

WINCHESTER YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS and ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday, May 22, 2006

Attendees Directors – Denis O’Donnell, Joe Sacco, Mark Robinson, Jim Leo, Tom Troiano, Chris Goodyear, Hugh Mullin, Erik Knutzen, David Hennessey, Dave DiCecca, Scott Fusco and John Addonizio

WYH Members – Brud Houllahan, Jim Kiley, Bill Redler, Ed Ducharme Jr., Michael Surabian, Mark Micciche, Jim Ward, Paul O’Donnell, Jay Tedesco, Jim McGowan, Chris Parker, Dan O’Brien, Pat Gill, Bobby Keane, Michael Drew, David Fariole, Glenn Mills, Kris Ogonowsky, Joe Fitzpatrick and Neil Hanson.

President Tom Troiano opened the meeting at 7:10 PM.

By a poll of WYH Board of Directors members present, it was determined that a quorum was present to allow for the transaction of business.

Minutes of April 24, 2006 BOD Meeting

On reading of the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of April 24, 2006 there was one correction made on the nomination list on page 5. A motion to accept the Minutes of April 24, 2006 Board of Directors Meeting as amended, was made by Denis O’Donnell and seconded by Erik Knutzen. The motion was unanimously approved and the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of April 24, 2006 were entered into the record.

Treasurer’s Report

Hugh Mullin presented the May Report as follows:

- The long standing issue with the IRS is settled. It involved a 2001 tax statement that was prepared but never filed. This resulted in a \$4,600 lien by the IRS. An appeal for abatement was filed by WYH last summer and the lien has now been released. We are now current with the IRS through 2005. Our accountant, Mike Hartnett has done great work to clear this up for us.
- The Winchester Savings Bank on-line statement showed as of today, a \$73,414 checking account balance and a \$101,371 balance in a Certificate of Deposit, for Total Cash of \$174,785.
- Hugh explained that the 2006 Cash Flow Statement shows revenues and expenses for both the 2005-2006 hockey season that just ended and the next hockey season reported as 2006-2007. We are almost done with the 2005-2006 season, with only a couple of outstanding bills. While we brought in revenue in May for next season there were very little expenses reported for next season.

- Hugh said that the third document includes the Hockey Season Results and Budget Report. It is broken down in to two major pieces. Core Hockey Operations are reported at the top of the document and Non-Core Hockey Operations at the bottom. Our best estimate is that we will end the season spending \$377,137 versus the \$374,448 that was budgeted. The biggest variance was the \$174,181 spent on league fees versus \$181, 530 which was budgeted. A \$5,000 league refund credit from a previous season but reported during this past season contributed to this. On the revenue side we budgeted \$382,424 but took in \$408,550. This was driven by a Learn to Play Hockey (Tri City) budget that included 60 players and ended up with 82 and a Learn to Skate budget that had 60 skaters and ended up with 90 (not all 90 were full season). Hugh said that the costs for these programs are largely fixed. We can not adjust them so we did much better than we anticipated. Hugh said that this resulted in \$31,413 of Core Hockey Operations revenue in excess of expenses for the 2005-2006 season. After this number is netted out with Non-Core Hockey Operations (fund-raising, refunds, pass-thru ice sales), \$30,029 can be applied to the endowment, bringing it from \$89,456 to an estimated \$119,485.
- Hugh Mullin said that the organization is getting back to a level of health noting there are some guidelines that state half of your annual budget should equal your endowment value. Tom Troiano said that he has seen guidelines for non for profits and youth sports organizations that mention the 50% number but that the Board of Directors of Winchester Youth Hockey have never set tuitions with this goal in mind. Tom said that in the past we have consistently adopted tuitions that kept us from contributing much to the endowment. Endowment growth has historically come from large private donations and fundraising.
- Hugh said that the last column of the spreadsheet is the projection for next season. The big increase in projected expenses is due to three more travel teams and a budgeted per game cost that is going up from \$210 to \$225 per game. This is the best guess on what next season will look like. Tom Troiano said it is difficult to project next season numbers at this time since some players drop out after placements while others want join after Labor Day.

Chris Goodyear made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Erik Knutzen seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Registration/USA Hockey/Mass Hockey/District 9

Chris Goodyear said that USA Hockey is now offering on-line registration and that we may want to consider this as it will eliminate the need for waivers and checks. She said that she did a total of 14 batches last year. This will allow members to pay on-line and sign waivers and in turn the information can be downloaded to build the team rosters. Tom Troiano asked what ages would use this. Chris said ages 6 and up and said that this is only a suggestion and we have one more meeting to decide. Chris also reported that there is a meeting on June 1 for programs from Districts 2, 9 and 10 to discuss issues they are facing in regard to insurance and liabilities.

