

**Casper Amateur Hockey
Board of Directors Meeting**

Thursday, May 9, 2014

Casper Country Club

Attendance: Angie Donelan, Darin Myers, Diane Berg, James Bardgett, Mike Thomas, Jolene Whitley, Kevin Taheri, Kevin Whitman, Stephanie Means, Roger Burns, James Ewald

Guests: Dave Blaida, Joe Farley, Bill Richards, Sloane Johnson, Jessica Ferguson, Mandy Parker, Serenity Thompson, Heather Cook

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 6:40pm.

Approval of April minutes: *Angie Donelan made a motion to accept the April minutes with corrections; Darin Myers seconded the motion and it passed.*

I. President's Report:

1) **Welcome new board member-**Heather Cook

2) **Storm hockey members/City Council meeting**

- Jolene reported that she, along with Angie, Sloane, and Bill attended the recent City Council meeting. The second sheet of ice was on the agenda for City Council to discuss. At the meeting, City Council voted to approve an architectural study to be done to determine the feasibility and cost of installing an ice surface at the Events Center. Jolene recommends that CAHC attend future City Council meetings when the second sheet of ice project is on the agenda to stay informed on the progress of the project.
- Bill Richards, Casper Storm, voiced concerns regarding the addition of the Coyotes to the ice arena and the potentially negative impact that team can have on the Storm's ice time/schedule. In the past with previous Junior teams at the Ice Arena, the Storm experienced a significant reduction in registration numbers due to the late night ice times they were given. Concerns were also voiced regarding if the Junior team is successful, their demands could potentially increase. Transparency with those involved with the Junior team was questioned, with the perceived conflict of interest of the Rink Manager also being a member of the Junior team coaching staff.

3) **Lease extension letter submitted:** Jolene submitted the lease extension letter May 1.

4) **Coaching room upstairs:**

- Jolene received an email from BLu McGrath indicating the Junior team coaching staff is in need of office space and requested that CAHC move out of the current Coaching Coordinator's office. The rationale was that the previous Junior team built the room, but past CAHC members have indicated that the rooms upstairs at the Ice Arena were built with private donations, as well as donations from CAHC. Roger Burns and James Ewald will find out more information regarding past history of those spaces and report back to the board. Jolene has discussed the office space issue with BLu, indicating that CAHC uses that space not only to store necessary coaching materials, but also CAHC records. Jolene indicated that sharing the space maybe an option, but that CAHC is equally in need of that space. Jolene is awaiting a response from BLu regarding this issue.
- Jolene talked with John Ambrefe, Head coach of the Coyotes, and Coyotes tickets will be sold through the Events Center. The Coyotes are donating \$1 for every ticket sold to CAHC.

5) **Girls USA hockey letter/brochure:**

- The letter was distributed to the board for review. Jolene will give the Girl's team permission to submit the letter to USA Hockey with the noted corrections.
- The Girl's team is also preparing for the parade. They are designing shirts that they will pay for at their own expense and wear for the parade. They are also planning on handing out popsicles and CAHC stickers (to be created).

6) **Colorado league:** Jolene received an email from Evolution Hockey Club indicating they are starting a USAH/CAHA sanctioned, competitive, youth hockey league. An organizational meeting is to be held June 1. Board consensus is to wait and see how the league progress over the next season before considering this option.

7) **Flyers to schools/hockey registration:** Flyers regarding CAHC registration are to be distributed to the NCSD elementary schools, targeting Kindergarten through third grade, prior to the end of the school year. Angie has drafted a flyer, but the Girl's camp day information needs to be added to the back of the flyer.

Mike Thomas made a motion to copy and distribute the promotional flyer (copied in black and white on yellow paper) not to exceed a cost of \$500. Angie Donelan seconded the motion, and it passed.

8) **Goalkeepers board position:** Article IV. 1. Of the CAHC Bylaws will need to be revised for wording at the next AGM or special meeting. The policy documents also needs to be revised regarding wording related to Goalkeepers.

II. **Treasurer's Report:** Stephanie Means gave a report on the financial standing of the club. Please see attached printouts for those figures (Balance sheet April 2014 and 2013; Statements of Income). Year-end assessments have all been sent out except for the Midget players who travelled to Canada (they are awaiting outstanding revenue from their Buffalo Wild Wings fundraiser). Midget A, Midget B, Girls, and some U8 players' received additional assessments. Bantam, Pee Wee, and Squirt players had net credits. Stephanie reported that she has restructured the income and expense categories on the Statements of Income, making it easier to read/compare.

Kevin Taheri made a motion to accept the Treasurers report as given. Kevin Whitman seconded the motion, and it passed.

