

Billings Amateur Hockey League
September 2021 REGULAR BOARD MEETING Minutes
Thursday, September 28, 2021 6:00 PM

Call to Order: 1809

Board Members present: Margaret Stiles, Megan Davis, Jason Heimer, D Tillery, Desarae Detling, Mark Goldy, Derek Hammermeister

Board Members present via Zoom: Mark Loeding, Brenna Yarina

Board Members absent: Kristi Laib, Kristin Piccioni

Rink Guests: Shaun Seedhouse, Alex McCreedy

1. Individual, Guest, Member Comment:
 - a. Ice Technician: Andrew Sanders introduced himself to the board

2. Board Liaison Update
 - a. Adult Hockey League
 - i. Old Business:
 1. Schedule: Shaun has worked with Megan and Goldy on the winter schedule for the Adult league. Megan will upload the schedule to the rink calendar. There have been some schedule conflicts identified between youth hockey and the adult league but have been worked out. Megan and Shaun will touch base after the upcoming MAHA Annual Meeting to work out any conflicts caused by MAHA scheduling.
 2. Greenhorn Division: Participants will register through USA hockey. This division can be flexible with their scheduling but would like to have a Saturday morning time slot. Shaun and Megan will discuss the scheduling more. The adult league is requesting reduced ice fees for the Greenhorn division. They just want to cover the costs of the program. Shaun will write up a reduced fee proposal to give the board.
 - ii. New Business:
 1. SBBURA Committee Update: They are working on creating a nonprofit that will be specifically for raising funds to supplement the \$30 million that is available to use as it is expected to cost more than \$30 million to build the facility. The nonprofit group will be the facilities side of the new rink, and the BAHL will be a user group. Hockey and ice sports are in a good position because we are already self-sufficient and can demonstrate that to the city.
 - b. Figure Skating
 - i. Old Business
 1. Figure Skating Contract: Alex met with Eddie and they reviewed the contract. Eddie kept the contract which had all the corrections. Margaret and Megan will go through the files to find the misplaced corrected contract. Mark stated that he and Alex will meet to review and finish the contract. If the contract can't be found, they will start over.
 2. BSSG: Alex states MLK weekend (January 14-16, 2022) worked best in the past. Past ice times needed were Friday 2pm-6pm, Saturday 6am-6pm, and Sunday until 3pm. Megan will work with Alex to get Figure skating BSSG on the rink schedule.
 - ii. New Business
 1. Marketing: Learn to Skate marketing was not included with our Learn To Play marketing this year as she didn't know that we weren't advertising together. In years past the two programs were marketed together. Alex thinks it would be a good idea to go back to advertising the two programs together. The board was unaware that LTS and LTP were not going to be advertised together. Megan and

Alex will get together to go reinstate advertising the two programs together so the programs can work hand in hand getting more kids on the ice skating.

2. Ice time: If there is a need for more ice space or time for LTP, Alex offered to let LTP use half of the ice at LTS.
 3. BSSG: Alex is requesting the dates of Jan 14-16, 2022 for BSSG figure skating. This time of the year has worked well for figure skating to host the state games. Megan and Alex get this scheduled when they meet to go over marketing/advertising for LTS and LTP.
3. Minutes Review and Approval- Minutes will be sent via email for approval
 - a. July 2021
 - b. August 2021
 - c. Special Meeting Minutes
 4. Acknowledgment of email vote to Approve MAHA documents
 5. President's Report
 - a. Safe Sport Compliance:
 - i. Board members need to be safe sport certified and background screened. It is imperative that all coaches, volunteers and of age players are safe sport certified prior to getting on the ice for the year. USA Hockey and MAHA have new stricter regulations regarding who needs to be safe sport certified and background checked.
 - ii. Mark Goldy is the Safe Sport Coordinator for Coordinator for BAML. Kari Riley is the Safe Sport Coordinator for MAHA.
 - iii. The BAML will pay for/reimburse volunteers (coaches, managers, as well as other volunteers) for background checks. This year the BAML will need to take it out of their current budget, but this will need to be budgeted for next year. The BAML will follow the guidelines put forth from MAHA in our affiliate agreement regarding SafeSport compliance and background checks.
 - b. Background checks:
 - i. Refer to Safe Sport Compliance above.
 - ii. Mark stressed the importance of background checks and how the process for these works. Background screening is used by USA Hockey as part of the onboarding process for coaches and volunteers alike. The BAML has to follow USA Hockey and MAHA's guidelines for background screening and cannot pick and choose when and who to apply them to. The BAML also needs to apply these same standards to employees as part of their vetting and onboarding process. We have to do this as a MAHA and USA Hockey affiliate.
 - c. Employee Issue:
 - i. As recommended by counsel for the BAML, an employee was placed on administrative leave pending an internal investigation.
 6. Vice Presidents Report
 - a. Culture and Resources: Tabled due to time
 7. Treasurer Report
 - a. Old Business
 - i. Bookkeeper turnover
 1. Janine is retiring from her role as the BAML Bookkeeper. She is currently in the process of turning over to Connie Murphree.

b. New business

i. Refunds

1. Two registered players have decided to play for another organization this year and would like a refund on what they have paid and for their payments to be stopped. They would also like their USA hockey number unregistered/unrostered with the BAHL. Jason stated that per our handbook we will not refund any payments already made but will stop any future payments from being withdrawn. There will be no refund for jerseys as they have been already ordered.
2. The board agreed that this is a unique situation due to many factors and that next year we need to create a tryout policy created for situations like this.