Girls Only Program

Denis O'Donnell reported that he received no complaints from the placements of 4 teams.

Coaches Committee Report/ACE Director

David Hennessey reported that there is one issue from the last meeting that the Coaches Committee is involved in. He explained that the Coaches Committee follows-up and provides findings to the Board on various issues involving players and coaches. It was a quiet season, but two families had questioned the non-positive approach of an assistant coach to their children. After review, the Committee is recommending no further action, but will have a follow up conversation with the coach. David said that we will also make sure that this topic, (positive coaching) is addressed at the next coaches meeting held prior to the upcoming season.

Approval of 2006-2007 Head Coaches

Tom Troiano stated that the By Laws require that the President and ACE Director present a list of head coaches to the Board for approval. Denis O'Donnell made a motion to approve the list of head coaches provided by Tom Troiano and David Hennessey. Hugh Mullin seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Team	Head Coach
Girls U14	Denis O'Donnell
Girls U12A	Steve Tucci
Girls U12B	Mike Driscoll
Girls U10	Jamie Hintlian
Girls Midget Half	Kerstin Matthews*
Boys Midget Half	John Roderick*
Boys Midget Full	TBD
Bantam A	David Hennessey
Bantam B	Jim Ward
Bantam C	Bob Andrews
Pee Wee A	Erik Knutzen
Pee Wee B	Rich Whalen
Pee Wee C	Michael Surabian
Squirt A	Tom Troiano
Squirt B	Kwa Lee
Squirt C1	Jim Kiley
Squirt C2	Chris Parker
Mite A	Redler/Hennessey
Mite B	Ed Ducharme
Mite C	Tim Locke
Learn to Play Hockey	Scott Fusco

*paid contractor

Tom Troiano indicated that a Boys Full Season Midget coach would be in place shortly.

Valley League

Nothing to report

Dual State League

David Hennessey reported that the applications for next season are due on June 3rd and wants to confirm that we will be entering 12 teams into the league next season. Tom Troiano said that we will be entering 12 teams, including 3 Bantam, 3 Peewee, 4 Squirt and 2 Mite teams into the Dual State League, one more than the 11 teams we entered this past season.

Learn to Skate and Learn to Play Hockey

Nothing to report

Placements

Tom Troiano said that the placement and billing information for next season was available online to our members on Friday May 12th. Tom said that in using our available technology we avoided the time and cost of licking, stuffing and stamping 400 envelopes. The process did not work perfectly because of the way goalie tuitions are billed. The team rosters did not accurately reflect the goalies. Tom said that our software team quickly fixed the problem. Tom said that we have had few complaints in regard to the placements. Most of the discussions involved the disappointment of their child's placement and the discussions were not unreasonable. In most cases the families wanted some further clarification on the process and wanted to know if their child was next in line to move up if a player dropped from the team above.

Banquet and Trophies

Denis O'Donnell reported that there were a lot of extra Learn to Skate trophies from the banquet. Denis said that we usually order enough trophies to ensure every young player who attends the banquet receives a trophy. We will work with the supplier to use any extra trophy for future seasons. Tom Troiano said that he received three very nice, thankful letters from three of the recipients of the High School awards.

Friends of Flynn Rink Inc.

Denis O'Donnell reported that as part of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts continuing the practice of privatizing their recreation facilities, the Flynn and Loconte Rinks will likely be up for bid for control next season. Initially representatives from three major tenants of the two rinks, Winchester Youth Hockey, Melrose Youth Hockey and Medford Youth Hockey organized to form a consortium to run the two rinks. Medford Youth Hockey eventually decided not to participate in the consortium and chose to pursue securing Loconte Rink on their own terms.

Denis said Winchester Youth Hockey and Melrose Youth Hockey have subsequently formed a group now called Friends of Flynn, Inc. (FOF). The Friends of Flynn, Inc. is incorporated in both Massachusetts and the US and we have applied for Non-Profit Status. The group has worked with State Rep Casey, officials from the Department of Conservation and Recreation

(DCR), Winchester Town Manager Mel Kleckner, Mayor Dolan of Melrose and other state officials and has had weekly meetings where everyone has been very helpful and encouraging. Denis O'Donnell, Tom Troiano and Ron Martignetti are currently serving as Directors for FOF. Three Directors from Melrose Youth Hockey also sit on the Board. The seventh Director will likely be a person from the rink management team.

