

**WINCHESTER HOCKEY PARENTS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

**November 17, 2008**

**Attendees** Directors - Tom Troiano, Hugh Mullin, Jim Kiley, Steve Tucci, David Hennessey, Carl Pasciuto, Roland Goff, Erick Knutzen, Bill Redler, Brud Houllahan, John Addonizio, Chris Parker, Denis O'Donnell, Steve Keating.

President David Hennessey opened the meeting at 7:03 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 October Meeting**

The Minutes of the October meeting were reviewed. John Addonizio made a motion to accept the Minutes of the October meeting, and the motion was seconded by Brud Houllahan. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board and entered into the record.

**Treasurer's Report**

Jim Kiley presented the Treasurer's Report as follows.

WYH continued to receive tuition payments of during the month of October and was making all the regularly scheduled payments for ice and league fees. The Winchester Savings Bank on-line statement showed a checking account balance of \$30,296.36. The balance in the 12 month Certificate of Deposit is \$156,956.00 and the rolling 6 month CD has a balance of \$85,249.70. The total cash on hand for the corporation is \$272,502.06.

WYH received a notice for the Commonwealth that the annual non-profit filing is missing from 1999 through 2008. Tom Troiano stated that WYH made all required since he was Treasurer and President which covers the period in question. David Hennessey asked that Hugh Mullin contact Mike Hartnett, accountant, to determine the status of the WYH state filings.

Tom Troiano made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Chris Parker seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Coaches Committee**

The Coaches Committee had no issues to report.

**Dual State League**

David Hennessey reported that the DS did not respond an inquiry about WYH purchasing ice sheets from the DS.

### **Valley League**

The new VL schedule will be out soon. The Mite C team will be moving down one or two divisions, but the Squirt A team will remain in its current division.

### **Learn to Skate and Learn to Play Hockey**

Parents have very pleased with the Learn to Skate program. There have been at least 5 instructors at each session maintaining an approximate ratio of 7 skaters per instructor.

WYH needs to supply several more jerseys with number for Bruins (little rink) team.

Erik Knutzen reported that the USA Hockey Rosters for the Learn to Play hockey teams are due on December 1, 2008.

### **Mass Hockey/District 9**

Erik Knutzen reported that the Squirt C2 team had been seeded 4<sup>th</sup> for the District 9 Play Down. The next meeting for District 9 is January 7, 2009, when the Pee Wee, Squirts (remaining teams) and Girls will be seeded for Play Downs. Erik also said that Play Down rosters are ready and will be distributed to the coaches.

Tom Troiano proposed to District 9 that it hold a Mite A Play Down, but District 9 has not taken any action on the proposal at this time.

### **Boys/Open Travel Hockey**

No issues to report.

### **Girls-Only Travel Hockey**

The VL experience for the girls' team is positive. John Addonizio reported that based upon conversations with parents from other towns, the WYH Girls Program is doing very well.

### **Ice Committee**

Tom Troiano told Board members that the December ice schedule would be out over the weekend of November 22<sup>nd</sup>. He noted that WYH has added an additional hour of ice at BB&N on Tuesday evenings and that on Wednesday evening WYH has ice at Belmont Hill. It was noted that the compressor problems at the Flynn has forced the cancellation of ice time 3 times this fall when the average down time is only about 5 times per season.

David Hennessey will draft a notice to WYH families reminding them that WYH is a tenant of the Flynn and does not control its maintenance.

Jim Kiley asked if WYH needed to pick up additional ice and Tom Troiano replied that there may be some ice available at Charlestown on Thursday evenings.

David Hennessey raised the issue of WYH creating an "in-house" hockey program now that there are several small ice sheets coming on line in the area. He requested the Marketing Committee to look into this issue.

### **Marketing Committee**

The Marketing Committee held two meetings this fall and has created a project development plan. Steve Keating reported that during November and December the Committee would be gathering information from other youth hockey and youth sport programs. This will be followed up with several focus group discussions. The remaining time in December and January will be used to develop strategies with the goal of presenting a plan to the Board in January of 2009.

Carl Pasciuto reported that sweatshirts for players and coaches will be received in approximately 20 days. He also stated that the initial work on planning the Fund Raiser is complete and ticket sales have begun. The Committee hopes to sell 7 \$1,000 Fund Raiser sponsorships to help cover the cost of the event, and that 3 had been sold thus far. Carl told the Board that the Committee is still looking for a few big items for a live auction at the Fund Raiser.

David Hennessey will be drafting a letter explaining the purpose of the Fund Raiser to be posted on the WYH web site.

Carl Pasciuto is also investigating the introduction of an on-line store for WYH apparel.

### **New Business**

Tom Troiano reported that the Cheever Grant introduction to hockey program will begin on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Since many of the children registered probably have not skated much, Tom has asked that Linda Eberth, director of the Learn to Skate Program, attend to assist the coaches.

Tom reported that if we would like to apply for a Cheever Grant for the 2009 – 2010 season that we must make our intentions known by December 31, 2008 with an deadline of January 31, 2009.

The DCR contacted WYH about participating in a program to sell advertising on the boards at the Flynn rink. WYH would be selling the advertisements. Each panel would cost an advertiser \$900 - \$300 to DCR, \$300 to WYH and \$300 for the designer of the advertisement. Carl Pasciuto made a motion that WYH participate in this program and the motion received a second from Brud Houllahan. The motion was approved unanimously.

As the web redesign approached completion several issues arose. Tom Troiano outlined the recommended additions to the new web design including the addition of a spell check function to manage the news postings, allow registration of multiple registrations per child, a tool to convert PDFs to HTML, and a program to allow the family calendar function to coexist with the registration for next season. Denis O'Donnell made a motion that the Board authorize a \$5,000 expenditure to provide for the listed web design improvements as well as for any other design issues that will need to be addressed to complete the project. Erik Knutzen offered a second to the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

David Hennessey offered the Board the opportunity to donate to the MA Down Syndrome Congress. Denis O'Donnell made a motion that the Board make a donation in same amount as 2007, that motion received a second from Erik Knutzen, and the motion was approved unanimously.

The Board extended its thanks to Guy Nakahama for providing the Squirt B team with tickets to the Clarkson v. Harvard hockey game.

**Adjournment**

Brud Houllahan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by John Addonizio and unanimously approved by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Winchester Youth Hockey Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday December 15, 2008, 7:00PM at the China Sky Restaurant.