

**Billings Amateur Hockey League**  
July 2021 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA  
Thursday, July 20, 2021 6:00 PM

Call to Order: 1815

Board Members present: Mark Loeding, Margaret Stiles, Jason Heimer, Mark Goldy, Kristi Laib, Kristin Piccioni, Brenna Yarina

Board Members present via Teams: Derek Hammermeister

Board Members absent: Megan Davis, D Tillery, Des Detling,

Rink Guests: Eddie LaPera, Shaun Seedhouse, Alex McCready, Connie Murphree

1. Individual, Guest, Member Comment:
  - a. Connie Murphree introduced herself. Our current bookkeeper, Janine Brester is retiring and turning over to Connie. Connie is also the MAHA Secretary. She used to do the books before Janine. She also does the ref scheduling for our league.
  
2. Board Liaison Update
  - a. Adult Hockey League—Shaun Seedhouse
    - i. Eddie and Shawn have worked on the schedule for rate skates. The Fall Rate Skate is in August
    - ii. Registration is open, and about 20% full. Fall League registration ends 8/31.
    - iii. Wants to start scheduling Adult league ice time ASAP. He and Eddie will get together and work on the schedule. Would like to utilize Sundys from 5-9pm
    - iv. The grant committee has submitted an application to the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation for a \$15,000 grant and have not heard back.
    - v. SBURA Committee Update
      1. They have \$25-30 million to use on building a new facility. There is a planning session with the city on 8/2 to get the approval to start the exploring the building of a multiuse facility. The plan is for basketball, hockey and a pool. The push is for two sheets of ice.
      2. Mark gave stated that our rink is about 40 years old. The life expectancy of some of our equipment 40 years ago was 20 years, so its living on borrow time.
      3. There is not a definite plan who will run the new sheets of ice. Most likely there will be some transfer of power if these sheets get built. There are plus and minuses to this, but with aging equipment, it would probably be a good thing to only worry about the hockey aspect and not the rink aspect. There have been two assessments of the rink. One in 2014 and one in 2016. Margaret sent the 2016 assessment out to the board and Shaun via email during the building. The 2014 assessment is not accessible via the internet.
      4. Jason wants to know if the new cooling tower could go to the new facility. Eddie stated that yes, that from a facilities aspect that could happen. Mark stated that that would need to be negotiated with the city.

- b. Figure Skating—Alex McCready
  - i. Alex and Eddie met within the last week to work on the schedule
    - 1. Keeping the schedule the same for 2021-22
    - 2. Alex gave Eddie dates for BSSG (MLK weekend)
    - 3. Alex would like a bigger hockey presence at Learn To Skate. She would like to bring in coaches to specialize with the hockey players.
    - 4. Mark stressed the importance of LTS. Mark would like Eddie to work closely with Eddie and possibly attend LTS as a hockey representative.
    - 5. Figure skating contract with BAH/CIA was brought up. A contract from 2014 was brought to be reviewed. On a preliminary examination the board had the following questions or areas to be looked at:
      - a. Needs signature line
      - b. Lawyer should look at the verbiage, especially regarding monetary language.
- 3. Approval of June 2021 Minutes
  - a. **Motion** by Kristin to approve June minutes with the corrections below in (i). Seconded by Brenna. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.
    - i. Part C #3 insert correct spelling of Kristin
- 4. President's Report
  - a. MAHA Update
    - i. Mark gave a recap of MAHA townhall meeting. He explained how MAHA wants to hire an outside Executive Director as a paid position. The hopes is to eliminate politics and possible prejudice regarding MAHA decisions. MAHA townhall meeting also discussed their structure. The director will visit each association at least once a year.
    - ii. The presentation talked about Best Practice standards where the Hockey Director grows the program and doesn't necessarily coach. Growing the program should be the number one priority, especially in Montana
    - iii. MAHA Bylaws have not been looked at in quite a while, nor have they been updated or followed. Therefore they are updating their Bylaws.
    - iv. MAHA wants to be a resource to individuals associations.
  - b. Organizational Structure
    - i. Mark explained the role of the Executive committee and roles in both league affairs and the business side. Margaret stated she has minutes from all the "Xteam" meetings. They are hand written and the board is more than welcome to look at them. From here forward, the Xteam will type up minutes or a summary of what was discussed at the Xteam meetings and they will be sent out to the entire board to keep them in the loop and avoid any optics that the Xteam is not being transparent or making unauthorized decisions.
    - ii. Mark stated that BAH's Strategic Vision is to grow the program, just like MAHA is encouraging.