III. **Standing Committee Reports:**

A. **Referee-in-Chief:** A survey was sent out to the Men's league regarding why some are not interested in refereeing. Not many surveys received, but there maybe some girls interested in refereeing. Mentorship was voiced as a need for younger referees, but mentorship opportunities are limited as there are only a few older referees available to mentor. It was also voiced that there is a multi-level issue within the Club (players not taking house games seriously; younger referees not supported enough; coaches verbally abusing younger, inexperienced referees, etc.). Other clubs pay the mentoring referee to help younger referees identify penalties/assist with positioning. "Mentor" referees could also give feedback to the younger referees post-game. Referee certification fee reimbursement was another idea raised to address referee recruitment/retention. The certification fee could be reimbursed after a refereeing a specified number of games was completed (i.e. 5 games). Referee recognition at Awards Night could also be considered, acknowledging first year participation, as well as fifth year, tenth year, etc. No decision was made about referee recruitment/retention.

B. **Finance:**

- Sponsorships- packets have been delivered to the majority of dasher/banner sponsors and have been well received.
- Projected Statement of Income 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 were reviewed, as well as the Major Assumptions for the 2014-2015 projection. The impact of fundraising is shown in the projection. Considering CAHC offsets operating expenses with fundraising (target of \$30,000+ annually), there is a need to communicate more effectively the impact fundraising has and find ways to encourage more players to participate in Club fundraising.
- At the April 2014 meeting, there was a motion to split the Coaching Coordinator position into two separate, but equal positions. At that time, no motion was put forth regarding the funding of these positions.

Kevin Taheri moved to pay \$750 per month per Coaching Coordinator position. Kevin Whitman seconded the motion, and it passed with six board members voting in favor and two voting opposed.

- Online registration information was brought forth to the board at the April meeting. There was a discussion regarding the new website will not likely be ready for the July 1 registration deadline to allow for online registration. However, the board could consider installing the online registration plug-in when able, and input the information to be able to have the opportunity to test the online registration plug-in, and make changes prior to the membership registering online. The cost would be \$2.50 per registrant, plus the merchant account fees of those registrations that paid by credit card once the online registration plug-in was online ready. Diane volunteered to input the returning skaters registration information and trial the online registration plug-in.

Angie Donelan moved to proceed with the online registration plug-in. Mike Thomas seconded the motion, and it passed.

Kevin Whitman moved for CAHC to absorb the costs of online registration for 2014-2015 season. Angie Donelan seconded the motion, and it passed.

- At the March 2014 meeting, the Finance committee asked the board to consider a registration fee increase. There was discussion regarding player recruitment/retention and how increasing fees may negatively impact registration numbers. It was stressed that the 2014-2015 projection did not allow for any non-budgeted spending.

Kevin Taheri moved to keep the registration fees the same for the 2014-2015 season. Kevin Whitman seconded the motion, and it passed with six board members voting in favor and two board members voting opposed.

C. **Scholarship:** no report.

D. **Coaching:** It was reported by email from Jim Wetzel that he will set up a Coaching committee meeting to discuss the Coaching Coordinator applications received.

E. **Discipline:** no report

F. **Bylaws/Policies:** no report.

G. **Scheduling and Special Events:** A pros/cons list will be generated to evaluate this years event. Tentative dates for next year are April 11 or April 18. To be confirmed by Jolene with the Ramkota.

H. **Member Relations:** The committee will meet this summer to do some pre-season planning and attempt to have Age Reps/Managers in place by season start.

I. **Communications:** Webmaster has started on new website. Online registration discussed under Finance.

J. **Community Outreach:** Nothing to Report

K. **Fundraising and Equipment:**

- Equipment from Bush-Wells Pro Shop was purchased at year-end (significant discount) and is in the Equipment room.
- Football Frenzy-NFL season schedule has been released. Diane asked the board to consider moving forward with the Football frenzy pool again.

Kevin Whitman moved to proceed with the Football Frenzy pool. Kevin Taheri seconded the motion, and it passed.

IV. **Unfinished Business:**

- Baseball field banners-awaiting invoice.
- Trophy case-Angie to follow-up with BLu regarding lost trophy case key. Plan is to clean out trophy case and display more recent successes.

V. **Old Business:** Tobacco policy in code of conduct

VI. **New Business:**

- Hockey camps-Northern Edge July 28-Aug 1 (info is at ice arena); 3 Brothers camp (info is at ice arena)
- Trojan Trek-CAHC will encourage club participation and attempt to provide volunteers for one day in June. Jolene to forward more information.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10:20pm; the next meeting will be Thursday, June 5th. Location has yet to be determined.