

MID AM DISTRICT BOARD MEETING JUNE 25, 2020 MINUTES

The Mid Am Planning Meeting was held via a Zoom conference call due to Covid-19 virus travel restrictions. The meeting was called to order Thursday, June 25, 2020, at 7:34 pm EST, by President Paul Day. A quorum was present. The primary focus of this Board meeting was to outline items to be discussed during the 2020 Annual District Meeting. This meeting was also used to discuss the processes for holding the via a Zoom conference call.

Role Call: Biff Cummings (BC) performed a roll-call.

Minutes: Minutes from the May 2, 2020 Board Meeting were reviewed. Kaye Pinkowski (KP) and Kathy Santora (KS) provided edits. Doug Losure (DL) motioned to accept. Roy Davis (RD) seconded. The Board voted to accept the minutes.

Process for Connecting to the Meeting: John Karolcik (JK) indicated that there are currently 115 association members registered on Zoom to connect to the Annual Meeting. JK will open up the Zoom call up one hour early on Saturday to get everyone configured. Discussion and questions will be made via posts on the Zoom app. JK will utilize polls on the Zoom app to get approval for these items. The likely approvals include; Meeting Minutes, Financial Report, Motion to Adjoin.

JK has a passcode and waiting room set up for the meeting. JK will have a checklist confirming attendance by appropriate affiliate members. JK explained how the board members should register for the meeting.

Board Elections: Keith Kenitzer (KK) indicated that remote voting for board positions, which had been performed by the affiliates via remote means, was complete and that vote results would be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

Diversity and Inclusion (D&I): PD indicated that Gui Bradshaw (GB) will present on USAH's D&I initiative during the Annual Meeting. PD asked what additional discussions we need to have to initiate the D&I program. Tim O'Shaughnessy (TO) and KP suggested we have a separate meeting to discuss further.

Planned Agenda and Discussion for the Annual Meeting:

1. **Minutes:** Biff Cummings (BC) to provide the Minutes from the 2019 Annual District Meeting.
2. **Finance - Audit and Tax Return:** Tom Gawlik (TG) indicated that he will present his reports at the Annual Meeting. He added that they are also on the District website. PD suggested the status of the block grants were likely going to be delayed due to impacts of the Covid-19 at USAH.

During the Annual Meeting, PD is to address USAH budgets and the fact that they had a \$4m shortfall last season. He indicated, as of today, USAH is at approximately 60% of last year's registration numbers. PD suggested that if things stay like they are, the District may not get a block grant. If we do get one, he estimated it to be around \$111,000. PD will highlight the cutbacks at USAH during the Annual Meeting.

3. **Youth Council (YC):** KP reported that four meetings held with YC during the remotely held USAH Annual Congress. A lot of YC's discussion centered on impacts of the pandemic. 2022 National hosts were selected, but none are in our district.
4. **Registration:** KK reported the final number of players registered in 2019 were down about 1,400 in total from the prior year. However, the number of coaches registered were up. 6u registrations were down the most. Covid-19 likely impacted the number of registrations that we typically would have expected in early 2020. Also, there are no tournament applications. KK indicated that we should be encouraging players that hockey is coming back. USAH is promoting this as well. Regardless, KK anticipates a down year.

