

West Elk Hockey Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2024

Call to Order at 0705 In person meeting at CB Chamber of Commerce

Confirmation of Quorum with 5 of 7 board members present including: Gary H, J W., Jena G., Sarah F., Josh T., Scott R. (zoom) and non-voting members Bill F. (Ex Dir), Joey C. (CB Rec) and 1 guest by zoom Jen Willett.

Approval of August meeting minutes-moved by Jena, second by Gary Approved

Rink Updates- Joey C. Ice is not ready yet. (chuckles but acknowledged fall is here), Report by Bill that after talking with Andy E. (Gunn Rec) prep work occurring this week and start making ice next week (9-23).

Director's Report (separate notes provided by Bill with Schedules for different age ranges, CGHL, World Girls Hockey Weekend, Fall HA Preseason, Sponsorships)- in addition to his prepared notes: still looking for a head coach for Bantams, has 2 co-assistant coaches. As of 9-17 so far have 124 youth registered and 235 Adults registered to play. Team selection on 9-28 or 29 and play starts on 9-30. Based on numbers so far it appears that 10% increase if registration fee shows a 10% in registrations. Historically vast majority of people register in the last week prior to play starting.

Bill would like to develop a fundraising committee, he had a talk with Kirstin Dickey of Off-Center who voiced concerns about non-local providers being used for Jerseys, t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc. Discussion of PureHockey and deals that were offered and the evolving nature of using them as a source for Jerseys and equipment. Typically, they require minimums and we don't tend to meet their minimum levels. Discussion on an informal policy of using local vendors as first choice and seeking outside sources if they are unable to fulfill needs.

Hillary Gomez has a contact with Yeti who can get merchandise (mugs) at significant discounts. Need for a formal fundraising committee to help with various efforts, especially larger scale, longer term (grants).

Today at 5:00 Bill meets works "back to school" night in CB to promote hockey and the skate for PE program. So far he's not getting good reception on "skate for PE" in Gunnison. Will continue that effort.

Old Business: See agenda for topics. Topics with on additional discussion: going recruitment of coaches, refs. Tournament Weekends (Pres. Day, MLK) and which to participate in. General consensus is have coaches determine and set which will be played and commit to them.

New Business: 2 topics requiring Exec. Session (personnel hiring issue and scholarship with sensitive information). 2024 World Girl's Hockey Event- Gunnison 10-13-24 from 9:30 to 10:45.

Membership comments: Jen Willet-question on hiring process (to be discussed today), Hockey Moms and use of them as fund raising committee? Hockey Moms are not under WEHA authority but provide financial and other support that greatly benefit WEHA programs. WEHA greatly appreciates their efforts, support and donations. Talk of having Hockey Mom rep(s) on WEHA Fundraising committee.

Regular Meeting stopped and **Executive Session** started at 0744, concluded at 0820. Regular meeting resumed at 0820. Topics: scholarship requests and funding levels, Hiring of Director of Hockey Operations and starting salary.

Motion by Gary, second by Scott to fund scholarship for current applicants at \$250 per youth, and not to fund adult requests at this time. Approved. Anticipate some additional scholarship requests still.

Motion by Gary, second by Josh to offer position of Director of Hockey Operations to Justin Biehl with starting salary of \$52,000 (annually). Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 0830.