5. Unfinished/Old Business

a. Facility/Maintenance Update & Employee Management

i. Cooling Tower Update

1. Eddie says that the cooling tower is in route and everything is going as planned. They have had to order lots of paint and lots of ammonia in preparation to lay the ice.

ii. CIA Insurance Update

1. CIA has an insurance policy in place. Jason and Kristin will start looking for a new policy in January 2022 as the policy the rink currently has now does not cover wind or hail damage. Kristin and Jason stated that many insurance companies are not covering wind and hail anymore b/c of the amount of damage that has happened in Montana.

iii. Parking Lights Update

1. Parking Lights were installed in June of 2021.
2. The neighbor across the street wants the parking lot lights turned off when the facility is not in use. At this time there CIA/BAHL will not turn the parking lot lights off when the facility is not in use. Keeping them on is an added security feature for our building. When the lights were chosen, we had the option to buy hoods which reflect the light down. At that time the hoods were not purchased but it was stated that we could in the future if needed. Mark asked Facilities to take on getting the hoods for new parking lot lights

iv. New Center Ice Vinyl Cost and Vinyl

1. Eddie stated that he would like to have the new bulls logo at center ice. Eddie has done some research, and spoken with Jim Berry at Econo Print. They have projected that a 30x30 vinyl logo will cost about \$4,000. It will be reusable vinyl with a 3-5 year life expectancy. Eddie stated we could go with smaller versions which are less expensive.
2. **Motion** by Brenna to go with the 30x30 Bulls logo for center ice. Seconded by Kristi. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

v. Ice Technician

1. Eddie is still looking at hiring an ice technician. Shaun would like to know the specifics of what we need. Eddie will get with Shaun to discuss this

b. Marketing/Fundraising

i. Golf Tournament Update

1. Eddie states that he will have the final numbers by the end of the week. He is thinking 4-5k net.
2. He states that Brenna and Megan as well as other volunteer did well.
3. Brenna would like to plan for these kinds of things earlier in the year. That way a target audience and specific marketing can be picked to maximize revenue.
4. Brenna and Megan would like help with fundraising. They are planning on meeting in August to discuss the specifics.

c. Tabled items:

- i. Revising Sponsorship Program
- ii. Revised Website

6. New Business

a. Facility/Maintenance Update & Employee Management

i. Plans for re-opening and employees for the season

1. Kenzie would like to work in the skate shop and not just the concession stand. Eddie stated she will start being trained in the skate shop and on the zam.
2. Matt is staying in MN for the first semester of the school year, but plans on working at the rink when he returns.
3. Even with Kenzie we may still need to hire another employee for the skate shop.
4. Jason suggested posting for a job now instead of in the fall as everywhere is short on employees, so it may take some time to get an appropriate candidate.

ii. Compressor rebuild kit

1. Cimco will rebuild one compressor each year. It will cost around \$5,591 for one rebuild. The \$10k already approved for glycol, which is now not needed, will be used for compressor rebuild.

iii. Hot Chocolate Machine- tabled as D is not in attendance.

iv. All State Helping Hands Grant

1. All State came and counted all the LTP gear. By us allowing them to volunteer for this, we will receive a \$5,000 grant. Eddie state he will go through the findings and let the board know where the funds should be allocated.

b. Program Update

i. Registration Update

1. As of this meeting there are 103 kids registered. Sample jersey sizes will be in on 7/23 and then Eddie will start getting the kids sized.
2. There was a question whether former members can come back. Connie stated that because we are a 501c3 we cannot exclude anyone from membership unless they are not in good standing with the league. Therefore as long as former members left in good standing and they are in good standing with the league they are leaving, they are welcomed back.

ii. BAHL Skills Development Camp

1. Eddie would like to have the camps August 16-20
2. Kristin stated that Dave Weaver will come do a checking camp. Eddie just needs to coordinate times with Dave.

iii. Coaches Practice Planning Tool

1. Eddie is going to move forward with this planning tool.

c. Program Growth

i. Upcoming Events

1. Montana State Fair

- a. August 13<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> at Metra Park
- b. We have a booth reserved and need volunteers since the booth will need to be manned for about 10 hours each day.
- c. Volunteers will get a free ticket to the fair that day. Eddie will need to buy the tickets in advance

2. Harvest Church
  - a. We have a booth at this fair. They specifically asked for hockey as they are hi-lighting activities for kids to stay active.
- d. Coaches Committee
  - i. Coaches for 2021-22 Season
    1. Coaches were presented. There board wants more information about how and why the coaches were chosen. The board is asking the coaches committee to go back and relook at the coaches and come represent to the board.
  - ii. Ice Time Schedule for 2021-22 Season- tabled

**Motion** to Adjourn by Kristin

Seconded by Brenna

All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Next Meeting, TBD

Meeting adjourned @2108

Minutes submitted by Margaret Stiles, BAHL Board Secretary