



Woodbury Area Hockey Club
Monthly Meeting of Board of Directors
February 28, 2019
HSC – MultiPurpose Room

Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 8:15 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Ryan Warner, [Matt Shillings](#), Shawn Shanley, Tim O'Connor, Nick Nyhus, Bill Kulesa, Dan Kraft, Ben Johnson

Board Members Absent: Afton Hartung, Shelly Hansen, Dan Weinmeyer

Other Attendees: Aaron Etshokin-WAHC Ice Scheduler, Amy Vasterling-WAHC Charitable Gambling Manager, Lonie Nelson- WAHC Administrator, Steve Houge, Jodi Houge

Open Forum-Special Volunteer Recognition

The Board recognized and thanked Steve Houge for his many years of volunteer coaching in the WAHC.

Approval of Board Minutes

Secretary will email draft Minutes from Jan 28, 2018 Meeting for Board review and approval.

Charitable Gambling Report

Amy Vasterling-WAHC Charitable Gambling Manager presented the *Gambling Report Review for the Period Ending January 31, 2019*.

Shawn Shanley motioned to approve actual January, 2019 expenses of \$27,080.17. Ben Johnson seconded, motion approved.

Shawn Shanley motioned to approve estimated allowable expenses for March, 2019 expenses of \$32,648.00 and Estimated Lawful Purpose Expenditures of \$30,000 for a donation to pay a March ice bill. Ben Johnson seconded, motion approved.

Checking account balance at January 31, 2019 is \$48,327.37

Long Term Ice Strategy Update

Aaron Etshokin-WAHC Ice Scheduler and Ben Johnson-WAHC Treasurer provided an update on their discussions with the City of South St. Paul and our requirements for as a result of the SSP City Council work session on February 25. WAHC was asked by the City of SSP to outline our ice needs and requirements to make a significant volume commitment at Woog Rink 2 – in an effort by the City to increase revenue at Woog Arena to help reduce the \$1.2 million deficit at Woog. WAHC currently buys @ 400 hours/season at Woog (250 weeknight and 150 tournament weekends).

We presented an 800 hour priority ice usage proposal to SSP City staff. Subsequently we learned that SSYHA presented its own proposal to buy over 1,500 hours of ice – with 900 of these hours to be resold to other associations. Additionally, the SSP School Superintendent announced that the school start times would be pushed back in the 2020-21 School Year. This change impacts our initial ice proposal / strategy presented to SSP.

In light of these developments, we have requested to begin discussions / negotiations directly with the City of SSP for a specific contract for the 2019-20 season to renew the usage agreement we've had in place the prior six seasons at Doug Woog Arena.

We have also reached out to Ramsey County to discuss a 5 year renewal of our Ice Contract at Harding as weekday ice is critical.

Ryan Warner motioned to authorize the WAHC Administrator and the WAHC President to sign/execute and extension agreement with the City of SSP for ice usage at Doug Woog Arena consistent with our prior usage and consistent with the contract as outlined for the 800 hour priority ice usage previously presented. Shawn Shanley seconded. Motion carried.

Ryan Warner recognized Ben Johnson and Aaron Etshokin for their extensive involvement to date in these ice negotiations and their strategic efforts in finding a workable ice solution for our Club. Based on this, Ryan appointed and authorized Ben Johnson and Aaron Etshokin to continue as the WAHC Representatives (the WAHC Ice Committee) in any / all ongoing ice discussions and negotiations with

SSP, Ramsey County, TRIA and other rink facilities as may arise in formulating WAHC's longer term ice strategy. The Board approved.

Ryan Warner-WAHC President briefed the Board on this meeting with the new Parks & Rec Director for the City of Woodbury-Michelle Okada to understand the City's priority for rink expansion/improvements. The City proposed to work up an estimate for replacing the glass boards with hockey boards on the outdoor rink. This would allow us to measure/study hockey usage/demand and constraints of the outdoor rink. Valuable measures for a canopy consideration in the future.

Aaron explained that in a test year we would schedule 'non-critical' practices outdoors – so that a weather-related cancellation would be the least impactful to a team(s).

Nick Nyhus-WAHC VP-Hosted Tournaments explained that the Figure Skating Club has expressed interest and support for using the outdoor rink with a canopy.

Fund Balance Policy

Ben Johnson-WAHC Treasurer discussed requirements for and a recommendation to formalize a Fund Balance Policy. WAHC's standard of practice has been to maintain at least a \$200,000 fund balance given our team tournament registrations in May-June-July and significant ice commitments made in preseason.

In light of our long term ice strategy and growth, Dan Kraft motioned to approve a Fund Balance equal to 25% of the Club's operating budget. Based on the 2018-19 operating budget, the fund balance would be \$250,000. Shawn Shanley seconded it. Motion carried.

