



Muskegon County Amateur Hockey Association

May 22, 2009 Board Meeting

6:06PM-President called meeting to order.

New Business

- A. A motion was made and approved to accept the March/April Board Meeting Minutes as is.
- B. Player registration will take place 6/06/09 from 9:00AM – 12:00PM at Lakeshore. Notification to be sent via email to addresses (email) that are on file. Anyone able to assist during registration please get with Kathy. Mona Shores to possibly have a skills clinic on same day at no cost if registered player for next season.
- C. Due to player numbers decreasing the office administration fees need to be in proportion with the amount of teams. Keeping the same staff and current salaries can not be maintained. The overhead including the staff is \$20,000. Mark P has met with the staff and has worked out an agreement to keep the staff until June 30, 2009. Thank you goes out to Sheri Corgan and Rita Sikkenga for their many years of service to the organization. The staff will be assisting with the transition of administrative duties, should an agreement be reached with the rink. It was not personal in the decision of letting the staff go, it is financial. The rink has approached the board with a proposal for handling the administrative duties at a cost of \$80 per player. The cost without making any changes would have been at least \$300 per player. Mark stated this will not be a rink run association. He has worked with the rink as well as the members of the board for the organization to remain a 501 c3 with the rink handling the administrative duties. The board is in agreement this is the right solution and direction in rebuilding this organization. The floor was opened to questions or comments. A question was asked of the entire board why their own kids are not skating here? Some stated there was not a team for their child to skate on. They were asked if there was would they come back? The response was perhaps if there was a team. Not all left for a travel team, JV was an opportunity to skate for players school. What are the “pros” & “cons”? Much decision was in regards to this. In summary “pro” would be that the fees would be lower and the association would still be in charge.

THIS IS NOT AN AGREEMENT FOR A RINK RUN ASSOCIATION. The rink debt would be included in this agreement. At one point this was in excess of \$130,000, which has already been significantly reduced. The rink is the one at risk here not the association. Everyone has the option of skating elsewhere but the rink would be out significantly. The rinks focus is to start building the program from to what it once was. Part of the old debt was not only incurred by players not paying for their fees but also unused ice that was not turned back in for the rink to sell. Also the Shoreline program which the rink bears the sole responsibility of now. Shoreline is rostered under MCAHA which no financial liability. MAHA has put in place a geographic clause that there not be more than one association in the area. Norton Shores is not an association it is an independent. The rink, it's owners have no intention of taking over MCAHA. After much discussion the proposal which was drafted by the MCAHA board was read aloud by the secretary. This answered many individual questions. Fundraising was brought up, it will continue, but new ideas are being reviewed. Fundraising is a must in order to keep hockey here in Muskegon affordable. Examples of fundraising options are Texas Hold em Tournaments, using the available licenses the association has. The Mini Mite tournament is not included as a MCAHA fundraiser as this was taken over by the rink in the season of 08-09 due to lack of MCAHA assistance and volunteers. Keep in mind that everyone's support is needed to offer good services recommended Jason G. We have to invest in the younger ages to build a stronger and more loyal program. House teams should be built before travel teams are made. This is a requirement for Traverse City and Georgetown, just to name a couple. This was not discussed further at this time nor adopted, but should be revisited. A comment was made for more skilled coaches in order to bring players to the association. This is not criticizing the parent coaches that are great but again suggested in order to obtain more players. Jason and Shawn R will be working with the coaches for successful practices. The board asked for approval to proceed with the proposal to have the rink handle the administrative duties and follow the agreement MCAHA drafted. A motion was made and approved by the members present to proceed with the proposal. Paul T mentioned to the members the board could have proceeded anyway but wanted the support of the members.

D. A meeting will take place in the fall for the open positions on the board. At this time the Treasurer position is open. Anyone wishing to apply and tackle the responsibility of board member should submit their request in writing and give to the board. Due to the status of the members on the board not having a child playing in the organization these positions held will also need to be approved by the members.

E. 2009-2010 budget, not finalized at time of meeting. Waiting for board approval.

Committee Reports

Webmaster is Kyle-get with him for anything you would like posted on the website. May be looking at a new website to be used jointly between the rink and MCAHA.

MAHA-Question brought up about Little Ceasar's changing the traveling radius for teams. MCAHA was approved to be excluded from these restrictions. There will be a MAHA meeting Aug 1st in Lansing. ACE/Director, Registrar, MAHA rep and STAR rep must be in place for this meeting. Paul T willing to be the MAHA rep. Jason to be the ACE/Director, rink to be the registrar-Kathy, still in need of STAR representative.

Old Business

Draper audit to be reviewed with the appropriate people involved with the new structuring and the rinks responsibilities. Mike E to get with Mark D.

Gordon Peters was working on fundraising guidelines. Gordon not present.

A motion was made and approved to table the June meeting until July 1st the first Wednesday at 6:00PM.

A motion was made and approved to adjourn meeting at 7:35PM