

Sun Prairie Youth Hockey Association
Board of Director Meeting Minutes
June 25, 2017, 6 pm

Audience: Kelly Tomlinson, Seth Tomlinson, Chris Larowe, and Brenda Egli

President Stacy Hollfelder called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. Misi Watters, Paula Austad, Sue Culbertson, and Suzanne Doody were absent.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Secretary – open

Betsy McCrary agreed to take meeting minutes. Betsy made a motion to approve the May meeting minutes, and Jason Ledford seconded. All approved.

Annual meeting minutes are posted as draft, and will be approved at the next annual meeting.

There were two motions initiated via email, one regarding volunteer hours and another regarding the level 4 clinic request. Neither motion received a second, so no action was taken.

b. Treasurer – Gary Brendemuehl

Gary reviewed account balances, but will provide the financial reports by email, as he has been out of town.

c. President Elect – Misi Watters (absent)

Nothing to report

d. Past President – Betsy McCrary

- SP Ice Update

Reminder about the joint meeting Tuesday, June 27, at 7:30 pm

e. President – Stacy Hollfelder

Stacy thanked the entire board for their service this year, particularly Karen, Gary, Betsy, and Sue, who have finished terms.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Volunteer Committee – No representatives present to report

b. Annual Fundraising Committee

New representatives are needed, as both committee members are retiring. Gary has prepared a mock-up of the raffle ticket, which needs to be submitted to the state for approval prior to printing. This can take six minutes or six weeks.

c. Communications Committee – No representatives present to report

d. Cardinal Cup Committee – No representatives present to report

e. Concession Stand Committee

No activities planned for upper concessions over the summer. Downstairs is open during public skate.

f. ACE Directors

Jason mentioned the level 4 coaching seminar is Aug. 26-27 in Stevens Point. He will draft an email reminding coaches of the policy for level 4 coaches to come to the board if they meet the criteria and wish to attend.

- g. Region 4 Meeting
There was no Region 4 meeting in May or June
- h. Member Engagement/Annual Meeting – No representatives present to report

4. LEVEL REP REPORTS

- a. Mini-Mite – Nichole Jesberger
Nothing to report
- b. Mite – Paula Austad (absent)
Nothing to report
- c. Squirt - Carrie Rose
Nothing to report
- d. PeeWee - Karen Welling
Nothing to report
- e. Bantam – Sue Culbertson (absent)
Nothing to report
- f. Midget – Absent (Suzanne Doody)
Nothing to report
- g. Coaches' rep. – Jason Ledford
Nothing to report.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. 2017-2018 Scheduling Update

Betsy reviewed the scheduling information available thus far, including ideas for proposed starting date for evaluations (Oct. 9). There are back-to-back My Hockey Tournaments the last weekend in October and the first weekend in November, so home ice will not be available, which isn't necessarily a negative. Exact scheduling has not started, as rink manager Tony Scheid is still becoming acclimated with the system. There may be some challenges with multiple groups jockeying for ice time, but it is too early to tell how this will pan out. Decisions are needed regarding the midget program before too much scheduling can be done.

A draft of the mite and mini-mite schedule has been submitted, incorporating suggestions from past seasons (evaluation sessions, no practices the Wednesday before Thanksgiving or between Christmas and New Year's), etc. Whenever Sunday ice is available, Betsy has two Dane County League (DCL) games allocated, but she expressed concern about how the younger (white and blue) players were repeatedly traveling last year, often to far-away locations such as Dodgeville and Monroe, while the red level players seemed to enjoy local/home ice. The white and blue players rarely had a "home" game. This is concerning to be sending our youngest players on the road, especially when we are providing ice. Although it is understood that the smaller associations don't have red teams, this is something that needs to be better balanced for the upcoming year, perhaps by having both red and white or red and blue teams hosting.

- b. Bleacher Fundraising
Gary reported that the DC Diamonds have sent a check for \$2,000 toward the bleacher fundraising project. Please extend thanks to their membership.
- c. Golf outing (Paula Austad)
Stacy shared updates provided by Paula that planning is well underway, with contacts for sponsorships beginning. The golf outing is set for Friday, September 29 at The Oaks. There is a meeting on Tuesday night, and then more information should be available.
- d. Committee to discuss changes to the Midget program

Betsy received some of the ideas regarding changes to the midget program, with some input from Gary; however, there has not been much action on a formal meeting basis, and at least some decisions need to be made. Reality is that there are few midget teams in the area, so twelve home games would be very challenging to fill. With a JV team for the upcoming season, most of the historical JV opponents may not be available, although invitations could be issued, and other (non-Big Eight) teams might be available or interested. It's likely that the team would become more of a "tournament" team. The idea of the committee was to try to reduce cost but still provide opportunities to develop and play games. The main proposal was to reduce the schedule to six home games and two practice hours each week, with the practice hours preferably on the same day (i.e., one 2-hour practice each week). It's not clear if the 2-hour practice would work (i.e., practice an hour, resurface, practice a second hour). The thought behind this would be more flexibility for work. The team could potentially schedule additional home games as ice would be available, the question is what direction to take for dues/scheduling.

