

EYHA Board Meeting

Via Google Meet

June 17, 2021 7pm.

1. ATTENDANCE:

Board Members Present: Helen MacAndrews, Frank Parisi, Tracy O'Connell, Sean O'Connell, Jen Villamil, Sarah Stempek, Mike Ginnett, Joe Baird

Board Members Absent: Renee Soutiere, Dave Alofsin, Rick Villamil, Dominic Cloud, Corey Labor, Bruce Garrapy, Mike Smith, Sean Haggarty

Community Members: Brianna Yarnell

2. CALL TO ORDER: Frank Parisi, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

3. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: Motion to approve [MAY](#) meeting minutes made by Sean O'Connell, seconded by Sarah Stempek. Motion approved.

4. COMMUNITY COMMENTS: No Comments

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- **Appointments:**

- Women's Director: Sean O'Connell makes motion to approve Brianna Yarnell as the Women's Director. Seconded by Helen MacAndrews. Motion approved.
- Welcome Brianna to EYHA

- **Miscellaneous:**

- EYHA board will move to in-person monthly meetings in August. Location TBD: possibly Maple Street park or Sand Hill park.
- **Raising Community awareness opportunities:**
 - Essex Block Party
 - Ad in Essex Reporter
 - July 4th Fireworks

6. EXECUTIVE UPDATES:

- **Treasurer: Tracy O'Connell**

- Met with the accountant to review year-end items. Getting together tax info.
- Next month - EYHA Board will vote on next year's budget.
- Tracy is pulling together a sub-committee meeting.

- **Ice Coordinator: Renee Soutiere**

- Not present
- Confirmation that Essex Rink will open this upcoming season.

- **Fundraising Coordinator:**
 - Vacant

- **VSAHA Rep: Mike Ginnett**
 - Nothing new to report. Should receive info in July for the first “kick-off” meeting for the upcoming season.

- **Head Referee: Bruce Garrapy**
 - Not present

- **Registrar: Jen Villamil**
 - Has received emails from Milton players about how to register them.
 - From Frank: Milton has choice to either go to SASA or EYHA. All levels are accepted provided they don't have a level in Milton.
 - Jen has reached out to Milton association president to send out a note to their players informing them of EYHA options.

- **Director of Communication: Mike Smith**
 - Not Present

- **Travel VP: Sean O'Connell**
 - 21-22 Projections of teams:
 - 14U co-ed: 2
 - 14U girls: 1
 - 12U coed: 1-2
 - 12U girls: 1
 - 10 Coed: 2
 - 10U girls: possibly 1
 - 8U: 3-4 teams
 - Emailed VSAHA boards about allied teams decimating association teams. Mike notes that this is an ongoing conversation at VSAHA. This could potentially lead to a “regionalization” of youth hockey. Discussion of financial penalty to “leave the association”. Proposal: 1) increase financial penalty, 2) put a cap on the number of players that can be taken from one team. This is especially challenging for girls program.
 - Consider communicating with the HS coaches to better align skill development of the youth program with the HS programs.
 - In the process of getting EYHA lawn signs
 - Reviewing list of tournaments for upcoming season

- **House VP: Rick Villamil**
 - Not present

- **8U Director:**
 - Vacant

- **Women's Director: Brianna Yarnell**
 - Welcome to the board
 - Would like to do community awareness / engagement during events:
 - Block Party - EJRP
 - 4th July - at Fairgrounds - contact EJRP

- **Head Coach: Corey Labor**
 - Not present
 - Is reviewing Google survey results from EYHA community. Will report out at the next board meeting.

- **Tournament Director: Dave Alofsin**
 - Not present

- **Equipment Coordinator: Dominic Cloud**
 - Not present

- **Secretary/Safe Sport Coordinator: Helen MacAndrews**
 - Helen will coordinate with Brianna to develop a few days of ice this summer for a girls “grow the game”: offer 2-3 ice sessions this summer for girls in the community (any age) who are interested in trying hockey
 - We should also include any new girls in fall dryland practices.

- **Safety Officer: Joe Baird**
 - Rule changes:
 - Body contact: Trying to allow for certain body contact to occur without penalty, but also have stricter penalties for body contact that is deemed dangerous
 - **Competitive contact:** will allow: Positioning / angling / during “chase mode”
 - **Reckless Endangerment:** boarding / late hits / dangerous hits = game misconduct and out of the game
 - **REMINDER:** Coaches should complete Safe Sport certification ASAP

- **Past President: Sarah Stempek**
 - Nothing to report - will support Brianna to help grow the girls game.
 - Focus on the goal of keeping kids in EYHA
 - Continue with dryland training

- **President: Frank Parisi**
 - Little Bruins program is back. Ages 5-9 as of September 1, 2021. \$180. Equipment is provided through Pure Hockey - online fitting will be provided to VTers. Will post this and send out mass email.
 - Communicate to Essex community - FB / EYHA emails / social media.
 - Coordinate with Megan Sweezey / Grow the game girls sessions
 - Anyone who hasn’t done House or Mites is eligible
 - Should target Essex - Westford - Jericho - Underhill communities
 - Need to get word out ASAP so that kids in our community get priority

7. **NEXT MEETING:** July 15th at 7pm, location [Google Meet](#).

8. **MEETING ADJOURNED:** Frank Parisi, President of the Board, adjourned the meeting at **8:06 PM**