CHIPPEWA YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES– Wednesday, March 15, 2017, 7 pm

President
2017 Bob Normand X

Vice President
2018 Steve Gibbs X

Treasurer
2017 Erik LeMay

Secretary
2018 Jennifer Lindstrom X

Board members
2017 Rod Olson 
John Benish X
Pat Bowe X
Trevor Bohland
Brad Martin X
2018 Billy Bergh 
Randy Reeg X
Scott Sikkink X
Todd Bresina

Others in attendance: Monica Laux, Darell Herr, Connie Fedie, Mikayla Hogan, Pete Paletta, Matt Machnik, Pam Kelly

1. General Meeting
   a) Girls’ hockey growth initiative – Connie Fedie, Mikayla Hogan, and Pete Paletta presented a proposal to improve recruitment, retention, and the value of girls’ hockey. The proposal included a list of actions taken so far such as scheduling a girls only GOAL program set for October 14th and 15th and partnering with the Girl Scouts to offer a “learn about hockey” patch. The committee is seeking Board approval (1) for free skate rental prizes at Kids Expo Day, (2) to be recognized as a committee eligible for up to 15 assessment hours, and (3) to adjust the fees and assessment hours for new girl hockey players to help enhance enrollment. Bob Normand added that he is chairing the WAHA committee to grow girls’ hockey. Some Wisconsin-wide ideas already in motion include removing the co-op renewal process and allowing girls to play on both a 12U and peewee team. Locally, our rink has summer field trips to the rink scheduled with several day care centers which could expose more girls to hockey (Monkey Business on 7/11, the YMCA on 8/2, and Jennifer Lindstrom will check with Kids USA). The Board thanked the presenters for their proposal. See On-Ice section below for results of the vote.

   b) GOAL program – Pete Paletta informed the Board that additional helmets, skates (size 8-1), and advertising is needed. He also recommended that CYHA offer assessment hours for taking inventory of the equipment and the Board agreed that this should be added to the online sign-up. A separate storage room for the GOAL program equipment will be considered. Pete is also pursuing interested sponsors for coach jerseys/coats and will coordinate with Randy Reeg to put the partnership with the Girl Scouts on the CYHA website.

   c) Oil separator – Matt Machnik, an HVAC expert with Hovlands, confirmed that our volunteers have been fighting an oil problem for years. Oil is not being properly separated from the refrigerant causing undue wear and tear and reducing the life of the compressor. Each time the compressor is overhauled, the cost is approximately $12,000. Matt recommended that all three oil separators (which are too small) be removed and replaced with a super separator that was meant for the size of our facility. The estimated one-time cost is $30,000 for parts and labor. It will take twelve hours to install. A good target date would be April 10th after the April 9th shut down of North rink. Discussion ensued about whether to make this investment in a system dependent on Freon, a substance that’s being phased out in favor of ammonia. Matt estimated the cost of switching to an ammonia-based system to be $800K-$1 million. The Board thanked
Matt for his many volunteer hours and expertise. See Facilities section below for results of the vote.

d) Volunteer opportunities at the fairgrounds - Pam Kelly, who runs security at the fairgrounds, discussed several volunteer opportunities for our association. Bartenders for Spring Fest on April 28-30th, car parkers and bartenders at the Northern Wisconsin State Fair on July 12-15th, Leine’s 150th anniversary celebration on August 11th-12th, Big Rig truck show, etc. The Board thanked Pam for the information. Jennifer Lindstrom offered to put Pam in touch with Erik LeMay (absent) who has already started working on these partnerships.

2. Secretary’s Report
Minutes from the February meeting were distributed and approved via email.

3. Treasurer’s Report
Erik LeMay distributed February financials prior to the meeting via email. Bob Normand reported that the cash balances total approximately $150,000 and that the debt balance, excluding the Ice Dreams campaign, totals $169,605.24. Motion made by Steve Gibbs to accept the Treasurer’s report, seconded by Randy Reeg. Motion carried.

4. Correspondence/Officer Reports
None other than the WIAMA Spring Conference is coming up on April 19th.

5. Old Business
a) Succession plan for key volunteer positions – Nothing new to report. The new volunteers are still committed.

6. New Business
None

7. Committee Reports

Facilities
a) Oil separator – Discussion from the general meeting resumed. K&G and Hovlands would do the work. Steve Gibbs motioned to move forward with purchase and installation of the super oil separator. Randy Reeg seconded the motion. Motion carried.
b) Zamboni tires – Pat Bowe ordered, Steve Gibbs to schedule installation.
c) Logbook for Zamboni drivers – Billy Bergh and Mike Christenson each prepared logbook, one for resurfacing and one for maintenance. These will be located in the Zamboni room like a guestbook.
d) R&R scheduled maintenance for the Zamboni – Pat Bowe has taken care of this for about the last six years. Need to ensure this is done after Pat retires from the Board.
e) Implementation of control system for the compressors - Pat Bowe will reach out again or come up with a back-up plan.
f) Need to send out rink shut down procedures via email. The lights have been left on and doors open overnight too often. Randy Reeg suggested wiring the lights to automatically go off at say 11 p.m.
g) Roshell report on cooling tower wiring – Matt Machnik has a plan. Pat Bowe will follow up.
h) Darrell Herr recommended changing to LED lighting to reduce the electric bill. There is currently an additional Focus on Energy rebate incentive. Darrell will calculate a return on investment.
i) Player benches in locker rooms – Nick Schemenauer would build and install if CYHA purchases the materials. Scott Sikink pointed out that the extra pedestals left over from warming house could be used for this project.

