

The Natick Comets Hockey Club

Board of Directors

Chase Arena

August, 19, 2024

7:00 pm

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Mike Balcom, David Cogliano, Jeff Schneller, Anthony Fireman, Andrea Smith, Jeff Aronis, Dave Mangan, Lauren Thomson, Mike Byrum, Chris Boyer, Alicia Deig; John Smutko; Aaron Souza

I. **Call to Order**

II. **Approval of the July 15, 2024 Minutes**

The revised Minutes (attached) from the July 15, 2024 Board meeting were approved.

III. **Financial Update (Dave Mangan)**

Mr. Mangan provided an update on the Board finances. Mr. Mangan reported that the Board finances are in comparable position to where they were last year and that there were no concerns or red flags at this point. Mr. Mangan did indicate that certain league dues and other fees were upcoming but this was predictable and the Club had prepared for same.

IV. **In Season Skills for Travel Team (Jeff Schneller)**

Mr. reported that the Skills Committee met several times to discuss options for in season skills programs. Mr. Schneller reported that the committee concluded that the Club could not hold skills sessions during the winter season without some practice loss. There was agreement that the skills sessions are good for player development and should be pursued in the Fall Season. The Skills Committee had yet to receive a proposal from Driscoll but Solid State had provided pricing for \$250 per 50 minute session for Bantam and Midgets.

Additionally, the Board approved engaging the Natick High School coaches for \$300 per session to conduct skills for Mites through Peewees. The High School coaches will also use high school players and the additional money is for pizza or food after the skills sessions.

V. **Update on Goalie Search (Jeff Schneller)**

Mr. Schneller provided an update on the search for goalies at the Bantam and PeeWee level. It was determined that if we could find goalies at those levels, the Club would offer free tuition. The Club did locate one backup goalie for Bantams. The Club was open to having goalies rotate at the PeeWee level.

VI. Learn to Play: Donation (Jeff Schneller)

Mr. Schneller informed the Board that Holly Chin requested a Learn to Play voucher as a fundraiser for her theater company. The Board approved a gift card for 8 weeks of LTP as a contribution to the fundraiser.

VII. Try Hockey for Free Day (Jeff Schneller)

- A. The Club is planning on holding another “Try Hockey for Free Day on November 2, 2024. Learn to Play begins the following week so this timing is fortuitous.

VIII. Comet Board Participation (Jeff Schneller)

Mr. Schneller led a discussion regarding Board participation. Board members are expected to participate in 75% of the Board meetings. The Board agreed that a message should go out to all Board members informing them of this requirement and if they cannot satisfy this requirement, they will be removed from the Board.

Additionally, the Parent Coordinator position was recently vacated and there was a discussion about who would fill that role. Alicia Dieg agreed to speak with Kristian EstVacated Positions: parent coordinator could role into Kristian Efstathiou would be interested in the role.

VIII. SafeSport Reminder and Neck Guards (Bob Klane, David Cogliano)

On behalf of Mr. Klane, Mr. Cogliano informed the Board that Board members are required to take certain SafeSport courses and suggested that the Club purchase extra neck guards for players who may forget. Mr. Schneller indicated that the extra neck guards have already been purchased.

IX. Coaches Update (Jeff Aronis)

Mr. Aronis updated the Board about the coaches meeting he conducted. During the meeting, he walked through expectations for the season, call up procedures and rules, and use of CrossBar. Mr. Aronis said the meeting was helpful and he intends on holding “office hours” for the coaches during the season. Mr. Aronis also shared information with the coaches about

practice plans, white boards and health and safety information. He said the meeting was helpful and positive.ed for neck guards, mouth guards, white boards; trauma bandages; call up

X. Social Media (Alicia Deig)

Ms. Deig led a discussion about the Comets use of social media and whether this is something the Club should focus on. It was agreed that it would be helpful and Ms. Deig volunteered to work with Kristian Efstathiou to explore that.

XI. Polar Plunge (Dave Mangan)

Mr. Mangan indicated that he is looking for volunteers to help him organize a Polar Plunge that is scheduled to take place hopefully the week after Thanksgiving.

IX. Next Meeting: September 16, 2024

X. Adjournment