

LRYHA Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2019 / 6:00pm

Merrill Fay Arena

Attendance: Jen McGreevy, Rich Ellis, Heather Jivalgi, Lyndi Girard, Joe Spicuzza, John McKenzie, Sue Bousquet

Members: Jyoti Hall, Mike Zegarelli, Delana Cullen

Call to order at 6:23pm

Minutes

Motion to accept December minutes made by Lyndi and seconded by Joe. Vote was all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

By-Laws

Hold for now.

Pond Hockey

We have the tent to be raffled off and Lynne sent out a spreadsheet outlining the help needed to support our Pond Hockey fundraiser. Board members are asked to respond to Lynne with areas that you can help with by this weekend. Also respond if unable to help at all.

TO DO: Board members respond to Lynne regarding assistance with Pond Hockey.

NHAHA Grant

Receipts were submitted in support of our recent grant request and we have received a check for the \$2000.00 we were awarded.

Tryouts and Closing Ceremonies

Joe requested an ice invoice confirming ice time for move up practices, tryouts and closing ceremonies. After some reminders regarding evaluator requests for time between evaluations for discussion and the numbers we are looking at it was decided to request ice as follows:

- March 11 & 12 Move up hockey practices
- March 14 PeeWee 1 practice for Valley League
- March 18 5:30-6:30 Squirts and 6:55-7:55 Pee Wees
- March 19 5:00-5:50 Mites, 6:15-7:05 Squirts & 7:30-8:20 PeeWees
- March 21 5:00-5:55. Mites & 6:15-7:30 Bantams
- March 22 6:00-7:30 Closing Ceremony

It was also confirmed that Coach Trimble will run the ice, Charlie is confirming evaluators, Joe will finalize details and the Executive Board will plan to meet following the March 20 evaluations.

Board members will send ideas to Rich regarding gifts for the skaters at the closing ceremony. Last year we spent \$4 on medals for each skater.

Last year we awarded the first ever Laker Award to Allan Gilbert for his support of the Laker program through the years. Do we have a candidate this year?

TO DO: Joe will finalize ice plan for tryouts.

TO DO: Board members will seed ideas to Rich for player gifts and consider anyone else that should be celebrated at the ceremony.

Reimbursements for coaches without skaters in the program

The Board acknowledged the tremendous number of volunteer hours head coaches donate to the LRYHA Program. While head coaches are offered a discount for their player, those without children in the program don't receive any benefit. It was agreed that in lieu of that discount, the Board will offer head coaches without children in the program complimentary hotel stays for their respective tournaments in Marlborough and Dover.

TO DO: Lyndi will follow through with hotels.

TO DO: Jen will reach out to Coach Matt (Squirt 2) and Coach Tim for (Mini Mites)

NEW BUSINESS

Bantam Parent Meeting

Jen proposed a date of February 7 at 7pm for the Bantam Parent Meeting. She plans to reach out to past Lakers who are Bantam eligible and encouraged others to let families from other programs know that we are doing all possible to have a Laker Bantam program this year. Suggestions were made to advertise via radio (101.5), newspapers (Laconia Sun, Gilford Steamer & Winnisquam Echo), Social Media blasts and a flyer. The information emphasized will be tryout dates and our website which will have all the pertinent details.

TO DO: Jen will reach out to Bantam eligible players who were past Lakers.

TO DO: Rich will write a script for the radio and coordinate Social Media blasts.

TO DO: John will email a script to Keith Murray on 101.5.

TO DO: Rich and Lynne will work on a flyer to distribute.

Outcome of meeting with Andrew Trimble

The Board acknowledged that it is in the best interest of youth hockey for the MFA Board, the LRYHA Board and the New England Wolves to work together for successful programs. After much discussion it was agreed that:

- Birth year 2005 & 2006 may try out for the 2019-2020 Wolves season.
- If a skater does not make the Wolves team they will be encouraged to play with the Lakers as they will have the opportunity to train with the Wolves at shared practices.
- Birth year 2007 and younger may try out for the Wolves 2019-2020 season but will **only** be considered as **alternates**.
- LRYHA will promote a Pathway to the Wolves with out Learn to Skate through Bantam programs.

TO DO: Jen will bring the Board's thoughts to another meeting with Coach Trimble.

Appreciation

The Board agreed that we would like to express our thanks to Coach Trimble and the Wolves for their support of the Learn to Skate program thereby strengthening youth hockey in the Lakes Region. Jen will have cards at the next meeting and plans will be made for some sort of shared “thank you” group meal. Jen will also ask about getting a group photo at LTS which can then be signed by the kids and presented to the Wolves.

There was discussion regarding a medal, t-shirt or other gift for the Learn to Skate kids. A t-shirt was proposed but may be tabled until a future date as it would require some design work:

I learned to skate
at the Merrill Fay Arena with the
Lakers and the New England Wolves!



TO DO: Ideas needed for Learn to Skate gift.

Coordinator for Learn to Skate and Mini Mite Program

It's been discussed in the past and since the younger end of the LRYHA program is growing exponentially, it seems a good time to possibly add a new position to the board. A Coordinator for the Learn to Skate and Mini Mite program could continue to help develop the program, be available to answer questions and provide families with the “next steps” in the process.

In line with this, anyone interested in running for a position on the LRYHA Board should submit a letter of intent to Jen by February 15.

TO DO: Rich will send out a message outlining open Board positions.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

UPDATES

Treasurer

Heather is encouraged by the budget overall although we are over by \$8000.00 in ice costs. She is meeting with PJ to work on a budget and hopes to be able to accept payments for 2019-2020 right away. Heather is working with Rich towards using only Sports Engine for registration to eliminate a lot of work that is currently duplicated.

ACE Coordinator / Assistant ACE Coordinator

Charlie was unable to attend the meeting but reported that coaches are doing a fantastic job and the Learn to Skate program has exceeded expectations. He is also working on confirming evaluators for tryouts.

VP

Joe advised that the Mite 1 tournament is secured for February 15-18 at Tritown in Hooksett. There are teams confirmed from out of our area and the Mites are excited for good competition. He also reported that Learn to Skate needs the whole sheet of ice based on numbers so the Mini Mites have moved to an earlier practice time.

League Rep

John reported the following that with GSL the full ice Mites is still the hot button issue. Half of the available grant money has not been awarded because teams that applied are out of compliance. Those teams are also being called in for hearings. The LRYHA Board took a moment to reflect on our decision to limit Mites to cross ice and agreed that, although it was a difficult one, we did the right thing.

Considering the passing of Paul Comeau, NHAHA President, the Board voted to spend up to \$100 to send something from the Lakers to his services once arrangements are announced.

Sponsorship Coordinator

Lynne was unable to make the meeting but sent an outline of help needed for Pond Hockey. (See notes above.)

Event Coordinator

Nothing new to report currently but still brainstorming fundraising ideas.

Equipment Manager

Jim was unable to make the meeting but will be asked to follow up with quotes for new jerseys. It may not be in the budget at this time, but it is an issue we will need to address soon.

Webmaster

Nothing new to report currently.

Secretary

Nothing new to report currently. Sue asked if tryouts could be discussed in further detail at the February meeting including notes from last year.

Registrar

See Learn to Skate notes above. Rich will be working on tryout preparation.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33pm.

Next meeting scheduled for February 19 @ 6pm, MFA