Betsy made the motion as follows: With the reduced number of midget teams in the area and the state, SPYHA will prepare a limited midget schedule of games to include six home games and two practice hours per week (either two continuous hours or twice a week). Additional games may be added per SPYHA policy, but dues will include just six home game and two tournaments at \$1,400 each. Nichole seconded the motion. All approved.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Membership Changes (release and admittance requests)

Kelly and Seth Tomlinson appeared to request admittance for their player, Isaac, who is a 12-year-old goalie (2005 birth year) from Stoughton. Stoughton has granted the release request. After discussing the request, which requires pass through releases from other organizations, including the Patriots, Karen made a motion to accept Isaac Tomlinson for the 2017-2018 season pending a release from Stoughton and the required pass-through release. Jason seconded the motion. All approved.

b. Board appointments (secretary)

Stacy reported that two individuals have contacted her to express interest in the president-elect position. She will request biographies, and, once posted, a special election will be scheduled as required by the bylaws. The bantam level representative, which is now board-appointed, remains open, with no candidates expressing interest.

Stacy also noted that no candidates have come forward for the secretary position. Betsy discussed the importance of having this position, especially with the transition in treasurer and no president-elect. She agreed to be considered as secretary, but with two conditions: that Ecomm meetings be held regularly, so that knowledge could be transferred and workload spread out, and that Ecomm meetings be open to interested board members and general association members, so that others could have an understanding of what is involved in the day to day organization of the association, and potentially consider a role in the future. She state that is up to each board member to be talking to people and finding people to take up roles like this.

Jason made a motion to appoint Betsy McCrary secretary for the remainder of the term (ending June 30, 2018), with Ecomm meetings being held regularly and open to the board and association. Nichole seconded. Motion passed 5-0-1, with Betsy abstaining.

c. 2017-2018 dues and budget

With much of scheduling still in flux, it is too early to predict dues. Plans will include 30 pucks/bag for travel teams (needed for budget estimates). The equipment managers provided a wish list, which lead to discussion about replacing the equipment player bags. These bags are a nice to have, something that was included in the "prize" equipment sets from USA Hockey; however, they are starting to wear out, and SPYHA will need to determine if it is worth the cost (\$20 to \$25/bag) to replace them, when it is not something listed as SPYHA providing, and the cost

essentially wipes out the equipment contribution on a per-player basis, with other items (e.g., blue pucks) still needed.

As the number of trophies is overpowering the SPYHA office, a quote for a trophy case in the lobby was received, along with some improvements to cabinetry for the concession stand. This would be included in the budget; however, a second quotation will also be obtained. Jason will take the action to get the second quote.

d. Back to hockey / Corn Fest parade

Betsy has taken leadership of these two initiatives, but wishes to hand them off if the association wants to continue them for the 2017-2018 season. The Corn Fest parade is a key outreach tool, especially with the discontinuation of the open house nights at the elementary and the new PeachJar electronic flyer system. Fortunately, paper fliers are still used at 4K sites.

e. Joint meeting reminder

Tuesday, June 27, at 7:30 pm

f. Play-up request

Jason made a motion to approve the petition for Vaughan Phippen to go through the 2017-2018 squirt evaluations and potentially be placed on a squirt 2017-2018 team. Nichole seconded. During discussion, it was reiterated that this was not a guarantee the player would be placed on a team. All approved.

g. Volunteer Committee

Due to resignation, there is an opening on the volunteer committee. Two people have expressed interest to Stacy regarding this committee. Stacy will follow up with both and ask for a summary from each regarding why they would like to be considered, and the board will appoint a new committee member at the next meeting.

h. Other business

With respect to the 50/50 raffle at Angell Park/Midget Races, Jason made a motion to allow two families (minimum of one parent and one child) the opportunity to earn two volunteer hours for working the 50/50 raffle. Nichole seconded the motion, and all approved.

Karen made a motion to go into closed session. Nichole seconded. All approved, and the audience was excused.

i. Closed session

No action was taken in closed session regarding a request related to volunteer hours (additional information requested) and the process for appealing a suspension decision.

Betsy made a motion to come out of closed session and adjourn the meeting. Jason seconded. All approved.

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.