

4/29/2021

Melissa: No re-hashing general membership meeting or in the emails

Anything I've emailed has been the truth, apologize for misunderstanding Pat's involvement from 3 years ago. At this point his word against mine

For the past 5 years, I've given time to make sure kids play hockey

Intention: To move forward and smooth things over

Ben has a lawyer he has talked to and said he has a case for slander; denied things he said

Per Ben - Our board is completely divided; Nicki quit the board after the meeting because of how the people at the back table of the GM behaved. Ben Rothering is now going to be our hockey director; Mike J. -- neither should be on the ice. We have fired Mike Sullivan (we did not but are re-looking at the job description; he will be welcome to reapply). With a split board we will never get anything done

Larry said we don't have a 5-year plan, so they have to protect their assets; if we do not dissolve the entire board and start over, they won't sell us ice

Reached out to WAHA -- so we do have representation from them as needed

- Stoughton more than willing to host us with ice time - let us know what you need
- Call in to Dan Hefty

Joe - We're at a point now, tons of hurt feelings, might need some type of mediation, Neutral party involved - WAHA, USA Hockey. We can't let them dictate what we're doing. We have to do something to make that work. Move our association out of Oregon? Co-op? Deadline date

Bob - Definitely think we need a mediator (Dan Hefty) good relationship with Larry; GM meeting complaints about being a rec association (never heard complaints about that); 25K on a hockey director to help us develop players; I want our rink to grow; to hear our high school hockey coach talk like this it hurts

Kelly - echoing Bob on Larry; youth sports organizations are volunteer-led organization;

Shaun - close with Ben & Larry; and a bunch of people on board; completely in favor of using a third party mediator; someone to come in and help us right this wrong; at the end of the day - we are mostly interested in making sure kids have a good hockey experience (in their hearts, that is what B&L want); they have a vested financial interest in the rink; hope both sides can come together

From Becky: I don't think anyone here would put their kids' hockey experience at risk just to "stick it to Ben." I agree with Melissa, that is much bigger than an email that hurt some feelings.

Melissa: We have to do what's right for the kids

Melissa talked to Larry: Created this whole vision for OYH "have fun", if we're just about developing hockey, we're missing a lot of kids who might not ever play high school; it's hockey for everyone -- how do we do that?

Melissa/Amy: Create a sub-committee (Dan Hefty) - give us advice, but he's a non-voting member; Shaun as liaison to negotiate; create some sort of multi-year contract; we create a 5-year plan & how do we want to do that

Becky: Subcommittee sounds smart. The slippery slope of removing board members per a vendors request is very concerning; Kelly: I echo that Becky - I am greatly concerned about a vendor dictating who is on the board and who is not.

Shaun: Strong base to have the high school be successful - need a strong foundation; a lot of kids playing hockey; we want to be all-inclusive; not always about winning and losing in HS ... turning them into hockey players (kid who plays hockey vs. a hockey player) I don't want any kids going to the Capitols- we should keep our top-level kids here

Melissa: Echo Shaun in that we need to be partners with the rink

Shaun: request to remove board members is crazy; maybe poke holes in election process; opportunity to come to a middle ground; if we are at an impasse - maybe hard decisions need to be made; room for negotiation, clarity to resolve some of this miscommunication; I can help bridge that gap & Dan Hefty

Bob: Keep shaking my head about; Why are we in this place? Everyone wants to keep/get kids playing hockey; Ben locked up nets when the board; I think we're going to get through this

James: Nuclear option to start; as a customer who wants to work with him; why can't we do that in a room collectively; Working together for kids; I want to see the program succeed; a business that needs to be run -- we can't find a solution

Melissa: Focus on moving forward -- subcommittee of two people Dan Hefty & Shaun

TJ: When you talk about a mediator -- I am all for Dan & Shaun, but we would need someone else from the board to represent all sides

Joe?

TJ: What do we want to do as a group; we aren't in favor of dissolving a group. We all want to achieve the same thing

Shaun: We don't necessarily know if Ben & Larry are open to the mediator idea - I would approach B&L and what do they really want? No board members resign off of rink pressure - so board agrees we will not remove a member

Melissa - Shaun will reach out to B&L to see if agreed to mediate

Discuss at May 16 meeting;

TJ - Set - we aren't allowing members voted off the board

Melissa: Loud board members take over and sometimes not everyone gets to weigh in

Nick S. - 6 years, done whatever I could to help this organization; I think this sucks to have a rink that's trying to dictate who is on our board; I want my kids to get better; better hockey players, better people; we're adults - middle school; disappointed, frustrated; we all want the same thing; we do a pretty good job promoting the rink - I don't know what else we can do

Kris - Do all of this work to help the rink; the idea that we don't want to use the rink

Tom - communication is going to get out there, we need a plan

Melissa: United outside front; based on comments made at general membership; My ask to the board is if asked - we're working on negotiations with the rink at this time

Statement:

We want kids to play hockey in Oregon and so does the rink, so we are working to find a path forward to work together to make things happen for the upcoming season.

Nicki Cowan has decided to step down; the way our bylaws are written - the next highest votes is on the board; Melissa has tried to contact him, but he hasn't responded; Joe will help with contacting Hector