



*A quorum being present, a Massachusetts Hockey regular monthly meeting as listed in the Massachusetts Hockey Guide Book 2016-2017 Calendar of Events, was called to order at 7:36 pm on Monday, January 9, 2017, by John Tobin, President, at the Newton Marriott – Newton, Massachusetts. Of 67 eligible members, an attendance recorded by the Secretary included 39 voting members having signed in.*

**John Tobin:** Welcome to the first meeting of 2017. Moment of silence for Lavin, Higgins and Al Smith's mother. Paul Moore spoke about two Falmouth hockey players that passed away. Thanked the hockey community for all the support received.

**Tom Smith:** Spoke about three objectives of Safety committee but in particular concussions. He has been talking to parents about safety. Need to find a way to let parents know how to recognize concussions. He has developed a business card size check list of questions of concussions symptoms.

**John Tobin:** Meet with Kevin, Greg and USA hockey auditor. John's plan is to present finding to our auditor and have them report back to us. . Many of the suggestions have already been taken care of.

**Greg Sophis:** This is a basic audit we go through every couple of years. They recommended we redo our financial manual. Recommend that we eliminate alternate directors. They want COI done every year and that when there's a vote any conflicts are confirmed. They want money set aside for legal fees but we have plenty of reserves and don't need to earmark it for legal issues.

**Mike Bonish:** Regarding US Premier Hockey League – They have applied to USA hockey to be a Tier 2 play for free junior league. Their application was denied by the full junior counsel. USPHL decided not to appeal it. They will probably self-insure and possibly join AAU.

**Steve Palmacci:** Last June USA passed a rule limiting the number of T1 National bound teams. (Page 134 USA hockey guide)

**John Tobin:** will not be applying for a Mite exemption this year. We need to continue to educate parents about the ADM.

**Kevin Kavanagh:** Spoke about the job Paul Moore had done for the Falmouth program dealing with the issues after the death of two of his players.

**Dave Moses/Tim McMahon:** Spring seminar program for local town programs. Keynote and breakout session format. Will be held May 13 at Newton Marriott 8am-3pm. Will offer a wide selection of topics to choose from - Goalie initiatives, grow the game initiatives, player development, club excellence, volunteers, keeping hockey affordable, SafeSport, discipline process, positive coaching alliance.

John Tobin: Annual meeting and hall of fame will be in Plymouth. Plans for these are in the works. Expanded tournaments.. Spring seminars need to be marketed. Orientation session for PD players picked for national camp. New Player Development going well.

Executive Director report: Liz and I are in more of a sport mode with PD and state championships. Pure Hockey will support the spring event. Getting recognition in the market place due to our communications. Frozen Fenway tomorrow night is girls hockey day. Seven teams will participate in two clinics before the BC game.

**1<sup>st</sup> VP-Mike Bonish: Steve Palmacci:** notice sent to tournament committee and registrars. Many tournaments reduced in size. Working on the costs of the tournaments. Tournament committee meeting here after Presidents day weekend. Six teams cut out of sectionals. Website will be updated. **Mike Bonish:** National bound tournaments finished except for U14 T1. All USA hockey proposals on their website for review. Proposals will be voted on in June. Discussed four rule change proposals regarding penalties, body checking, icing during short hand, off-sides. Check out Hockeyville USA online. Coaching education – working with Paul Moore who is busting his nuts at all the clinics.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP Chris Meyer** (not at meeting): Discipline – all quiet. USOC will handle any sexual harassment that comes through SafeSport. Nominations: nominating committee – if you want to be on the ballot February 20<sup>th</sup> is the deadline. Must be a current board or eboard member with CORI and COI on file, nominations will be for eboard and USA hockey director. March meeting will have nominations from floor, ballot will be finalized and voting will be in June. DON: Rick Fask - Boston Shamrocks sled hockey will playing at frozen Fenway 1/15 at 3pm: Steve Rizzo PD: 2003 boys first event at BC with 79 players. Last night at BU 86 attendees. Next event at MC on Super Bowl Sunday at noon. GIRLS – 03-04 skating on some high school ice 68 girls at Brooks 1/29, Next on ice at Middlesex



School. Don: festival signups opened last week. May have to open 02's for another session. Jim Maimone: Paul Pearl is boys director. Modeling festivals after USA hockey camp. It will be run like the national camp down at Marlboro. Budgets for boys and girls have been approved. Ed is coordinating with USA hockey on practices. His staff is in place - d1 and d3 college coaches. Don 1/26 Roger Grillo doing clinic on body positioning in western mass.

Phil Zona: Greg – HOF applications for nominations have gone out and a couple have been returned. Looking for nominations for the named awards.

**Jay O'Neil:** Steve – long range: looking at the governance of MA hockey which hasn't changed since 1974. Need to look at how we serve our members. Expectations from members has risen. Looking to get interns or grad students to look at how we do things. Considering a paid consultant. Need to see how we can do things better. Parent awareness will work with what Dave and Tim are doing. Rules: have not received any rule change request and that our guides are clear. Waiting to see what comes out of Orlando meeting. Feb 8<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for submittals.

John Tobin: would like legislative changes given to Steve and LRP to see if it fits what he's doing then it will go to the rules committee.

**Mindy O'Neil:** Motion to approve minutes from Meeting by Buddy Lefluer; second by Phil Zona. Meeting minutes approved by verbal vote with all in favor and no abstentions.

**District reports:** Peter: D1 south Boston YH looking for pee wee teams for tournament.

**USA Hockey reports:** Steve – USA hockey/mass hockey rules must play rostered players for sanctioned tournament. Must bring player up through a roster change. Paul Moore – 43 clinics in district. Bruins symposium went well. Held at the warrior center. 2350 coaches went through coaching seminars.

Dennis Doherty – 8 level 1 seminars. 660 referees came in only 200 now working. Not losing officials but are gaining games. Officials doing double duty.

**Old Business:** Dan Esdale questioned Parent Awareness committee. Requested that a chair be appointed. Rick Fask – can we get a list of organizations that have requested money

from the Cheever grant. **Phil Zona** – scholarship application on website with April 1 deadline. We have the flexibility to have more than three scholarships. **Liz:** will email eligible kids. HOF is on line. Cheever grant is online

**New Business:** none

**Meeting adjourned:** at 9:03