KK is starting to get tournament applications now. He suggested teams should stay away from One Hockey Tournaments because they are not sanctioned.
5. **Adult:** Tom Cline (TC) indicated that there was not a lot to report. Most activities have been curtailed due to Covid-19.
6. **Women:** Ladd Wagner (LW) indicated that there was nothing much to report. A written report has been provided. USAH will skip looking at 2020 girl/women registration numbers to determine how many teams each district can have.
7. **Disabled:** PD reported that Renee Loftspring resigned due to personal reasons. She has recommended 3 people to take her place. PD is to discuss the candidates with her and appoint one. The new person would hold the position for 3 years. PD is hoping to get a final report from Renee to share at the Annual Meeting.
8. **Officiating:** Jim Weaver (JW) reported refs are down in numbers and that seminars on hold due to Covid-19. He indicated that they will likely have all training online. JW will still try to have a mentoring program this year. It was indicated that Mid Am will provide \$5k out of block grant to help with the mentoring program. JW indicated he needed about 10 minutes for his update at the Annual Meeting.
9. **Coaching:** Bill Switaj (BS) reported that there is a lot happening in USAH relative to coaching. This year, temporary cards will be available for all coaches. USAH has launched interactive virtual clinics. There have been 8 clinics so far, with the feedback being very positive. USAH anticipates a total of 48 clinics, with 8 held in Mid Am. The clinics will be limited to 36 coaches to promote interaction. The first clinic held in Mid Am was on May 17, 2020. The clinics cost \$50. There may be in-personal clinics later in the year. BS indicated he needed about 10 to 15 minutes for his update at the Annual Meeting.

10. **SafeSport / Screening:** PD indicated that Todd has resigned and that Murray Stall (MS) will replace him. Todd has passed along current records to MS. Mike Feiwell (MF) indicated that over the past 12 months, small HS programs are the biggest problems. MF feels Mid Am needs to help educate small boards on their responsibilities to handle SS issues. MF recommended using Zoom presentations. MS would like to get local Mid Am folks (from the states) more involved. The Annual Meeting presentation is to discuss the responsibility of associations to investigate and report. Also, KP will discuss the new screening process and how “hits” are managed.
11. **Rules:** JK indicated that he is going to review a new USAH legislative proposal for zero tolerance at the Annual Meeting. He will also review the past couple of years of hearing data. JK will also discuss a recommendation to use a parent monitor at games to get other parents under control.
12. **Risk:** Mark Zukowski (MZ) submitted a written report. He indicated we should note the information provided in his previous email/memos during the Annual Meeting.
13. **Diversity and Inclusion:** Gui Bradshaw (GB) is going to present new information that is coming down from USAH. He estimates he will need 20 minutes at the Annual Meeting to discuss. GB will have some questions planted in the “audience.” GB indicated that new information continues to come from USAH.
14. **Roger Sharrer:** KS discussed the Roger Shearer Awards selection process to the Board. KS is to announce award winners and amounts at the Annual Meeting. The Board also discussed reducing costs for quick-change goalie equipment. KK suggests we announce that we have extra quick-change equipment during the Annual Meeting and making sets available for purchase by associations.
15. **State Reports:** State reports were not presented on the call. They are to be provided by the respective State VPs for the Annual Meeting.
16. **Player Safety:** Tom Platt (TP) indicated that associations need to appoint someone to handle their association’s player safety programs. Programs are to include concussion management and return to play. He plans on discussing that during the Annual Meeting.
17. **Back to Rink:** Scott Paluch (SP) and BS plan on discussing support information that USAH has developed to get players back to the rink.

Future Activities: PD indicated that the Board will need to have a meeting to discuss player safety personnel and diversity personnel.

Elections: PD indicated Ryan Patrick (RP) had resigned his position as WPA VP. Also, Gina Colligan’s (GC) VP position was up for election. There was an extended discussion about how to fill Ryan’s position. PD indicated that since there were two candidates running for CG’s position, the person voted in would get that position, and the other candidate would get RP’s. It was agreed that according to Mid Am By-Laws, as the District President, PD has the authority to place someone into a vacated position.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by DL and seconded GB.

The meeting adjourned at 10:17 pm EST.

Attendance (in no particular order): Gina Colligan, Tom Gawlik, Roy Davis, Lori Billings, Tim O'Shaughnessy, Kaye Pinkowski, Paul Day, Tom Cline, Biff Cummings, John Karolcik, Bill Switaj, Doug Losure, Keith Kenitzer, Jim Weaver, Ladd Wagner, Beth Stalnaker, Ray Borkoski, Gui Bradshaw, John Folmer, Ryan Patrick, Scott Paluch, Mike Feiwell, Kathy Santora, Mark Zukowski, Murray Stall, Tom Platt, Mike Mankowski

Minutes by Biff Cummings.