

WINCHESTER HOCKEY PARENTS ASSOCIATION, INC.

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

February 25, 2009

Attendees Directors - Tom Troiano, Hugh Mullin, Jim Kiley, Roland Goff, Erick Knutzen, Bill Redler, Brud Houllahan, Chris Parker, Steve Keating, Ed Ducharme Jr.,
Member – Jeff Bray
Guest – Dave Errico

Vice-President Tom Troiano opened the meeting at 6:37 PM. By a poll of WYH Board of Directors members present, it was determined that a quorum was present to allow for the transaction of Winchester Youth Hockey business.

Minutes from January Meeting

The Minutes of the January meeting were reviewed. Chris Parker made a motion to accept the Minutes of the January meeting. Steve Keating provided the second for the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the Board and entered into the record.

Discussion of In-house recreational hockey program (Dave Errico guest)

Dave Errico spoke to the Board about his recreational hockey program that has been operating for seven years. The program is structured as follows: two 50 minute ice times per week; 15-20 minutes of instruction; 30 minutes of “indoor” pond hockey; the program begins in November and ends by mid-March. Dave estimates that it takes about 20 to 25 skaters for the program to sustain itself. No players currently in Dave’s program play travel hockey. Several board members mentioned that some “house” players also play travel hockey in the Belmont and Manchester NH programs. Dave Errico is interested in talking to WYH about merging his program into WYH. Tom Troiano stated that new program to WYH usually have to find their own ice. Erik Knutzen noted this would be a program available to those players who have completed participation in the Cheever or Tri-City programs. Tom Troiano stated that he would look at completing a model for this in-house program complete with cost estimates and then the Board would have further discussions with Dave Errico.

Treasurer’s Report

Jim Kiley presented the Treasurer’s Report as follows.

WYH has about \$800 in fees that potentially uncollectable. Jim expects expenses and revenue to match at the end of the fiscal year, however, playoff game costs and forfeits could lead to an unbalanced close. Tom Troiano noted that since each team is in one league WYH should not owe fees for forfeits. Jim Kiley noted that the Pee Wee A team is scheduled for only 41 games not 45 as originally intended similarly the Pee Wee B and Bantam B teams have been scheduled for between 5 and 8 fewer games than planned. Tom asked that Jim convey the count of games not scheduled to David Hennessey so he could contact the DS and request a credit to the WYH account.

A full report on the WYH/SYBS fundraiser will be made March meeting and any revenue will be stated at that time.

The Winchester Savings Bank on-line statement showed a checking account balance of \$11,736.83. The balance in the 12 month Certificate of Deposit is \$158,626.37 and the rolling 6 month CD has a balance of \$50,683.94. The total cash on hand for the corporation is \$221,047.14.

Hugh Mullin made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Bill Redler seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Coaches Committee

The Coaches Committee had no issues to report.

Ace Coordinator

Tom Troiano and David Hennessey reviewed the applications for coaches seeking at the A Level positions. Based upon experience and if the applicant had a child in the program the following slate of A Level coaches was submitted:

U14 Girls – Allen McCarthy
Pee Wee A - Jim Kiley
Squirt A – Craig Zaidy
Mite A – Bryan Tardif

David Hennessey and Tom Troiano thought that it would make sense to wait until after placements to name a Bantam A coach. Steve Keating and Hugh Mullin asked who was being considered and recommended that a Bantam A coach be named since this may affect whether players would come to placements.

Hugh Mullin made a motion to name Tom Troiano has the Bantam A coach. The motion was seconded by Erik Knutzen and approved by the Board.

Chris Parker asked that WYH e-mail its members some tips about being prepared for placement sessions. Hugh Mullin asked that all coaches e-mail those players who have not registered to remind them the deadline is approaching.

Dual State League

No issues to report.

Valley League

Board members engaged in a discussion about the only three teams not in the VL (Pee Wee A; Pee Wee B; Bantam B) should be moved for the 09-10 season. It was noted the VL had good parity, communities surrounding Winchester participated in the league and the rinks used by the VL were generally closer to Winchester.

Tom Troiano made a motion to move the Pee Wee A, B and Bantam B teams to the VL for the 09-10 season. Ed Ducharme, Jr., provided the second for the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Learn to Skate and Learn to Play Hockey

Tom Troiano reported that program participants would receive trophies at their last session.

Cheever Program

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Mass Hockey/District 9

Erik Knutzen reported that the a meeting about the state tournament will be held at February 23, 2009. Although Winchester teams did not have any problems, several District 9 programs did not have proper rosters or credential coaches. The District 9 mini one on one competition (part of the Bruins mini one on one) will be held at Waltham. Tom Troiano has been nominated for a seat on the District 9 Board.

Erik Knutzen informed the board that WYH is CORI compliant.

USA Hockey

Tom Troiano reported to the Board about several USA Hockey initiatives. USA Hockey is putting \$2 million into programs to grow the game, e.g., the Cheever Grant program. Also, \$3 million will be dedicated to National Team Development and referee training. USA Hockey has developed a training model – the American Develop Model (ADM). This model will focus on developing model youth club structure and materials and the creation of 36 High Performance Clubs in six regions.

Boys Open Travel Hockey

Tom Troiano reported that there are 2 new leagues are forming for next season: FMC, which operates a number of state rinks by lease, will start a league as will the Middlesex Yankees Girls Hockey League will begin a boys league.

Girls-Only Travel Hockey

No issues to report.

Ice Committee

The practice schedule will be out soon and Tom Trioano will be purchasing additional ice for make-up games in March.

Marketing Committee

WYH raised approximately \$11,000.00 at the February fund raiser and that total may increase if the remaining auction items are sold. Steve Keating noted that the Marketing Committee made

five major recommendations to the Board in January: more management transparency; move up the dates for placements and provide more details on placement process; explore the creation of an in-house program; and more involvement in town activating.

Two marketing committee recommendations from January 2009 have been implemented by the Board – holding placement earlier in March and exploring the creation of an “in-house” hockey program. The Board will be addressing the other recommendations over the next year.

Banquet

Ed Ducharme, Jr., has requested that St. Eulalia’s reserve its hall for the WYH Banquet on May 1, the week after April school vacation. The Board requested that Ed seek April 16th as an alternative date so that the banquet is held prior to April School Vacation. D’Agostino’s will cater the event again while Tom Trioano will order the trophies and secure and sound system.

New Business/Updates

Joe O’Neil, a WYH coach and parent, received flowers from WYH upon the passing of his father. WYH received a thank you note from the Joe.

The Board voted unanimously to spend \$750 for three fan buses to the Super 8 tournament games.

Adjournment

Steve Keating made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Hugh Mullin and unanimously approved by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Winchester Youth Hockey Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday March 23, 2009, 7:00PM in the Winchester Room of the Town Hall.