

March 8, 2006

In attendance: Dan D., Larry L., Joe W., Joe M., Dan G., Chuck A., Brian K., Mike F., Pat R., Paul A.

New Board Members in attendance: Joe Susa, Wendy Hollenbeck, and Tim Culliton.

Guest: Dan Mundt, Mike Sand

Mike Sand & Web Site:

Mike offered suggestions to reduce his time commitment. The Scheduling work will continue to be off-loaded. Puck Systems may want to be considered as an alternative system, which has the availability to farm out the data input. Chuck A. asked about the time commitment currently to keep our site updated, and Mike informed him that there is considerable time involved on a day-today basis. There are opportunities for Ad spots on the web that could help off set the costs. Costs are estimated to be in the \$2,000 range. The board will continue to off-load this workload from Mike. We appreciate Mike's consistent and quality effort in doing this site. His effort has been outstanding over a number of years. Mike's years of volunteerism are appreciated, but it may be time to move on to a new association supported alternative.

One alternative we will to consider is a site that allows work load sharing. Example, Puck Systems, which hosts the Shakopee association site and it is very well done and user friendly. Tim B. will check this out on behalf of the board and will look into setting up a meeting.

January Meeting:

Motion to approve meeting minutes and to add Tim Culliton and Dan Mundt as parent coaches to those minutes, Brian, Chuck second, all in favor, motion passed.

February Meeting:

Motion to approve minutes from February as presented, Dan D, Larry Second, all in favor, motion passed.

Mike: Loan Issue – outstanding issue: In the original deal that built the O'Brien rink in 1975, there was a loan for \$50,000 that had a piece of the Hobbs property deeded to ECYH as collateral on the loan for \$50,000. ECYH defaulted on the note, and the city of Eau Claire paid off the loan in 1985, but did not finish the title paperwork to clear the deed. Essentially, ECYH still owns a very small piece of the Hobbs property. The city has requested that we sign a quit claim deed to get clear title to the property. Mike recommended that the board approve this proposal as we did default on the note, the city paid it off. Essentially, the city is cleaning up something that should have been taken care of, given they paid off the defaulted note after 10 years. Mike: Motion, we signed the quit claim deed, Joe W. second, all in favor motion passed.

Buckley Studios gave check for \$208.00 dollars, and he called to check that all went well. The check reflects a 'rebate' given the volume of kids that took pictures. It is reflects what he committed to do. We appreciate this. It seems that he really cares that he is getting quality products to the members. He turned things around fast.

Discussion was held about what to do with sponsorship pictures we will send a thank you along with the picture to the sponsor

Mike Falch outlined the procedure for electing new officers

Thank you to coaches were distributed and will be sent out.

Larry gave a financial report and noted a mistake was made on an over-reimbursement to the coaches; Larry will email them asking them to return it. He also encouraged the Development committee to make sure all the teams are reminded to make their dry-land contribution. Larry mistakenly made a payment to Ayres and Associates Chuck will check with Ayres and Associates to clear this up.

Motion to approve action above, motion Brian K. Second Chuck A, all in favor, motion passed.

New Rink:

Final Insert is completed, and meetings are scheduled to continue to fundraising. Chuck pointed out some revisions to the brochure to use for this purpose. Target date to start campaign is April 1. We will divide up fund raising contacts. Chuck met a contractor that will quote seating for the side with backs, and accordion seating for the ends zones. Chuck is hoping the new Chancellor at the UWEC will give him some time to go over this opportunity. Nothing is established at this time.

Fund Raising – No Report

Tournaments – Dan D.

It ran smoothly. The Hughes were happy. No bad comments on refs, chuck a puck, raffle, raised more than expected due to reduced teams. 8 less teams this year. Janna's picture frame was huge hit, thank you! Things went smoothly. Stu has asked that we do not do balloons anymore.

Bantam Tournament

Joe Susa – Gifts ready, and things for families good, so far over \$3,000 in donations. An estimate of proceeds is roughly \$3500. Nice job and good luck. Refs, trainers, parent work hours, etc. Information to EC teams fell through the cracks and Joe cleaned it up, thanks! Should be great tournament. Thanks Joe!!

Pat R - 3 on 3 Tournament

Date is April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Note date change from the old form. Get involved!! Should be a good time. There may be teams coming out of different states. So far everything is set up and ready to go.

