

HAHA MINUTES
January 27, 2010

Present:

Joe Biondi	Jason Carlson	Erik Peterson	Scott Pionk	Jim Sonneson	Mark De Roche
Patrick Andrews	Pete Hamell	Chris Cloutier	Bob Schmidt	Marty Olson	Ron Gerth

Meeting opened at 7:00pm by Joe Biondi with opening comments and call to order

Secretary's Report: The minutes for November were reviewed with a motion for approval made by Erik Peterson seconded by Pat Andrews with no changes. The motion carried 10 yes and 0 no.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report was reviewed financial items of note: 5249.27 in checking, savings of 2525.75, CDs 41378.63, Money Market Acct 112886.32, total funds on hand 162039.97 which is an increase of 17358.87 from November's report (no December report). Monthly funds increase driven by deposit of 21720.14 from concession stand sales, 21500.00 from coupon book sales. The major expenses for the month were reimbursement of Coaching certification and USA Hockey fees along with referee fees, annual website expense, liability insurance, rink improvements for Hockey Day in Minnesota and snow removal expense tracking over previous years. Motion to accept November's Treasurer report was made by Marty Olson seconded by Pat Andrews with a vote of 9 yes and 0 no. Motion to accept the January Treasurer's report was made by Pat Andrews seconded by Jason Carlson with a vote of 9 yes and 0 no.

Discussion opened up on how best to handle certification / USA Hockey fees with looking to USA Hockey to work with us on streamlining the financial side to eliminate individual reimbursements. The purchase of office supplies / checks was discussed in the look for alternatives and price competitiveness. Follow up discussion was had on expenses involved with Hockey Day in Minnesota and the proposal of how to reconcile expenses with the Hockey Day organization which are estimated to be in excess of 5000.00.

Follow up on the schedule C request from November for a donation for HAHA to pay 449.00 for a high school hockey banner to be placed in the arena for 2008-9 Lake Superior Conference Champion. The high school intends for us to pay for this and future banners.

Gambling Report: Bob Schmidt presented the Gambling report and started off with presentation of letter from MN Attorney General dated Jan 14 stating that they received our annual report for fiscal year ending August 31st. He went on to say that we are now licensed to do gambling at the Beacon effective February 1st, a two game machine will go in on February 3rd, the resolution was passed by the city council with a vote of 5-0. The HAHA gambling licensing fees are due this year by 2/28 with fees of 1200.00. To support the HAHA program and the declining sales of pull tabs the Ballard Resort Raffle is running this year to generate funds to help fund association needs.

December 2009 tax return results were presented with gross receipts 101405.04, which is 47990.00 below the prior year. Net profit came in at 781.00 more than the prior year, we have been able to maintain a strong profit margin through the management of expenses and a year over year reduction in expenses which is due in part to the removal of the booth at Tejas. Year to date since September 1st net profits are 11231.00 ahead v. 2008 on 130326 less revenues. December 2009 budget was 19296.00 with actual expenses of 16302.47 for a difference of 2993.53 primary driver for budget difference is reduced revenues. The motion to approve the December 2009 tax return made by Pat Andrews seconded by Marty Olson. Motion carried with a vote of 10 yes and 0 no.

February 2010 proposed budget includes the re-licensing fees of 1200 and workman's comp bill of 1575 for a total of 22990.00. Motion to approve the February budget is made by Joe Biondi seconded by Marty Olson, motion carried with a vote of 10 yes and 0 no.

Bob also presented a schedule C request to donate 10860 payable to HAHA payable to the Hermantown Arena for the period of 12/21 – 1/20 which includes the added ice time between January 1st and 20th. Motion to approve the schedule C request was made by Jason Carlson and seconded by Pat Andrews, motion carried with a vote of 10 yes and 0 no.

Presentation of a letter from Hermantown HS class of 2010 was made requesting a donation for support of the all night chemical free grad party. Discussion was had that this has been an ongoing partnership for the past 20+ years and we have given 500.00 per year. Motion to approve a 500.00 donation was made by Jim Sonneson seconded by Scott Pionk and passed with a vote of 10 yes and 0 no.