Denis said that if, in fact, the group is successful in the bid to manage the Flynn Rink, it would not significantly change or expand Winchester Youth Hockey allotment of hours at the rink, which is about 16 or 17 hours per week. The program would still likely rent ice at other facilities, including Malden, Belmont Hill, Harvard, Cambridge, BB&N and BU. The group brought in multiple consultants and now has a pro-forma business plan that details what it takes to successfully run a rink. Given youth hockey ice rental rates, which are on the low end, it would not be feasible to take away hours from other higher margin activities such as public skating and Men's Leagues. Both are critical to successfully managing the operations. The whole concept for this effort is not to increase our hours at the Flynn, but rather secure what we currently have, at what has been this programs closest rink and home base.

Denis said that we have been provided copies of successful Request for Quotations and furthermore, Representative Casey has put through an amendment in the legislature that precludes in the bidding process, all other groups to long-standing tenants such as Winchester and Melrose Youth Hockey. There are some conflicting indications on whether the bids will go out for coming season or we will wait until 2007. Regardless of when the bids go out FOF will be ready to submit.

Tom Troiano reported that he attended last Thursday's annual meeting of the DCR's Rink Partnership Program. He said that of the rinks that will eventually be put up for bid, all 12 were included in the Governor's budget, but some were removed from the House budget. He said that all the partners are reporting that they are being impacted by the sky rocketing costs of electricity and fuel. FMC is reporting cost increases of between 25 and 30%. The 25 year leases come with stringent rules on what rates you can charge and the DCR may be forced to raise the ceiling on the \$160 per hour rate that is now given to youth hockey programs. Tom said that our 2006-07 tuition model is based on a higher rate than what we pay at the Flynn and Harvard.

Scott Fusco asked if any other parties are interested in Flynn. Tom Troiano said that he believes FMC is interested in adding rinks to their portfolio as there is an economy of scale for each one they add. He does not know about any interest from Medford or any for-profit leagues. Scott heard that there is some concern about the infrastructure at the Flynn and FMC may be pursuing other facilities.

Tom Troiano said that he wanted to note that the Friends of Flynn, Inc. is a separate entity from Winchester Youth Hockey and has been at work on this for well over a year. He said that Denis O'Donnell has really been our key participant, making all the necessary presentations to DCR and our legislators. At a past meeting, the FOF Directors were unanimously in agreement to make Denis O'Donnell, Chairman of the Friends of Flynn, Inc.

New Business:

David Hennessey raised an issue regarding conflicts with select and metro hockey, asking what level of attendance should be expected and as an offshoot point, should there be an attendance requirement in order to receive financial aid from Winchester Youth Hockey. Some members

are receiving financial aid while attending few practices and maybe 1/3 of scheduled games. David asked, are we taking a roster spot away from somebody to give it to a child who has poor attendance and receives financial aid? Erik Knutzen asked if there is a formal financial aid application process. Tom Troiano said that there is not a formal process and we rely on the Board, coaches and members to communicate situations where there is a need. Tom said that in his judgment a formal process (with financial aid forms) would be inappropriate for a small town program like WYH. Tom said that both past Presidents advised him against formalizing the process.

Election of New Directors

Tom Troiano appointed the following members as inspectors of the election: Jim Ward, Patrick Gill and David Hennessey. Hugh Mullin confirmed that all in attendance were in “good standing” and therefore eligible to vote.

The following members were elected to the Board of Directors for a two year term: Ed Ducharme Jr., Brud Houllahan, Jim Kiley, Ron Martignetti, Hugh Mullin, Jay Tedesco and Bill Redler.

The following Directors have one year remaining on their current terms: Scott Fusco, Denis O'Donnell, Chris Goodyear, David Hennessey, John Addonizio, Erik Knutzen, Mark Robinson and Tom Troiano.

The Board of Directors thanks the following retiring Directors for their service to the boys and girls of Winchester Youth Hockey: Nick Mitropoulos, Jim Leo, Dave Dicecca, Joe Sacco and Tim Smith.

Election of New Officers

The new Board elected the following Officers for the 2006-2007 season:

President - Tom Troiano, Vice President - David Hennessey, Secretary - Chris Goodyear, Controller - Ron Martignetti, Treasurer - Hugh Mullin

Tom Troiano noted that all Officers except Chris Goodyear would be entering year two of a maximum three year term. Tom noted that the new By Laws state that there is a three year term limit for each Officer position (but that someone who serves three years in one Officer position may serve in another Officer position in year four).

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the WYH Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday, June 19, 2006 at 7:00 PM in the cafeteria at Winchester High School.

Adjournment

Mark Robinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Denis O'Donnell and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.