



**Board Meeting Minutes – Approved 8/21/23
Monday, July 17, 2023 – 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Apple Valley Community Center**

Attendees: Jason Petti, Peter Beaumont, Jen Borgstrom, Mary Coleman, Gerri Laska, Sue Newton, and Niels Schapochnicof

Invited Guest: John Kirby, President of the Eagan Athletic Association (EAA)

Programs Represented: Basketball, lacrosse, soccer, volleyball

Meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. A quorum was present

EAA/EVAA Partnership

The president of the Eagan Athletic Association (EAA) was invited to continue the discussion on ways to partner between the 2 associations. Soccer and lacrosse have partnered with EAA, and will continue to do so in the future. Offering a joint program for flag football in the future appears to be the next logical sport to partner on, as there continues to be a desire for flag football at the middle school level but the numbers are dwindling. Allowing EAA and EVAA to partner for flag football will ensure that there is an option for athletes that do not desire to play tackle football.

The goals and makeup of the 2 associations differ but this provides opportunities to learn from each other. EVAA has goals to promote academics, sportsmanship, and participation in multiple sports. Another goal of EVAA is to be the feeder program to Eastview High School (EVHS). EAA has a different approach as it is structured as a nonprofit for anyone in Eagan, not just those who will attend Eagan High School (EHS) but EVHS as well since many Eagan residents will attend EVHS. Both associations will keep communication channels open and will continue to look for ways to partner that will be mutually beneficial.

Apple Valley Referendum

There was a meeting with EVAA and the City last week to discuss the referendum. The vote on where the funds will be spent will occur on July 26. These funds may be spent on improving paths, parks, backstops, the aquatic center, and the turf for the 4 fields at Hayes. EVAA would like the funds spent on improvements to fields as that can help increase revenue from tournaments.

Approval of minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the June 2023 EVAA Board meeting.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Hope Fieldhouse

EVAA has accrued several unused hours from Hope Fieldhouse, which has translated to over \$4000 in unused court time. EVAA is sending an invoice to Hope Fieldhouse to receive these owed funds.

Review of Action Items

Review of individually assigned tasks from the previous meeting (board members may see separate action items document for the list of assigned actions).



Air Quality Index Protocol

Air quality concerns became an issue for the first time for our spring outdoor sports. As such, the Eastview Soccer Club adopted the new *guidelines* (not requirements) from the Apple Valley Parks and Recreation Department, and now all the outdoor sports should follow these guidelines. The new guideline is to suspend play when the air quality index (AQI) of fine particulates is 200 or above; however, EVAA will not cancel games/practices as these are just guidelines (they also include adding water breaks). Another reason for not canceling outdoor events is that the AQI can drastically change and that levels tend to be much lower later in the day when games/practices occur. The ultimate decision to not have an athlete participate is up to the parents.

Gambling

The EVAA is looking into options that would allow the association to hold gambling fundraisers. This will need to be discussed with the treasurer and the gambling coordinator for Eastview Hockey (they currently manage pull tabs at several locations around the city). There is an option to receive permission to hold a few events a year to fundraise (e.g. BINGO, raffle, etc.) but this would first need clearance.

EVAA Recognition / Appreciation Event

In the past, EVAA would hold a volunteer appreciation night at the aquatic center, but these events haven't occurred the past few years. As EVAA is a volunteer organization, this event will be revived this year to ensure that our volunteers know how much they are appreciated. The plan will be to hold this year's volunteer appreciation event at Bogart's Entertainment Center, likely in September.

Board Vacancies Board Process / Procedures

Soccer received interest from 4 people to serve on the EVAA board during their fall registration; however, after being contacted there has been no return response. As there is no current vetting process for onboarding new board members (including sport boards), the EVAA will be developing a strategic plan for programs on how to set up their leadership, how to proceed with new projects, and a vetting process for new board members.

Implementing Avario Across all Sports / New Facilities Director

It was previously approved to have all EVAA sports use Avario for their scheduling pending a financial review. As the cost of using Avario is wrapped into the EVAA administration fee, all sports will proceed with using Avario for all their schedules. As there is a learning curve with Avario, and to ensure a smooth transition and unified approach, the search for a new facilities director will begin and this will now be a paid position as it can be far more involved than other volunteer roles.

MOTION: To proceed with finding a new facilities director and to pay this person \$8,000-\$10,000 a year.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

EVAA Swimming / Trap

As EVAA does not have a swimming program, there was a summer partnership with Rip Tide that allowed for a successful summer program. EVAA would like to do something similar with the Trap program, as it is currently not an EVAA sport but rather an external club.



Volleyball Program Update

There was a successful summer clinic with Gustavus Adolphus College with over 80 kids participating. Tryouts for the next season will be in the middle of August; in-house registration will open in September. The new volleyball coach at EVHS has been a great collaborator with EVAA, and there will be joint clinics with the high school during the next season. There is a need for more gym space as kids are turned away from registration; having nets able to be set up at Diamond Path Elementary is a goal to ensure more gym space.

Basketball Program Update

Registration for basketball is now open with tryouts occurring at the end of August. There is a new registration system with a steep learning curve that is causing problems for tournament registration. As EAA is also considering this new system, the basketball program will share their learnings as part of EVAA's ongoing partnership with them.

Storage

Each sport currently has their own system for storing equipment (rental, trailer, etc.). EVAA is in the process at looking at potentially building/leasing a space for all sports. EVAA will look into the youth center (near the aquatic center) and at possible fundraising opportunities to build or lease storage space. The possibility of building a joint gym/storage space is also a possibility due to lack of gym space.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was unanimously approved at 8:34 p.m.