

City of Lakes Youth Hockey Association

January 2023 Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2023

1. Call to Order: 7:03 p.m.

2. In attendance: Cory L., Nancy N., Paul E., Jennifer Van Buren, Seth S. (via Zoom)

3. Previous meeting minutes: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Aj4KuFGwfns_MxpaDSL3XVcSSe-9qv-t/edit

Minutes accepted: 7:06 p.m.

4. Old Business:

- Future LTS Proposal
 - Need ice time
 - Cory will volunteer to run it initially
- Co-op committee discussion
 - Create a committee
 - The groundwork for any future co-ops should be established
 - What is the board's opinion on future co-ops setup?
 - Separate or part of COL
- Email communication / Distribution lists (Nancy)

Review Action Items:

- Nancy: reach out to Windom park director about fire and ice
 - Communication with the park has been poor. We did connect about MLK day and having access to the warming house and a table for our Squirts pick up event.
- Nancy: make February THFF registration link live
- Cory: will arrange pictures and date with Jeff; combine with range of motion demonstration and introduction to the weight room (Done - requested a donation from Dr. Drier)(I believe it went well)
- Cory: contact Jyl about spaghetti dinner (good start - leads for each department have been identified. I need to organize information and send it out to all parties involved. I expect to have this done this week. I could use help if we decide to have an online ticketing option)
- Paul: contact Anthony Walsh about scheduling an anti-bullying session (Contact made, BUT - Since the last time I spoke to him, he has had his calendar fill up with paid sessions, so he is not in a position to do a session for free any longer; I plan to have a conversation with him in the next couple of days about whether he knows of someone who would be willing to sponsor his fee for us)
- Nancy: contact Nancy to do social media thanks to HBF
- Cory: will take the lead on forming a committee for coop teams

5. Monthly Calendar Review:

6. President's Report:

- I added our bank account information to Amazon Smile
 - This is something we could advertise
- I will open a Stripe account
 - An account for non profits that is free to use
 - It will allow for us to have text links and email links for donations
 - Free to use for non profits other than credit card processing fees
- I have a meeting with Alicia's in New Brighton to investigate pull tabs
 - Formerly Acupulco's
 - I have a former employee of them that is interested in being our gaming manager
 - A number of things need to be done before this can be completed
 - The goal would be to have this in place by the beginning of our next fiscal year but that might be optimistic
- Ref scheduling
 - This has been a little overwhelming at times for me
 - I believe we've been successful and the only missed game was an oversight by the district ref coordinator
 - I would be interested in making this an appointed position
 - I realize that we don't have an abundance of volunteers
- Co-op discussion
 - Met with the coaches from all Starwhal teams as well as a few extra parents
 - Starwhals goals
 - The Starwhals want to continue under their brand they've created over the last several years
 - The Starwhals are an incredibly tight knit community and have worked hard to promote the game of hockey for girls
 - The Starwhals would like stability from the top
 - All the wondering and changing of who is who hosting what has created confusion and likely has been detrimental to the growth of the program
 - The Starwhals would like to be independent and manage their own program
 - The Starwhals accept they cannot get their own affiliation agreement and are forced to operate under one of the three existing programs with an affiliation agreement
 - My goals
 - I would like to consider the Starwhals and Titans as a team
 - I would like a clear, consistent pathway for all girls that begin as minis and mites in the COL, Edgecumbe and Langford program
 - I would like the families of the Starwhals to contribute towards the success of the Starwhals which means helping out the host association
 - I would like this option to extend to the boys program as well as needed
 - My proposal
 - COL changes their registration process for all skaters
 - COL opens their registration earlier in the summer but only charges a small fee
 - Early season ice is split by age and not skill level
 - We assign players to teams based on skill and desire as appropriate
 - Once the rosters have been formed, we can estimate the costs based on number of players, costs of tournaments, etc and assess a fee for the rest of the year
 - This fee can be split over the remainder of the season
 - Goalie discounts will be easier to handle and standardized as we won't begin billing them until we know what team they are on
 - COL creates a girls/Starwhals committee

- This is not a board but rather a committee to discuss all things Starwhals
 - This committee would be responsible for discussing and communicating their needs to the COL board via a Starwhal rep
 - The board would add a voting membership as a Starwhal rep that would be expected to make most of the board meetings
 - It would be nice and encouraged if members of the committee also ran for COL board positions
 - This committee would not have a specific number of members, rather whoever is interested in voicing their opinion.
 - The COL board would be a fiduciary for the Starwhals as well as the Titans youth hockey program
- COL would still be responsible for booking all ice, refs, tournaments and any other duties it does for the boys program
 - The Starwhals would have all rights, privileges and responsibilities as any other skater in the COL association
 - This would include all St. Paul players that have waived over from their home association
- COL would host all three age levels
 - If the program grows large enough to host two teams, COL would host the higher of the two levels and Edgumbe or Langford Park could host the lowest level team
 - If neither association wants to host, COL could host all teams
- Next steps
 - Get approval from the COL board for my proposal
 - Make proposal to Scott Hamilton from Langford Park and Dan Muccio from Edgumbe
 - Include Chris Ochs (D1 girls coordinator) on any discussion
 - Create co-op document and have each association sign
 - Get approval from District 1 and buy in from all programs families

Board discussed options relative to Board membership for a co-op position; Paul expressed concern about too many Board members or having an even number; proposal not solidified and no formal proposal has been made; that is subject to Board approval.

