

**Billings Amateur Hockey League**  
December 2021 REGULAR BOARD MEETING Minutes  
Tuesday, December 21, 2021 @ 6:00 PM

Call to Order: 1805

Board Members present: D Tillery, Brenna Yarina, Kristin Piccioni, Desarae Detling, Mark Goldy

Board Members present via Zoom: Mark Loeding, Derek Hammermeister, Margaret Stiles, Kristi Laib,

Board Members absent: Jason Heimer

User Group/Rink Liaisons: Shaun Seedhouse via zoom, Megan Davis, Nick Bertz

1. Individual, Guest, Member Comment: none
2. Board Liaison Update
  - a. Adult Hockey League
    - i. Nothing to report. Everything is going smoothly.
    - ii. New Rink updates: There has been progress made over the last six months in the planning of the new facility. Shaun expects to have a lot more to report in the next 2-3 months as there has been better collaboration with the city. There will be a design committee made up of representatives of core user groups. Shaun is hoping to be on that committee and will advocate for two sheets of ice.
    - iii. Shaun was asked how much money the rink should hold back to apply for the facility. He suggests continuing operation as we are now so we can show profitability, surplus and back up funds. This makes helps our user groups show how we can be self-sustaining and not have to rely on the city. Shaun will continue to keep the board updated.
    - iv. Shaun states that scoreboard donations are starting to come in. Megan has requested that the fund be given to her or put in the drop box to her office, so there is less confusion regarding any of the donations.
  - b. Figure skating- none
  - c. Curling
    - i. Nick Bertz, president of the Curling club introduced himself to the board. Nick is fairly new to Billings, and this is his first year as president of the curling club. He hopes to get more people interested in curling and is hoping to have the Curling Club more involved at the rink. He has worked with Megan and has ice time scheduled for not only regular curling events but also for Learn to Curl time slots. He is requesting to be charged the same amount for Learn to Curl as some of his other ice times. So far there are only 2 Learn to Curl times on the Calendar. Mark would like Nick to prepare a cut sheet, so the board has a better idea of the Curling Club and their activities.
    - ii. Motion by Des\_to charge Learn to Curl \$50 per hour for the two Learn to Curl sessions that are already scheduled. Second: Kristin. All in Favor, none opposed. Motion passed
3. Minutes Review and Approval
  - a. Motion by Des\_to approve September 2021, October 2021, and November 2021. Second: by D. All in Favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

4. Acknowledgment of the following Email votes
  - a. *Purchase of New Electro Mech Scoreboard and Console 12/17/21*  
Motion: Kristi Seconded: Jason  
Yes: 8 No: 0 Abstained or No Response: 1 Motion passed
5. Acknowledgement of receiving Megan Davis's resignation from Board via email on 12/01/21
6. President's Report
  - a. Mid-season Financial Review
    - i. Mark recognizes that turnover between Janine and Connie took longer than expected. Now that the turnover is complete, he is wanting to know where CIA/BAHL is standing financially now that we midseason. Mark will follow up with Connie and Jason to see where we are at with financials.
  - b. Motion by Kristin to approve ice time fee of \$150/hr. for Greenhorn league. Second: D All in Favor, none opposed. Motion passed.
  - c. Motion by D to approve Shaun Seedhouse's monetary donation and categorize it as restricted for the new/to be built rink by SBBURD. Second: Brenna All in Favor, none opposed. Motion passed.
7. Vice Presidents Report
8. Treasurer Report
  - a. Old Business
  - b. New business
    - i. Financials- Mark will follow up with Jason and Connie to get the most recent financials out to the board.
9. Coaches Committee/Player Safety
  - a. Old Business
  - b. New Business
    - i. Age Group Identified Issues
      1. Mites: Based on the mites tournament in Cody this past weekend, there was a complaint about perceived inequalities of playing time at the mite level. Derek has sent an email to the 8u coaches and already has had discussion to clear this up.
      2. Squirts
        - a. At the squirt Jamboree this past weekend, both squirt teams beat the opposing team by 24-29 points. There were complaints that this was unsportsmanlike and reflects poorly on the BAHL. It was reported that the coaches did everything they could to not run up the score. Derek is in the process of gathering more information.
        - b. There were questions on why Helena could have a squirt team made up of all second year squirts. It was communicated that each individual league can dictate how to divide their teams up.
      3. Bantams
        - a. This age group has several kids hurt. One of the coaches was not present the last two weekends. There were concerns that it is too much for one coach to coach as well as monitor the kids for injuries. It was recommended to have the manager reach out and find out the coach's availability schedule. If there is going to be continued absences a backup coach may need to be found.

4. Junior Varsity and Varsity
  - a. Complaints of lack of communication in cross rostering
  - b. Varsity disciplinary issues were discussed. It is not clear at this time if MAHA will impose any more sanctions or corrective actions. A back up coach has been identified in case the Varsity coaches is unavailable. Derek and Goldy will keep the board updated on this situation.
- ii. Player Safety
  1. Several players have suffered concussions this season, most of them within the past two weeks. Goldy discussed the protocol for concussions and spoke to some of the difficulties of enforcing them. Goldy stated that players must be cleared by a healthcare professional (Doctor, NP, PA) before returning to play when they have suffered a concussion. Loeding stated that USA Hockey has a lot of information on concussions. Loeding would like Megan to send a blast to the membership with information on concussions.
  2. Goldy is going to incorporate the requirement of physicals for junior high and high school players for next season. Goldy will put together information for the board for next seasons and can also make recommendations for how to facilitate kids getting physicals. Goldy did disclose the conflict of interest of him working for Billings Clinic and that they do provide sports physicals for kids before the school year. Conflict of interest was noted. At this time, Loeding asked Goldy to proceed with putting together the different options of obtaining physicals for next year and a recommendation on the best process.

