 2nd at midnight all games must be reported. From the Region 4 executive meeting, Jerry Kennedy from WAHA spoke of his disappointment that no one from Region 4 attended the grass roots meeting in Fond du Lac in September (SPYHA had the FaceOff Festival). There was a reminder of the USA Hockey model for mites of three practices for every one game. For scheduling, they are looking at additional breakdowns by age group for scheduling. At the general meeting, it was noted that compliance with the background screening was poor. Sun Prairie was one of two or three associations that complied. One Goal equipment orders are due by February. Officials are calling more penalties for body contact at the squirt level, especially after January 1. USA Hockey is considering removing checking from the PeeWee level.

b. Annual Fundraising

Need more volunteers for New Year's Eve. There is a meeting right after tonight's Board meeting.

c. Communications

None

d. New Rink / Building Committee

Preliminary estimates for the completed rink are in at just under \$6 million. This is at or under the costs for the Waunakee rink on a per square foot basis. Plans will go on the website. Jeff and Dave are thrilled with the architect and Stevens Construction. We're about a month behind timelines construction-wise, but won't go to actual bid until directed by the Board.

e. Capital Fundraising

Campaign stickers for Board members who have completed their pledge forms were distributed. Our entire Board has given verbal commitments, with most also turning in pledges (over \$60k so far). The Capital Campaign Committee includes the Executive Committee plus Board members Mike Weber, Chris Herwig and Jen Kurtz, as well as Jason Harkins, Luanne Kostelic, and Paul Swalve. Troy Giesiegh has helped with publications. There is a chance we could be a traveling association next year if we can't get the new rink done. PAC has waited for three years. There was a discussion on a perceived lack of interest, as the informal website poll indicated 41% (of about 140 votes) did not plan to donate at all. Per our agreement with the City of Sun Prairie, we need \$1.75 million raised by July. A bare-bones facility that meets the agreement with the City is estimated at \$4.5 million, which would include in-kind donations.

Jeff presented block colors. The clear doesn't work well, blue and red each had positive attributes. With no strong preference on the Board, the Building and Capital Campaign Committee will make the decision. Jeff expressed thanks to Chris and Sherry Herwig for their efforts related to the glass blocks.

f. Hockey Weekend Across America

After looking at the equipment that we have available, it doesn't seem realistic for SPYHA to host a one day learn to skate type session, so we'll pass this time. Betsy clarified that we will still celebrate Hockey Across America with other events, such as bring a friend and wear your jersey.

5. New Business

James added the new business items to the agenda.

a. Transfer requests

James presented information on a player who is leapfrogging Sun Prairie and the Patriots to move from Sauk Prairie to McFarland. The player is enrolled in McFarland schools. Jen Kurtz made a motion to grant the release. Jeff Thornton seconded the motion. All present approved (Tony Rehn absent at this point), 10-0.

James received an inquiry from a family with a Beaver Dam PeeWee player who would like to transfer effective 1/11/11 (on vacation until then). With final rosters due Dec. 31st, timing is critical. Jeff Thornton made a motion to invite the player to join us next year, but encourage the family to stick out the season in Beaver Dam. Jen Kurtz seconded, and all present approved (10-0).

b. Locker Room Policy Revision

In the absence of Rob Wisniewski, Betsy McCrary brought forward some feedback she had received about the Locker Room Policy recently put in effect. The coaches would like to see the language around players changing in the restroom removed. She suggested "In the event that a player arrives late, the player will need to contact a coach to unlock the locker room" Gary Pfann made a motion to modify the policy as suggested by the coaches and noted by the secretary. Paula Walker seconded the motion, and all approved (10-0).

Jeff made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Tim seconded, and all approved. Meeting adjourned 9:00 pm.

Next meeting: Sunday, Jan. 16th, at 7 pm. (Later rescheduled to Sunday, Jan. 23rd at 7 pm.)