Coordinators: Practice plans/updates – follow up discussion on are we hitting the progression steps for moving the kids to the next level. Need to be having discussions with the coaches to ensure they are feeling comfortable and their questions are being answered. Coordinators must ensure that every team follows the same practice program ensuring there is consistency through the organization. The coordinators for each level must help out as necessary and periodically spend time with all teams on the level.

Discussion continued on the need for coordinators, member of the board, and Director Player Development need to sit down with each coach to get feedback on issues and open discussion on how the season went for them. This interview needs to be documented.

Additional player fees for move-ups, Squirt, Mite, Mini Mite coordinators to collect fees from skaters. No progress has been made on this since November, need to close out.

Carryover Business: Clothing for Teams 2010-2011 – will work to develop clothing line work with vendor for consistent style and durability so as skaters move through organization they can use the same clothing (move away from the desire to purchase team specific gear) Discussion continued on ensuring we keep it non team specific, Ron discussed that he recommends mandating the use of HAHA gear. Joe discussed that we could mandate the HAHA gear options

- First step is to determine what items we will make HAHA gear, from there we will offer it to internal providers as well as outside businesses
- Plan is to 1) keep costs down 2) provide consistency – ability to wear year to year level to level
- Clothing outside HAHA gear will not be team sponsored / required

Rink Rat Forms – Need to communicate to teams that the form is on line

Outdoor Rinks: Discussion started with needing to post the hours of HAHA M-F 3-8pm on the use for the outdoor rinks as well as enforcing the rules for the pleasure rink (no sticks / nets). Signs are to be posted on wall of arena and warming shack with follow up by coaching staff on ice. The use of helmets / masks is required by all skaters under 18 as well as all HAHA coaches. Discussion was had with the service level of the fencing company, we have requested them to out several times with no response.

Membership Comments / Concerns: Discussion started with recommendation for coaching surveys for 2010 becoming electronic allowing members to voice concerns. Surveys will gather information on the organization, program, coach and team. Concern is that we are not getting enough feedback to determine where to go with information in surveys. Validity of survey is increased by personalization with name / contact information. Joe Biondi discussed his vision of being able to e-mail or print off and send in fax / mail / hand delivery of the form which would in essence make it a feedback form on the association in general. Discussion moved on to some of the issues which have come up and the handling of these issues.

Discussion on the ability to construct a rink rat only rink for mini mite / mite level skaters. Concern / questions were centered around where to locate it and working with school to develop another rink.

Ron Gerth discussed the need for connection / link for summer hockey programs, clinics, skills training. Discussion continued to have links on website. Discussion continued on how to keep older skaters involved in off season to continue to develop, spread between skill levels continuing to increase possibly because of amount of time spent. Opportunity to start clinics earlier, more time prior to tryouts and having teams picked earlier. Beyond that the off season training / opportunities and getting the information to the parents will assist in getting more kids involved. Need to get the word out and motivate the skaters that they need to want to work during the off season. Discussion went on to talk about opportunities within our own rink and organization / possibility of organizing a 3 on 3, 4 on 4, 5 on 5 throughout the summer primarily Bantam / Pee Wee levels, discussion moved on to when to host it to ensure we get turnout. Beyond the possibility of summer games players need to develop individual skills as well.

Ron also discussed the concern that when it comes to outdoor rink maintenance / flooding would like to see mandatory duty and if you don't show up you need to be held accountable. Discussion went on that as long as rinks continue to get flooded we will not follow suit with the concession stand requirements.

Goalie training / development – discussion around the need to focus on goalies and give different levels and A/B goalies equal opportunity to the training.

Fundraising: Skate-a-thon discussion, there is two parts we have the initial amount but early estimates was that we needed a minimum of 25000 to expand the warming shack requiring more funds. Discussion continued on to locations currently used for skaters on outdoor rinks. Board recommendation is to support the 2010 skate-a-thon for the goal of completion of the warming shack project. Committee needs to be formed to get the project completed working hand in hand with the closeout of the skate-a-thon. Ideas to be brought back for February meeting, will need to have consensus with school / arena.

Joe opened the discussion on the fundraiser through Ballard Resort and pushing to sell extra tickets. Discussion followed with how the fundraiser was set up through gambling and the potential to sell through concession stand.

Motion to Adjourn: by Peterson seconded by Carlson time 9:30p.m.

Next Meeting: 2/24 7pm