



WHA Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, March 13th, 2023

Location: Second Street Station

Time: 7pm Board Meeting

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Adam Lalim, Jason Kasuske, Debbie Melville, Amber Dahl, Nate Shuller, Juliane Lloyd, Travis Young, Lindsey Stricherz, Jeremy Johnson, Roger Schmaltz

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES: Lucas Deutsch, Molly Randall, Todd Randall, Trish Johnson, Jason Marko, Kris Dorneman, Jeremy Espland, Brenda Schmeling, Casey Shuller, Adam Sullivan

ABSENT: Steve Sheehan, Tonya Holien

Call to Order at 7:12pm

AGENDA for March 2023: Nate Shuller moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Jason Kasuske. Motion carried.

MEETING MINUTES for February 2023: Nate Shuller moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Debbie. Motion carried.

1. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Organizational Emblem Plate for WHA** as a fundraiser. \$20/set for Emblemed License Plates and are scheduled to be here before All Association Meeting.
- b. **Dueling Pianos Fundraiser:** scheduled Friday, April 7th. 150 tickets sold so far. Another 100 left to sell. Needing 5 volunteers to assist in selling raffle tickets and mingling with attendees. Motion made by Jason Kasuske to spend \$500 for auction baskets, seconded by Jeremy Johnson. Motion carried. Money raised will go to WHA equipment purchases.
- c. **All-Association Meeting:** Thursday, March 23rd 6:30pm for all levels. Agenda is BIN Update, Voting of new board members and Awards for all levels. Players, Parents and Coaches all to be in attendance.
- d. **Liquid CD for 'Old Boys' Fund:** This account is currently open at Wells Fargo Bank with an individual who no longer is involved in the WHA. It was previously voted upon and approved by the board to close this account and move the funds to an approved CD to allow for growth. Juliane Lloyd made a motion, seconded by Jason Kasuske, to move funds from the Wells Fargo Bank account to a liquid CD at another bank. Motion carried. Debbie Melville (Treasurer) and Adam Lalim (President) will continue movement with these funds.

2. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Nominations for 2023-2024 Season:** The following individuals have been nominated for the following positions:
 - i. **President:** Adam Lalim, Todd Randal
 - ii. **Vice President:** Adam Sullivan, Jeremy Espland
 - iii. **League Director:** Kris Dorneman, Roger Schmaltz
 - iv. **Development Director:** Taylor Johnson (no vote, running uncontested)
 - v. **At Large Director:** Erik Scott, Jason Marko

Nominees will have up to 3-5 minutes to speak at the All-Association Meeting. Votes will occur during the meeting. Motion to accept and approve the nominations made by Travis Young, seconded by Jason Kasuske. Motion carried.

- b. **WHA Hall of Fame:** For the number of years and wonderful people who have established and grown our association, we do not have a recognition program like a Hockey Hall of Fame. We have many contributors, players, teams, coaches, boosters, investors, etc. Steve Sheehan is researching what we can do for the association. Ideas provided were displaying photos, jerseys, etc. in a new part of

the PLHS Ice Arena. Motion made by Jason Kasuske, seconded by Juliane Lloyd, to approve the establishment of a WHA Hockey HOF. Motion carried.

- c. **Players/Coaches/Parents Survey:** Exit interviews for Coaches will be scheduled and conducted by mid-April. Ideas was to put out a player and parent survey to gain insight to how the season went (pros and cons). Thought was allowing players and parents to have an opportunity to answer a short survey by paper and electronic option. A motion to approve a survey for parents and players was made by Jason Kasuske, seconded by Debbie Melville. Motion carried.

3. **OFFICIAL COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS-** reports if any information

Coaching Committee, Jason Kasuske, Vice President, Lucas Deutsch, Staff
Meeting to conduct exit interviews for coaches soon.

