

Newton Youth Hockey
General Board Meeting
May 11th, 2016
City Hall, 1000 Commonwealth Ave Newton
Minutes

Signed In:

Todd Foster, Alex Cooper, Nick Tuozzolo, Tom Dallaire, David Broughel, Paul LaScola, Joe Verdone, Peter Lacoste, Stephen Stegemann, Mike Campbell, Stephen Solari, Greg Drake.

Meeting commenced, 7:06pm

1) Meeting Minutes Approval:

The April 11th, 2016 board meeting minutes were approved as presented without corrections. After approval, there was a discussion related to the posting of approved board meeting minutes to the NYH website. After discussion a vote was taken – which resulted in unanimous approval to post the April 11th, 2016 and succeeding board meeting minutes. Further discussion indicated that it would be helpful to circulate a draft version of the meeting minutes within a couple of days of meeting to allow for board member review.

Action Items:

- Tom to provide approved 4/11/2016 meeting minutes to Alex for website posting
- Tom to draft and distribute draft of 5/11/16 meeting minutes within a couple of days for board review

2) Finances/Budget:

David Broughel provided 3 handouts related to financial status that he then walked through in some detail. The discussion turned to preparation of the budget which is expected to be prepared and approved at the 6/16/16 Annual Meeting. Todd indicated a need for Dave, Todd, and Alex to meet to go over specifics of the budget currently in preparation prior to the Annual Meeting.

Action Items:

- Dave, Todd and Alex to meet on 2017 budget, in preparation for 6/16/16 board meeting

3) Membership Survey:

Todd thanked all in the room that reviewed and provided feedback on document that was used to distribute survey results to the general membership. Discussion as to the usefulness of conducting the survey and a request for any ideas for next year followed with no specific action items identified.

Discussion of survey results/comments related specific items:

Ice Time:

Todd indicated that he met with Fessenden – and received confirmation that NYH will be offered the same amount of ice time for 2016-17 season as last year. He also indicated that adding a new position to the board for ice rink relations would allow NYH to address the issue of ice time more effectively.

Scheduling:

It has been suggested that scheduling has been an issue – with games/practices not being scheduled until the last minute or within a week of occurring in some cases. While NYH does not control when the Valley League releases game schedules, it may be possible to schedule practices further in advance. The idea of scheduling practices ahead of receiving game schedules may result in scheduling conflicts that will need to be resolved, but Todd would like to see if we can't make this work.

Try-Outs:

Todd noted the changes to the tryout evaluation process this year which was a direct result of comments and feedback from the member survey conducted last season.

Skills:

Membership feedback and a proactive push from the join Newton High School coaches resulted in the decision to not use Townsend Hockey for the 2016-17 season. NYH will be engaging the head coaches of the NNHS and NSHS Varsity teams to provide up to 10 skills nights from September through November.

After November, NYH is considering adding skills sessions with Lovell Hockey.

Action Items: None

4) Roster Status: (2016-17 Season)

Boys Teams:

Nick noted that that he has noticed an impact of for-profit hockey programs on NYH boys travel team rosters. The number of players/teams is presented below and is unchanged since the last board meeting (4/11/16) – but it is possible that we may see additional loss of players to for profit teams.

Number of players and anticipated # of teams:

-Mites:	35 (2-3 teams) – Most likely 2 teams
-Squirts:	46 (3 teams)
-Peewees:	65 (4 teams)
-Bantams:	65 (4 teams)
-Midgets:	52 (3 teams)

Nick indicated that he is still trying to find coaches for several teams – this is holding up the announcement of rosters to members as it is highly desirable to identify head coaches prior to announcing teams. It is expected that teams will be announced by 5/15/16. Nick also indicated that the deadline to communicate the number of teams to the Valley Hockey League is July 15th.

Girls Teams:

Joe indicated that the NYH girls program will only be rostering a U12 and U19 team for the 2016-17 season – there will be no teams rostered at the U10 or U14 levels. Joe indicated that the lack of girls signing up is a direct result of players signing up to play for for-profit teams.

Action Items:

- Identify head coaches for all 2016-17 teams
- Complete/Announce Rosters by 5/15/16
- Provide # of teams to Valley League by 7/15

5) Teams, Update:

See notes under Agenda Item #4 (Roster Status)

Action Items: None

6) Board of Directors, At-Large Member roles and committees

Todd presented a proposal that would change the makeup of the current At-Large board membership. The purpose of this change is to reflect the changing needs of NYH by adding several new at large positions and moving or adding other positions to the Travel Committee. After discussion, the board voted unanimously to accept the following list of elected At-Large members and appointed travel committee roles:

At Large Members (Elected)

Coaching Director
Website & Technology
Compliance Director
Event Director
Girls Program Director
Learn to Skate Director
Learn to Play Director
Rink Relations Director
District 9 Representative

Travel Committee (Appointed)

Equipment / Uniforms
Registrar
Timekeeping
Ice Director/Scheduler

Note: As per NYH by-laws, the executive officers (President, VP-Intramural, VP-Travel, Treasurer and Clerk) were not subject to this vote and remain elected positions for NYH. Also as per NYH by-laws, the standing committees (Executive, Fundraising, Nominating and Public Relations) were also not subject to this vote and remain standing committees for NYH.

Action Items: None

7) Preparation for Election of Officers in June:

Tom will continue as the head of the nomination committee in preparation for elections to be held on 6/16/16. The new list of At-Large members approved tonight (5/11/16) will be used to seek nominations.

Action items:

- Identify nominees for upcoming elections
- Poll existing board members
- Prepare for elections to be held at the annual membership meeting on 6/16/16

8) Other business:

- Next meeting to held 6/16/16 – Will be Annual Membership meeting.

Action Items: None

Meeting adjourned 8:38pm

Submitted by Tom Dallaire, Clerk