#### 10. Facility/Maintenance Update

- a. Old Business
- b. New Business
  - i. Property & Liability Walk Through: Megan completed this walk through today. Results have not come back.
  - ii. Sparx: The Sparx machine is in and is being used. It works well, and there have been no complaints regarding how it sharpens. Megan recommends that we sell the Blademaster as there are not enough employees trained on how to use it nor enough customers requesting their blades be sharpened with it to justify keeping it. Motion by Des to sell the Blademaster as there is a lack of employees with the knowledge to use it effectively. Selling the Blademaster will also help to recoup the cost of the Sparx. Second by Kristin. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed. Megan will take the lead on looking up info and pricing to sell Blademaster
  - iii. Door Repairs: Both sets of entrance doors are in need of repair. At a minimum, they need new handles/push bars, weather stripping and some of the frames need welding. Megan and Jason have gotten two bids so far. The first bid was around \$8,000. The second bid was around \$4,700. Megan will finish the bid process and present a plan of action to the board for approval.
  - iv. Plumbing Issues: The plumber has been out to the rink to fix some small issues, one of which was a leaking toilet in the woman's locker room. All problems seemed to have been resolved.
  - v. Scoreboard: The Electro Mech Scoreboard has been ordered. A local ref offered to match dollar for dollar up to \$3750. Our user groups were notified about the offer and in a matter of hours the funds were raised. The projected amount raised should cover the cost of the scoreboard and console as well as installation by a professional.
  - vi. Cooling tower fan: Both fans went out sometime on Friday. Dylan came in late Friday night and got one fan running. Megan and Dylan called Cimco and it was determined that an electrician needed to be called. Cimco gave permission to have an electrician come out and look at everything. Megan believes that there are electrical issues across the board at the rink this includes but is not limited to the glycol pump and the heaters

in the stands. Sanders has been tasked at procuring an electrician to come look at everything. Currently he is waiting for call backs.

- vii. Volunteer Training: Training for volunteer zam drivers is scheduled. Due to packed ice schedule, and Dylan's full time job schedule. the volunteers will have to come at odd hours. The first two volunteers to be trained are Zach Davis and Tim Scott.
- viii. Employee Updates: Employee disciplinary issues were discussed. Some of the employees have had chronic tardiness or not working on their shifts. Megan has spoken to these employees and there have been disciplinary actions.
- ix. Employee Manual: Kriti and Megan will continue to update the employee manual.

#### 11. Marketing

- a. Old Business
- b. New Business

#### 12. Learn To Play

- a. Old Business
  - i. LTP Session 2 Recap
    - 1. LTP Session 2 was a success. There were around 40 kids in session two. 11 of them were moved up to mites, giving mites over 30 players. So far this year 110 kids have registered for LTP (this does include session 3 and 4 registrations).
- b. New Business
  - i. LTP Session 3 predictions
    - 1. Megan states that Session 3 already has 30 mites registered. Since LTP and mites share ice, she will most likely need to cap the number this year as there will be too many kids on the ice.

#### 13. Fundraising

- a. Old Business
- b. New Business
  - i. Old Jersey Fundraiser: Megan has all the jerseys organized and put onto a spread sheet. Jerseys will be sold for \$25 for one or \$40 for two. Megan will be the point of contact for purchase.
  - ii. Sponsorships: Megan has recruited Jesse Ferragan to help with sponsorships. They have updated the pricing as it has not been updated in years. They are also adding different options than were previously offered. They are starting with a small group to start talking to businesses as they want to iron out the hiccups before opening it up to all members. Kristin asked if we are going to keeping letting families go out and get sponsorships and in return they get a percentage of the money brought in. Mark asked that more information on how the proposed program is going to work before decisions can be made. Kristin and Megan will take the lead and report back with the program details.
  - iii. 2021-22 League Raffle: D has given approval on the final proof of the raffle tickets. This raffle will take the place of the "gun raffle" although guns are still be raffled off in this raffle. 6 guns have been bought, a quarter of beef and Fly Rod are the items that will be raffled off. The plan is for tickets to be handed out to the managers to distribute around the beginning of the year.
  - iv. Venmo/PayPal: Our membership as well as other potential donors have asked for the league to start a Venmo account. Megan states that we already have a PayPal account. The PayPal account is the BAML's account, but it has Chandra Picicci's name on the account. Megan stated that it would take some work and a lot of documents to change the name. Mark stated that he would like to get the ball rolling with the name change as it has been quite some time since Chandra was in the director's role. Megan will add

the PayPal link and Venmo link (once made) to the website. Megan has gotten the approval from the state of Montana to sell the raffle tickets online. It is anticipated that PayPal and Venmo will be used to purchase the raffle tickets. Potential donors have also expressed interested in donating to the rink but would like to use Venmo or PayPal.

14. Program Growth
  - a. Old Business
  - b. New Business
  
15. Tournaments
  - a. Old Business
  - b. New Business
  
16. Tabled
  - a. Old Business
    - i. Tabled items:
      1. Revised Website

**Motion** to Adjourn by Kristin

Seconded by Des

All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Next Meeting Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Meeting adjourned @1924

Minutes submitted by Margaret Stiles, BAHL Board Secretary