Finance Committee, Debbie Melville, Treasurer

Debbie is wrapping up the season finances, waiting on final checks for the remainder of the year. Debbie will be moving money into the savings account so there isn't a large balance in the checking account. Several options from a liquid CD to a term length CD were discussed. It was encouraged to have funds in a higher earning interest CD than a standard savings account. Motion made by Juliane Lloyd, seconded by Jason Kasuske to putting excess funds from checking into a liquid CD at a bank. Motion made by Jason Kasuske, seconded by Amber Dahl to allow Debbie Melville (Treasurer) and Adam Lalim (President) to make the decision on bank location and best CD option for all movement of funds (Old Boys club funds and excess checking funds). Motion carried. Motion made by Juliane Lloyd to move ~\$7k to the Old Boys Fund so the balance is \$85k and move \$100k into a liquid CD from savings to allow for interest growth. Motion seconded by Travis Young. Motion carried.

Dibs/Volunteer Committee, Tonya Holien and Amber Dahl

Tonya Holien will update Treasurer on unfulfilled volunteers points to invoice members who didn't fulfil their agreement. Decision to be made by May which technology to use (Sports Engine or TeamSnap). Jeremy Johnson and Casey Shuller would like a meeting called with Tonya to determine best solution between Sports Engine or TeamSnap based on Tonya's research.

Marketing & Fundraising Committee, Molly Randall, chair

No updates on marketing or fundraising. We received grant for Giving 365 to fund the Girls U14 jerseys. It takes ~10 weeks to get jerseys. Lucas Deutsch mentioned there is a desire for continuation of GV jerseys so they all look the same. Lucas & Todd & Molly Randall met with the Watertown Community Foundation (WCF) expressing WHA needs. WCF is going back to their board with our bids and ideas to see if we can qualify for a grant.

4. **GENERAL COMMITTEES**

Calendar & Growth and Retention Committee, Todd Randall, Chair

Todd reaching out to Ryan Remmers to have promotional videos to support the association. Another idea was working with the radio station for YouTube, which would allow for us to sell more advertising. Coaches could have better access than LiveBarn for tape. Todd brought up committees, manuals, job descriptions & expectations by board position. Todd feels strongly it is important to have a strategic planning session for next season, that would allow for better efficiencies with team coordinators. Todd suggested we open an avenue for nominations of people/volunteers who would be strong in filling our open committee positions. It was suggested we add this to the feedback survey for parents for the open committee meetings. Todd & Amber can work together for a survey.

5. **STAFF UPDATES**

Operations Manager, Lucas Deutsch

- a. **Try Hockey for Free Day recap:** Event went over well with 45 skaters. Thank you to all of the volunteers who made the day a success! Lucas is optimistic to gain 8-10 skaters who may join the WHA. Jason Marko asked if there are email addresses for those who registered, so we can continue the free registration for Mites/Squirts.

- b. **14U State Tournament:** Girls had a fun tournament. Table at the event raised quite a bit to assist with the Girls U14 league level.
- c. **Summer Hockey:** Coaches want to begin planning for Dryland. We will most likely start this mid-May.
- d. **Player awards have been ordered:** All league level awards will be announced at the All Association Meeting. Idea was given to nominate a family or parent(s) who stepped up. Lucas brought up coming up with unique awards or ways to recognize and reward those that step up.

Business Manager, Tonya Holien (Interim) – no updates

6. **FACILITIES – no update**

7. **ASSOCIATION WIDE INFORMATION**

Sioux Falls Complaint Filed: Another association raised a claim that Sioux Falls failed to split their league levels evenly, causing inflated records. Discussion how to handle Sioux Falls' inconsistency went to the state level. In the end, the Sioux Falls association received fines ~\$14,000. Their association may appeal. Rules were violated with the way rules are currently written. With this situation, there will be Spring SDAHA meeting, where there will most likely be proposed revisions to the current rules.

State Hall of Fame (HOF): SDAHA HOF location where those inducted will be recognized is yet to be determined. Watertown has desire to bid for the space for the SDAHA in a corridor of the new ice arena. The inaugural SDAHA HOF Banquet will be held Friday, April 14th. Motion made by Amber Dahl, seconded by Lindsey Stricherz, to spend up to \$1,500 to purchase tables to the event, allowing for members, players and coaches to attend. Motion carried. A way to determine who's going will be established. Tables costs \$700 for a sponsored table and two \$400 tables to allow up to 24 people to attend from the WHA.

8. **ADDITIONAL EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED)**

ADJOURN @ 8:35pm

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, April 10th, 2023, 7:00 pm @ 2nd Street Station