Finance/Administration

a) South rink donor recognition – Steve Gibbs is working with Craig Frenette on this project. Steve will take the donor list to Blue Ribbon for a quote.

b) Strategic planning – Trevor emailed a proposal from Wipfli to guide strategic planning. Discussion ensued about the need for short and long-term planning in order to sustain rink operations. The proposal included a significant discount, but is at a level that needs further affirmation. The Board needs more time to read the proposal and discuss the benefits.

c) The Finance Committee met to work on the 2017/2018 budget. Erik is putting the final touches on it.

d) Final contractor sign-offs on the Ice Dreams project will occur soon.

e) Kraft Foods is sponsoring a Hockeyville grant to revamp hockey rinks. The grant also includes an opportunity to host a NHL pre-season game. CYHA has been nominated and will need votes. More information will be sent out when it is available.

f) New Board candidates were discussed. Several parties are interested. Another mail will go out soon.

g) Marketing of endowment fund – Jennifer Lindstrom and Randy Reeg will work on some ideas to increase awareness of CYHA’s endowment fund at the Community Foundation of Chippewa County. The fund is called Chippewa Youth Hockey Association Kids on Ice Endowment Fund and can be found by searching “hockey” on the Foundation’s website at http://www.yourlegacyforever.org/current_funds.phtml. Donations can be made through this website and must be designated for “hockey” or “kids on ice” so the Foundation knows which fund to apply the donation to. The purpose of the fund is to accumulate donations in order to grow the professionally managed investment corpus (basis). Annual earnings on the corpus are eligible for distribution back to CYHA or reinvestment into the corpus. The idea is to preserve what you love for future generations. Discussion ensued about other ways to maximize donations to the Association. For example, some employers match cash donations or volunteer hours.

Special Events

Beer Fest is coming up on April 29th. Brad Martin reported that Angie Niblett has planning under control, advertising will begin soon, and Kenny Fixmer agreed to be the Master of Ceremony. The committee is considering a corporate event for next year.

Scott Sikink observed that other communities allow non-profits to collect a portion of proceeds from bar pull tabs. Steve Gibbs will research the state law regarding this.

On-Ice

a) Girls’ hockey growth initiative – Discussion from the general meeting resumed. Steve Gibbs motioned to approve items (1) free skate rental prizes at Kids Expo Day and (2) recognition for the committee and eligibility for up to 15 assessment hours. Item (3) fee and assessment hour adjustment for new girl hockey players will be discussed further in the April Board meeting. Scott Sikink seconded, motioned carried.

b) PDC update – Scott Sikink reported that coach surveys need to be sent out, the PDC discussed ice schedules, try-out process, and expectations lay out for A, B, C levels.
c) Draft policy for coach compensation/reimbursement – nothing to report.

d) Marketing of summer ice programs – emails will go out soon.

e) Policy for jerseys returned in poor condition – John Benish presented a two-month-old jersey that was snagged and covered in a gum-like substance. The damage did not appear malicious. Ideally the player or parent should take responsibility for cleaning the jersey and the team parent should hold them accountable. Jennifer Lindstrom agreed to clean the jersey this time as a favor to the parents.

f) Scott Sikkink reported that Piskula is interested in running a hockey school at CYHA in June or July during the day. Bob Normand recommended that Scott coordinate a week. No fee would be charged to the school but the fee charged to participants needs to be affordable.

g) Shooting Cage Update – Scott Sikkink reported that the plan is to have the cage done before summer. The materials will be picked up in April.

h) Bob Normand reported that unscheduled ice time is available but is subject to getting bumped by paying customers.

i) Scott Sikkink recommended that the area behind the player benches need to be kept cleaner and training aids more organized. He will discuss storage devices with the PDC.

j) Need to schedule people to open and resurface rink in the summer.

k) Bob Normand reported that the 2017/2018 tournaments are scheduled.

l) John Benish reported that fewer skaters participated in open skate this year, probably due to the outdoor rink. As a result, concession sales were down on Sunday nights. Pat suggested that we Zamboni between the 1st and 2nd hour to encourage skaters to purchase a snack from the concessions during intermission.

8. **ADJOURNMENT** – Motion by Randy Reeg, second by John Benish. Adjourned at approximately 9:15 p.m.

Next meeting Wednesday, April 19th at 7 p.m. in the CYHA Boardroom