

**Missisquoi Amateur Hockey Association
Minutes of the Board Meeting
Thursday, October 27, 2016**

The MAHA board meeting was called to order at 6:05pm by President Adam Fortin. The meeting was held at the Highgate Arena Office.

Board Members in attendance were:

Adam Fortin, President	April Mathieu, Peewee Director
Jason Butler, Vice President	Amy Messier, Squirt Director
Karen Fortin, Secretary/State Rep	Marcy Stefaniak, T-Blade Director
Judy Laroche, Treasurer	Carrie Bessette, Bantam Director
Angela DeSanctis, Girls Director	Amy Parent, Mite Director
Devon Glover, Director of Coaches	

MAHA Members in Attendance: Amanda Connelly, Ashley Houburn, Ty Choiniere, Heather Belrose and Ashley Longley.

Secretary's Report: All in attendance reviewed the minutes from the September 21, 2016 meeting. A motion was made by Amy Messier to accept the minutes. Seconded by Amy Parent. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Tabled

State Rep Report:

Karen stated that the State Tournaments will be held in Stowe for 2017 and St. Albans for 2018. It was stated that our referee numbers are down (currently 61 level 1, 19 level 2 and 39 level 3) don't be surprised if you are at a game with younger officials.

The last round of coaching clinics are scheduled for this season: (Oct 1st Level 1 in Woodstock, Nov 20th Level 2 in Northfield, Dec 4th Level 3 in Middlebury and a possibility of an additional Level 1 Dec 10th in Essex if needed.) Craig Weston stated he liked MAHA's policy of base layers for all levels that was recently mentioned at the Level 2 coaching clinic. Reminder to enforce locker room monitors, most issues occur in an unmonitored locker room.

VASHA is reviewing the attendance policy for their monthly meeting. The VASAH board will begin to enforce the attendance policy for their monthly meetings. If an association does not call in or the state rep does not find a replacement to represent the association, the association will be fined \$50 for missing a meeting.

The question was raised about the Wildcats pulling players away from the local associations to play in tournaments and it's effects on the Home/Home game requirement. John Cioffi asked if associations have loyalty clauses. John Cioffi stated he would look into it further. Karen stated that the SASA board has just recently approved a loyalty clause for their association.

Facility Report:

The question was raised about making the building handicap accessible. Ty stated that the facility will be getting new bleachers in the Spring and they will be handicap accessible. Karen stated that she knows of two women who come to the rink frequently and the new boards are lower and easier to see over than the old boards.

The dehumidifier should be fixed in the next few weeks. A heating coil will be added to heat the air coming into the building so to decrease the chances of the dehumidifier being tripped off.

Calcutta: April asked that the report be tabled for the next meeting as she needs to meet with Judy to go over the ticket sales, raffles and expenses. Adam suggested that we consider asking a live auctioneer to run the live auction as Jean doesn't want to be the auctioneer.

New Business:

Fundraising:

Wreaths: Jason stated that we have preordered 300 wreaths from H & B Greenhouse. All fundraising orders need to be handed in by November 1st. Karen stated that she will put out a reminder.

Ashley Hoburn stated that we should consider a raffle to be held before states. Possibly a bake sale. The question was raised why we don't sell the cookie dough anymore. Karen stated that our past accountant suggested that we do away with that fundraiser. Unfortunately, that fundraiser raised over \$5000 in profit and much of that came off from member's bills. Amanda Connelly asked about a Bingo. She stated that the senior class at MVU holds one every year and raises money for their class. Judy stated it is a lot of work. Both Amanda and Karen stated that Doug Austin orders everything that is needed through the church bingo and we would just need to pay for the supplies.

Amy Parent made a motion that MAHA create a fundraising committee naming Amanda Connolly, Ashley Hoburn and Heather Belrose as committee members. Seconded by Adam Fortin. All in favor motion carried. Adam asked if the committee would bring fundraising ideas to the next meeting.

Director of Coaching Report: Devon stated that tryouts for the Squirts and Peewees went well. It currently looks like the squirts will run two teams with 10 players each and will double roster the teams.

It was suggested because of our growing numbers at the T-Blade level we move the 12 House Mites to practice with the 24 Mites on Monday and Wednesday. Devon made a motion to move the House Mites from the T-Blade practices to the scheduled Mite practices. Seconded by Amy Parent. All in favor motion carried.

Adam stated he will be putting out a reminder that all players need to have mouth and neck guards at practices and games. All players must come to the rink with base layers on. And a reminder to hang equipment to dry and wash when needed.

A concern was brought to the board about younger players going on the ice to help at the T-Blade and House Mite level. A motion was made by Carrie Bessette to allow only Squirts and older (full ice players) to help at this level with the coach's permission. Seconded by Amy Parent. All in favor, motion carried.

A concern was also brought forward that high school players who have USA hockey membership should not be helping until high school practices have started. This would give everyone a fair a chance to be on the ice prior to tryouts. A motion was made by Amy Parent to not allow high school players on the ice until high school practices have begun. Seconded by Carrie Bessette. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made by Amy Parent to exit the MAHA meeting and to enter executive session. Seconded by Carrie Bessette. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made to by Carrie Bessette to exit executive session and resume the regular MAHA meeting. Seconded by Amy Parent.

A motion was made by Amy Parent to hold a Mite evaluation on Wednesday, November 2nd with three non-parent evaluators. Seconded by Carrie Bessette. All in favor, motion carried.

The next MAHA meeting will be held on Thursday, December 1, 2016 at 6pm.

A motion to adjourn the MAHA meeting was made by Carrie Bessette. Seconded by Marcy Stefaniak. All in favor motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by,

Karen Fortin
MAHA Secretary