Tournament Trainer Checks are made out and ready to go.

Travel: Dan D. Nothing to Report.

ACE Coordinator:

Survey status: Parent surveys are out to parents now, and distribution is out to parents. Response back continue to be poor. There was discussion regarding whether or not we should continue this. The board takes this seriously, and seems to be the only entity that does. Joe S. Thinks the managers have to take a bigger roll in getting the survey's turned in.

Pat sent out an email that considered alternatives regarding how to run U8 programs, which had many great points that the board may want to work into the program over time. We believe this is an indication of a parent group that is on its way in and is knowledgeable in the game of hockey and really cares about a great association, so this is great news. But consideration has to be given to what the boards of the current and past have established and what works. So careful consideration will be given to these suggestions by the board, we may or may not incorporate these over time. It is in the board's best interest to continue to successfully incorporate the volunteerism that is available to the association. The best solution is to get involved. We look forward to all new volunteer effort in support of the association.

Pat suggested he hold a meeting to further clarify and quantify all suggestions and issues, then bring these to the board. The board thought that was a good idea. We don't want to waste their time and board's time, we rather try to get a composite of all ideas, via Pat and the ACE coordinators role, to stream line the communication, and make sure the board considers all viewpoints.

Pat would be willing to handle the ACE role as a non board member when he leaves office; the offer is on the table for the board to consider.

REC Program: Paul.

Wendy H; There has been a huge adjustment absorbing for the P&R parents of the work load with the paper work, and WEB site vs. the City running it all. Parents, coaches and team managers have said the amount of communication improved, but were not satisfied with amount received from the board, and all underestimated the effort required to support these teams. There needs to be better communication between the board and the teams. Hopefully this is just part of the learning curve during the transition in administration.

Wendy also made the observation that there is the impression is out there, that the board only is concerned with Travel Teams. Now that she has been though a season as a Peewee C Rec parent, she is determined to get the truth out during her term, i.e., that the board cares deeply about the Rec league and worked hard to make it a smooth transition this year from City. Pat R. commented that in the past and now with the Squirts, EC Park and Recreation running the house programs, and the board with travel will cause communication issues. This is something that is constantly being worked on.

Player Development: Mike

We were asked by the Blugolds if they could use the dry land equipment and move it to Hobbs. We haven't heard if this is still in play. But is the board interested in doing this? Chuck has talked to Banbury regarding the availability of the space, and the possibility of moving the equipment out for 6 to 8 weeks. Should we require the Blugolds to pay our rent for our space as a fee? There are other user groups interested to use the facility. It is also an opportunity to move to a lower level with a concrete floor for noise reasons. Specifically, should we continue renting? There is opportunity to have summer programs. Have a 'fee' or 'dry land camp' to cover supervision. We could put something together that is more formal and structured so that it would work. Chuck will call Al D., and see if he would coordinate.

Scheduling: Brian K.

Think we are done. One game without officials that was straightened out. Nice Job this year scheduling Brian!! Good Work.

Web Site – No action. See previous discussion

Facilities:

We will sell old jerseys. Figure Skaters used this room for their break room for their competition. Expect this again next year.

Jersey Turn-in. Since he has all the manager's email addresses, Mike will send an email regarding jersey turn in and late fees. When is the Jersey turn in? Next Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 p.m. at the rink.

Sound System: Update in AK rink. The City would like a contribution of \$2,290 dollars from ECYH to complete that system. The Figure Skaters are donating equipment, 15k worth of older equipment. This was tabled at the last meeting. Pat, make a motion to give money. Brian K., second the motion. Lengthy discussion: Vote 4 to 3, motion fails.

Five Minute topics:

Brian K. Bucks Program:

Opportunity to skate with the group. Can roster 20 kids. Would like to ask the board to get other kids not rostered covered by insurance of ECYH association. Larry L. motion to accept, Dan D., second. All in favor, motion passed.

Larry L. Doesn't want third ref, other programs don't have it; it's a way to reduce cost. Please consider eliminating this next year. It's \$25/game, and covers travel home and home bantam games. It's estimated to be 5 teams covered, and therefore \$1,250 potential savings. It's an easy way to reduce fees.

Thanks to board members leaving!!! Thanks for the hard work and working your butts off!!!

Meeting adjourned 8:45 p.m.