Accepted: 8:15 p.m.

7. Treasurer's Report:

Accepted:

8. Vice President's Report:

Youth Night collaboration with Boys High School Hockey - positive feedback from 1 mite parent received. Any other feedback?

Squirts pick up games with New Direction @Windom postponed due to weather
Suggested reschedule is Feb 20, but that conflicts with Dumba camp. Need promotion.

Grievance policy still in draft form

Jackets and hats ordered for coaches

Accepted: 7:40 p.m.

9. Secretary's Report:

- Gopher hockey outing completed; we had 76 Titans/LTS skaters and families attend and 56 New Directions/HBF skaters/families attend; for those that chose to stay after the game, the kids got to have a picture on the ice with Goldy, get autographs from Gophers players, and got to skate with the team for about a half hour; a couple of LTS families expressed appreciation for having an activity in addition to just skating; a couple of families from HBF/New Directions reached out to say they would be interested in more cross-participatory activities.
- Planning conversations with North Minneapolis community leaders concerning recruitment and retention suggestions from Jeff Scott, NHL VP of Community Development and Growth; Minnesota Hockey has hired a new diversity director, Akua Teiku, and Glen Andresen is having her reach out to help us with this when she is settled into her new position (she starts today).
- The registration fees for Simone Carson are not reimbursable from the Wild due to her having been registered in Little Wild as opposed to Hockey Is For Me; I erroneously informed them that the Wild would reimburse; due to my error, I proposed to Cory a way of making up for the loss of the expected reimbursement.

Accepted: 7:45 p.m.

10. Ice Director's Report:

Accepted:

11. Appointed Positions Reports

Equipment Manager (Dalton VanBuren):

Coaching Coordinator (Dan Gustafson):

District Representative (President or available board member):

- D1 festival game times are set
 - Do we want to do anything at the rink?
 - Chuck a puck
 - Concession stand
 - Food truck
 - Recruit for LTS
- March 3-5 regional tournament
 - Need volunteers
 - Two hour blocks
 - Richfield
- D2/D1 peewee tournament are the same weekend
 - Cannot do both
 - We are committed to the D1 tournament
 - Need to consider for next year
 - Squirt D2 tournament is up in the air.
 - Waiting to hear back from D2

Fundraising Chair: (Open):

Nancy-

Jersey Mike's dine out:~\$500

Catrina's dine out: \$283.44

Spaghetti Dinner: March 24, tickets printed by Dieckhaus family

Pizza sale: Dan Crapo - Addition by Cory (I spoke with Dan this weekend. He needs help starting the process. We have decided on football pizza. I will contact Jennifer Van Buren for help with getting the information out. My hope is this week.

Registrar/Safesport Coordinator (Sarah Carsello): There is a group of redlined coaches on the Mite/Mini teams that I am working on resolving. They were redlined due to no CEP, which is either a misunderstanding on my part or a miscommunication from the district. Nothing urgent at this point.

Volunteer Coordinator (Open):

Tournament Coordinator (Anne Monnens):

Webmaster (Brad VanWinkle):

Manager Coordinator (Cory Larson):

Communications Lead (Jennifer Van Buren):

12. Action Items:

Send out North Commons Park survey to membership with request for inclusion of a refrigerated ice rink in Phase 1 of the proposed redesign

- Get alumni list to Jennifer for marketing spaghetti dinner (Nancy)

13. New Business:

- Background screening for volunteers - Nancy will summarize and provide a resource for future reference.
- Input needed: Survey for refrigerated ice rink at North Commons in PHASE 1:
<https://pollev.com/northcommons>
 - Can we suggest a list of bulleted items that our membership should touch on in the comments?
 - Nancy's thoughts Phase 1 - Q3. Missing from this concept is a refrigerated ice rink. We should not pass up the opportunity to support youth hockey in the city. A refrigerated rink will increase access to outdoor ice and extend the outdoor skating season. In addition to the many benefits to skaters and families, it should be noted that hockey brings in a lot of people to the city in the winter. Teams from all over the metro come to Parade Ice Garden and Northeast Ice Arena. Having a refrigerated rink at North Commons would create a hockey corridor along West Broadway between NE Arena and to North Commons. Businesses will benefit from this investment and increased traffic during the long winter months.
- LTS registration is open
 - An interested list is an option on registration
 - This will hopefully allow people to register even after it is full to show interest which will allow me to know how much ice to book

14. Adjournment: 8:42 p.m.