

Sun Prairie Youth Hockey Association
Board of Directors Minutes
January 23, 2011

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

Audience: Dale Ripp, Steve Traut

President James Trent called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

1. Public comments

Steve Traut asked a question regarding a rumor on the future of checking in peewee hockey. It is a possibility. Jen Kurtz indicated it has been discussed at Region 4 and it is expected that USA Hockey will vote on it in summer.

Dale Ripp noted that a guy from Burnett, whose team planned at the 7:30 am game, commented that this rink was one of the warmest rinks they've been in. He also mentioned that Kimberly Trent was concerned about the prize costs (of the iPad) for the New Year's Eve event coming out of the event budget. James commented that it likely will be coming out of the volunteer buyout money. Regarding the New Year's Eve event, it's not about how much money we make, it is really about publicity and community exposure.

Dale also asked about photography at Cardinal Cups, as it relates to access (i.e., others besides person who is the official photographer) and the zamboni drivers. No one from the Cardinal Cup committee was present. James will give feedback to the committee. James noted written instructions to the z-team would be very helpful. One other bit of feedback from the Board regarding the trophies for Cardinal Cup: they should say Sun Prairie or SPYHA.

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Secretary – Minutes from December were approved by the Board and have been posted on the website. The Executive Committee minutes are also posted, but Betsy reviewed the highlights for those who hadn't seen them yet. Betsy mentioned LTP locker room issues, and Jeff suggested they be discussed along with the ADM item.
- b. Treasurer – Tim was absent. James asked about LTP invoices. Paula will try to get them updated. Gary would like to see an update on the audit. We haven't received the official report yet. James will follow up with Tim. James mentioned that in 2010 \$8500 was paid in mortgage interest, and the ending balance on 12/21/10 for the mortgage was \$126,940.25 (about \$40k came off the principal, with payment of \$4,100 per month.)
- c. President Elect – Jeff Thornton
Jeff's suggestion for next year (starting in June) is to assign a monthly policy topic to tackle, in hopes that that would result in documents to move forward with.

One item that has been discussed before has been establishing a rink entity separate from the youth hockey board. McFarland Youth Hockey buys ice from the non-profit corporation that runs its rink. He also learned that one of the figure skating groups gets extensive ice time from McFarland each week (Sat. 9 to noon) as well as other practice time, including early times, during the week.

Jeff also reported that Mike Williams, an OBHL-C player who had a heart attack a few months ago is back playing, and as a token of appreciation for the support his OBHL-C colleagues showed him, Mike wrote a check for \$500 to SPYHA's capital campaign.

- d. Past President – Tony Rehm
Absent.

- e. President

James reported he has received lots of communications from memberships. Some members are confronting coaches. Jeff wondered if it would help to send a reminder about the Responsible Sports pledge. If parents feel the need to discuss something with a coach, it's suggested that they wait 24 hours, and then schedule a private discussion. Board members are encouraged (and have a personal responsibility) to speak up and stop inappropriate public confrontations. James will try to write something to send out.

James also reported that we have received at least some matching scholarship money for all applicants.

3. LEVEL REP REPORTS

- a. LTPH – Paula and Jen reported that all is well, except for an email received about LTP locker situations.
- b. DC Diamonds – Chris Herwig was absent, and James hadn't heard any news on their Board front. Jeff mentioned that the U14s were playing in Chippewa Falls for the weekend.
- c. Mite – Mike Weber reported that the Mite A team took second at WI Rapids. They're 7-17-4 and a young team. They have played several close games. For state, if they win, they're in..
- d. Squirt - Dave Batterman shared that the A's took second at the Albert Lee tournament in MN and won the Cardinal Cup: they shut out every team that weekend. They're 24-6-2 and took second in Chippewa Falls. The C team won the Chippewa Falls tournament and are 18-8-1, and the B's took home consolation in Chippewa Falls. In summary, the squirts are all doing well
- e. PeeWee – As of Jan. 4 (based on Region 4 information), Jen Kurtz had the PeeWee A team at 9-8 and - seeded third for playdowns, B at 9-7-1 and seeded second at playdowns, and C at 5-9-1. PeeWee C's have a tough draw, and only one team from Region 4 is going to state, because two division 2 teams wanted to play division 1 for state, but didn't let WAHA know until late, after the state seeds/region were determined. Jeff asked about a home ice policy for playdowns, but Jen didn't have an answer. Jen mentioned that the PeeWee B's played in a tournament in Eau Claire, but the setup was poor: SP had a 9:30 game time that started late and the kids didn't get off the ice until after 11 pm
- f. Bantam – Gary Pfann reported that the B team had a solid Cardinal Cup tournament, and their record didn't reflect their effort. They are seeded first at playdowns. The Bantam A team had two wins this weekend and the kids are excited. They've had a lot of ties, including two at the last tournament (with one loss). That tournament was in Onalaska, and was pretty odd.
- g. High School - Chris Gehrmann reported that there is no U16 state tournament this year, as there are only three U16 teams in the state. The HS2 team has one tournament in DePere. They had no games this weekend: yesterday there was a scheduling snafu. It was confirmed that team reps must be confirming games: this is an expected part of the job. Jeff noted that there have been issues on the PeeWee C team as well. Region 4 cannot help with cancelled nonleague games.
- h. Rob Wisniewski was absent.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Annual Fundraising

No official report from New Year's Eve. We received some money for US Bank for our support. There was one injury. As noted before, James will have the bookkeeper record the volunteer prize against the volunteer credit buyouts.