Financial Review

Budget to Actuals through 2/27/2019 were reviewed. YTD Net Income is \$220,671. We are tracking to be at breakeven – due in large part to the favorable results of our Charitable Gambling at Ray Js. Ice donations to date are \$100,000, and 50% higher than budgeted. Revenue from our hosted PW AA/A Districts, BN C Districts and BN AA Region tournaments and ice payments for our February (&March) Ice usage at HSC and January/February ice at Woog (and March ice at Harding) are not reflected in these results. These outstanding ice bills are estimated to total @ \$75-100,000.

Cash & CD balances at Feb 28 include \$585,934 cash and a \$57,215 Certificate of Deposit (collateral for cash-secured line of credit).

Reports of Leadership Teams, Committees, and Board Members

Nick Nyhus, VP of Hosted Tournaments

WAHC was asked again by District 8 to host **post-season tournaments** including PW AA/A District Playoffs, BN AA East Regions and BN C District Playoffs. These are our most profitable tournaments to host. District 8 will not have Regions again for 3 years.

Ben Johnson, Treasurer –

Nothing additional to report. See **Fund Balance & Long Term Ice Strategy** discussions above.

Ryan Warner, President –

As noted previously, Ryan met with Michelle Okada, new Parks & Rec Director for the City of Woodbury. Michelle is a long-time customer of Ryan's and they worked together on the Miracle Field project. He shared his research on how to fund building a 3rd sheet – using a Osseo Maple Grove project study.

Matt Schillings, VP 8&Under Programs –

Jamborees: **MiniMite-6U Mini-Jamboree with Rosemount** was held last weekend Feb 23. The competition at MM3 to be reevaluated – WAHC outscored Rosemount 30+ goals (Ryan noted that 6U level needs to be reviewed too). We will need to understand what Rosemount changed and may need to eliminate. **Mite-8U End of Season Jamboree** is this coming week Mar 6-Mar 10.

Matt recommended that we introduce an early morning **OPEN HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM** for our Mites/8U from 6-8am during the week. Many of our skaters are doing these early morning trainings outside of Woodbury. It's tough to get additional weekday ice and going from our typical Mite/8U Sat/Sun to Sat/Sun with nothing in between is challenging to build consistency/progression. This is an opportunity to give kids ice who want the extra skate time. Either the Association pays or Player pays. This is not a player drop-off program. Players would bring a coach, etc.

A request from a former WAHC-family for an early **Squirt Move-up** was discussed. The Board recommended that we do not allow a move-up exception as it sets a precedent.

Dan Kraft, VP of Hockey Operations –

Given the many reports from D8 and our coaches regarding parent behavior and violations of our Parent Code of Conduct, it was recommended that we review our Parent Code of Conduct and consider including more specific expectations and consequences for violations of the code of conduct – especially harassment of our coaches by parents.

We discussed the benefits/effectiveness of requiring our members attend a training/course/workshop, such as the Positive Coaching Alliance to help bring awareness.

Bill Kulesa, VP Hockey Development –

The Hockey Group met with the **Hockey Directors** to get feedback on this season's development and other HD requests including a proposal to revisit **splitting (by high school boundary) at the MITE and SQUIRT** levels for the upcoming season. More discussion / analysis and input from our Members is needed. The early issues/concerns with ReadReact have reconciled themselves.

Shawn Shanley, VP Girls U10 & Up –

2 of our 5 teams that made it to Regions are from the Girls Program. Kudos to Shawn for the strength of our Girls program. Congratulations to the following teams who advanced to Regions and Good Luck this weekend.

Girls:

15A
12UB-Royal

Youth:

BN AA
PW AA
PW B1-Royal

Tim O'Connor, VP Coaching Development –

Feb 4 marked the final meeting in our 2018-19 Coach Meeting Series lead by our Hockey Directors. Feedback is that these meetings were improved over the prior season's.

Follow-up on D8 Coach Disciplinary hearings from Paul Moen.

New Business

Board Terms Expiring –

Per our standard of practice, WAHC set Feb 28, 2019 as the deadline for candidates to submit Letters of Interest for the Board positions with expiring terms at the upcoming annual meeting. We have received expressed interest/letters of interest for 4 of the 5 positions with expiring:

- VP-Administrative Operations
- VP-Hockey Development
- VP-Hosted Tournaments
- VP-Girls Hockey

Board agreed to **extend Deadline to March 7** for those positions where we have not received a letter of interest by our initial 2/28 deadline. This includes the position of Treasurer. A club-wide email blast will be sent this weekend.

2018-19 Season Feedback Surveys

Player-Family Coach-Season Feedback Survey and Team Tournament Feedback Surveys will be updated and sent to Board for review and edit this week. Final surveys to be emailed to families by March 11.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.