8. Facility/Maintenance Update

a. Old Business

i. Tabled items:

1. Contract with Figure Skating- see Figure Skating Liaison 2(b)
2. SUPRA Committee Update- See Adult Hockey Liaison 2(a)
3. Ice Technician Update- See Rink Update
4. *Revising Sponsorship Program- tabled*
5. *Revised Website-tabled*
6. Golf Tournament Profit- 5k-ish, Heimer is going to check if all money has come in
7. Center Ice Vinyl Cost- 5k-ish
8. *Cooling Tower and Ice Install Update-tabled*
9. Skills Camp- parents still waiting on refunds due to date change
10. Dave Weaver Checking Camp- did not happen
11. Confirmation of JV team in MAHA- yes
12. *Volunteer Policy-tabled*

b. New Business

i. None

9. Coaches Committee/Player Safety

a. Old Business

i. Coaches for 2021-22 Season Update

1. Derek has sent out emails for any coach that isn't in compliance with any of the requirements. All manager positions have been filled.
2. 12U coaches are meeting on Sunday to talk about team formulation.

ii. Ice Time Schedule for 2021-22 Season Update

1. Megan has identified some conflicts in the schedule and is working on adjusting the schedule as necessary. 8u, 10u and 12u have all been notified of their official start dates via email. MAHA Summit meeting is coming up and teams will have their game schedule shortly after.

iii. Dryland Update

1. Dryland schedule will take about two weeks to implement, although there is not a hard start date at this time. Billings Clinic has equipment that will be available at a Surplus auction. Budget is needed so that they can figure out how much they have to spend at the auction.

b. New Business

i. None

10. Marketing

a. Old Business

- i. Flyers- Approximately 11,000 flyers were passed out to almost every school in Yellowstone County.

- ii. Email contact- tabled
- iii. Instagram- Megan is working with a parent volunteer to get more social media posts out there.

b. New Business

- i. Partner with LTS and get more things sent out through schools- see above Figure Skating 2(b)
- ii. Harvest Fest (10/9)- tabled as there is not enough time to prepare
- iii. Holiday Parade (Nov 26)- Megan is working on and will have more info at the next meeting
- iv. Sponsorship program- Megan is working on a new sponsorship program that will hopefully provide opportunities for more kids to come play hockey. More information to come.

11. Learn To Play

a. Old Business

i. All State Grant

- 1. Megan and Heimer will speak with Mike Hass to confirm if grant monies were approved. If funds were approved, they will find out the next steps in making sure the rink get \$5,000. The All State grant monies will be used to buy new/more LTP gear, as we will need new gear as much of our gear is outdated, and/or expired. Urgent need is new helmets. Grant money has already been approved and designated to purchase LTP gear.

b. New Business

i. Increased numbers

- 1. Close to 35 kids registered for the first learn to skate, which is a substantial increase compared to previous years.

ii. Move Practice times

- 1. Due to the increase in number of registered players for LTP, Megan is looking at the schedule to determine if there is more ice time available, as mites and LTP current share ice. It is projected like the mites will grow as kids are moved up to mites from LTP.

iii. Need Gear- see All State Grant i(1).

12. Fundraising

a. Old Business

- i. Wreaths/Coffee- Janine is getting Megan the information regarding Wreaths and Coffee fund raising

b. New Business

- i. None

13. Program Growth

a. Old Business

- i. None

b. New Business

- i. None

14. Tournaments

a. Old Business

- i. None

b. New Business

i. Age Group Tournaments

- 1. Des reported that Eddie had wanted a Halloween mites' tournament. Des does not recommend this as 10/31 about a month away, and the parents of Mites are usually not ready to host a tournament this early in the season. Des also stated that JV/Varsity are not usually great for the rink from a business standpoint, as they don't bring in as much money as the younger teams do. Des does recommend scheduling high school games during the younger age group tournaments.

2. Dates of tournaments will be dependent on how scheduling at the MAHA Summit goes. After the teams get their game schedules, then we can look at what ice time is left to host a tournament for mites, squirts and possibly peewees

Motion to Adjourn by Derek

Seconded by Des

All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Next Meeting TBD

Meeting adjourned @2141

Minutes submitted by Margaret Stiles, BAHF Board Secretary