As a side note related to injuries, all are asked to direct people to the locker room for putting on skates. We need to education others and work as a team concerning safety.

- b. New Rink / Building Committee

We have received an invoice from JLA. Our Stevens contacts are now two guys, both named Brian. Dave Batterman is very impressed with them. They wanted to know why we were looking at 1 ½ sheets, and

plan to provide some estimates for a two-sheet facility along with a single sheet expandable to two. These would be all-in. The design allows addition of a studio or a second sheet. They will be meeting on Tuesday. There is also a meeting with Focus on Energy: a grant program that looks at what on top of a "base" formula could help improve the energy efficiency of the rink. A meeting with Nonn's Flooring netted an arrangement to supply flooring at cost (estimated at about \$50k) including what we can reuse. This estimate does not include a varsity locker room build-out.

Right now what we build is determined by our lease with the city. We must have \$1.75 million raised in July. If we change plans, we have to go before the city. According to Stevens, they feel if we do one sheet we can still get it done on time. Chuck Wilson and Steve Hanrahan have gone over the plans and provided their input.

c. Capital Fundraising

Mike reported that the committee meets on Tuesday and is within weeks of the chamber mailing and membership meetings. User group meetings are underway. Jeff explained that we need users to write a letter of intent and these are high priority. James mentioned putting everything together has been very time-consuming, and Mike stated that Jeff has done an awesome job with the brochures. As an update to the glass block campaign, there will not be 12x12 blocks, only 8x8. We need more hands-on assistance. Dave Batterman asked about plans to relay the seriousness of the situation. Jeff stated it could happen that we would have no place to skate next year, and we'd have to buy ice somewhere else. Doing so would likely mean the death of the LTP program. As far as explaining the current situation, the fact is that about five years ago an agreement was made to sell the building. That's in the past, and it's the hand we're dealt. We can't undo that, and we need everyone's help now. It was suggested that the glass block example be displayed. Jeff will send out the glass block and naming brochure for the website.

d. Region 4 Report

Jen handed out an executive meeting summary. One SP coach had to serve a game suspension because of 15 penalties in one game. Regarding playdowns, teams must be there 45 minutes in advance. They will start up to 15 minutes early. Coaches must sign in at every game and have their CEP cards. Results will be posted very quickly. There are 85 games in 119 hours. No game reports are needed. Mike Weber attended the regular Region 4 membership meeting.

e. Locker Room Policy (levels 1-3)

James added this as an item prior to the ADM discussion under new business. There has been concern about the locker room policy as it applies to LTP 1, 2, and 3, since parents generally supervise this age group. There have been some problems with coaches with locker room keys not arriving when families/players are in need of the locker room, which has caused issues with take over of other locker rooms assigned to user groups or other teams, or players changing in the lobby or hallways. Changing in hallways and the lobby presents safety issues. There will be a reminder sent to LTP families and communication with the coaches re-iterating the policy and the option of turning in keys if coaches don't have locker room keys so that they can follow the visiting coaches policy.

5. New Business

James added the new business items to the agenda.

a. U8 and U6 Cross Ice & ADM

James had sent ADM U8/U6 information for the Board to review prior to the meeting. First, Betsy made a motion that the Board is in fundamental agreement with the principals of ADM. Chris Gerhmann seconded the motion, and all present approved. There was concern about what to do with kids who may have previously played full ice or travel mite hockey but wouldn't be eligible to move up to squirts next year. This would need to be discussed/explored further. Gary made a motion to form a committee to investigate the implementation of ADM, spearheaded by the appropriate Board level representatives, and report back to the Board. Jeff seconded the motion. All approved.

b. State tournament applications for 2013

Betsy requested input on which state tournaments SPYHA would apply to host for 2013. This year we have HS2, and next year (2012) we have Bantam B. We can choose up to four options. HS, Squirt, and

Bantam tournaments have been the first weekend in March, with Mite and Pee wee the second weekend. Based on lack of any precedent, Betsy suggested Pee wee B, Squirt A, Squirt B, and Pee wee A. C teams were not considered because it is hard to be certain of having a C team at Pee wee or Squirts from year to year. All agreed with this suggestion, and Betsy will file the application.

Betsy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mike seconded, and all approved. Meeting adjourned 9:48 pm.

Next meeting: Sunday, Feb. 20th, at 6 pm.