**Vermilion Minor Hockey Board Meeting Minutes**

**January 16, 2019**

**In attendance:** David Eremko, Ross Wilson, Darren James, Shaun Cadrain, Sarah Arthur, Leslie Carlson, Candice Holowaychuk, Kimberly Tiffinger, DJ Mewis, Corrine Hinton, Blair Molsberry, Dom St. Amand, Angie McDonald, Leanne Lupul, Jay Stepanick, Lisa Rochford, Tara Garnier, Karen Selte

**1. Call to Order:**Called to order at 7:04 by Lisa

**2. Approval of Agenda:**The agenda was amended to include **b) Placement of New Players, c) Provincial’s, d) Reffing**

**3. Approval of minutes:**Previous minutes were reviewed and moved by Dave, seconded by Lisa, all in favor

**4. Old Business:**

**5. New Business:**

1. **President Report**

-Lisa received a few concerns about the ad that the Vermilion Standard ran about the Standard cancelling their community initiative section because of lack of support from the businesses in town. It looked like VMHA was cancelling Vermilion Minor Hockey week but it was all the Vermilion Standard in an attempt to get sponsors for that section of the paper. Lisa called Marlena, Lady in charge of the community initiative section (she works out of Cold Lake) from the Standard and explained what their ad looked like, her response was that people can take it however they want to take it. Lisa put a call into Marlena’s boss requesting a retraction of the ad and an apology to the businesses in Vermilion. Marlena has decided that the Standard has decided to run 2 teams per week which will take approx. 23 weeks in the Community Initiative Section. VMHA has decided not to run their team pictures in the Standard as that will drag out to long and the Vermilion Voice did a great job with Minor Hockey week already.

-A warning by NEAHL that they are coming down hard on penalty minutes. VMHA has a few kids that could be looking at missing 6 games due to penalty minutes.

-Play down format should be out soon, all VMHA teams are registered for provincials

1. **VP of Development Report**

-nothing to report

1. **VP of Business Report**

-Gary Ferbey and Stan Hartwell awards are coming up, Karen has ran the ad in the Vermilion Voice, she also sent the ad to the Vermilion Standard but they haven’t got back to her with a proof. Should she pursue it with the Standard, VMHA will stick with the Voice for now.

1. **Treasurer Report**

Account balances as of December 31, 2018

General Account$ 82,593.19
Concession Account $ 7,172.61
Plan 24$ 36,565.29
GIC $11,595.11

Raffle Account $ 27,689.39

- Concession showing a loss at the end of December of about $6000, hopefully this will turn around in the next few months

-Paying a lot for hiring out help, wage increase from $12 to $15 doesn’t help and this is the most we have paid out for hiring help

-Positive reviews, a lot more selection

-Corrine wondered why Eva is not invited to attend these board meetings, Karen will let Eva know that she is more than welcome to attend the meetings and bring forward her concerns or questions, just let us know and we will put her on the agenda.

1. **Registrar Report**

-not in attendance but sent a report

-all teams that needed approval for affliates are approved and all team rosters are approved

- all teams are entered into Provincials.

1. **Discipline Coordinator Report**

-nothing to report

1. **Team Accounts Report**

Account Balances as of December 31, 2018

* Team Account $ 46,846.71
* Tiger Development $8,841.71

-are 50/50’s allowed to be sold during a home tournament by another VMHA team that has a game during their tournament. It’s called common courtesy for the team not hosting the tournament to not sell 50/50 tickets to the home tournament’s teams.

1. **Concession Report**

-not in attendance

1. **Equipment Report**

-all good

1. **Website Report**

-all is good

1. **Director’s Report**
* **Initiation** (DJ Mewis)

-tournament is full

-all is good

* **Novice** (Sarah Arthur)

-all is good

-one novice team has spent a lot of money

* **Atom** (Ross Wilson)

-received an email from James Martin stating that the Atomic jerseys are renewed, should VMHA follow through with getting a new set and if so should we get the logo and sponsorship done from the company that is providing the jerseys or get it done again locally, Ross will get all the information from James and present at the next meeting.

-is it worth giving the players one jersey and then VMHA having to purchase another set for the following year, it was a big cost to get the logo and sponsors put on the jerseys for this season. DJ made the motion that VMHA will keep both sets of Atomic Jerseys, seconded by Karen, all in favor

* **Peewee** (Leslie Carlson)

-tournament is full

-there is a possibility of an equal ice time complaint coming forward but it hasn’t reached Leslie yet.

* **Female Atom/Peewee** (Kim Tiffinger)

-nothing to report

-all good

-both divisions have their all-star game this coming wkd

* **Bantam** (Jay Stepanick)

-all good

-both tournaments are done and went well

-Tier 2’s are planning Provincials

-few minor issues that were handled

* **Midget** (Blair Molsberry)

-tournament is done and went well, only 6 teams as 1 team backed out and another team was of a higher tier

-big roster but it seems to be going well

-The midget team would like their amount per player that comes out of their team account reduced as they are a very large team and they couldn’t fill their tournament due to it being Minor Hockey Week in Edmonton and Calgary and those teams weren’t allowed travel that week. Blair made the motion to reduce the amount per player by $10. There was a discussion and it was decided that a decision will be made once all VMHA tournaments are complete as was said to another VMHA asking for a reduction.

-they are all members of VMHA and they all received the benefits of Tim Green camps and evaluators.

* **Female Bantam/Midget** (Angie McDonald)

- all-star game this coming wkd, 5 girls from bantam and 4 from midget will be participating in it.

-Bantams are doing ok with their season

-Midgets are sitting in 4th spot

1. **Coach Mentor Report**

**-**not in attendance

-nothing to report

1. **Fundraising Coordinator**

-Brought in about $2700 from Junior game

-Wine survivor is ready to go for February, she has her volunteers already lined up

**6. Open Forum:**

 **a) Rec Board Communication (Shaun Cadrain)**

 - One of the areas of concern for the Town is the percentage that the stadium and arena is utilized. Some members on the Rec board and Town council would like to see the arena shut down and turned into a walking track. The town provided some information on the percentage of usage for the stadium and arena in 2017-2018, 61% utilization of the stadium and 68% utilization of the arena that is between 8am-10pm on weekends and 80% utilization from 4pm-10pm week days. The Rec board and town council wonder why the season can’t be shortened by utilizing the rinks more during the season. The percentage of utilization has consistently declined from 2009. Dave suggested that the utilization needs to be combined, weekends and week days, pond hockey and figure skating don’t utilize ice time on weekends so it should be on a per day basis. The Rec Board needs to understand that half of VMHA teams are out of town on weekends, every team cannot play every game at home. The town counts 4-4:30 during the week, not one VMHA team was scheduled to utilize the ice at that time during the week. Even if the Town has not scheduled any hockey games till 10 am or later on weekends they are still using 8am-10am as the ice not being utilized. The town would like 50% of their cost to run the rinks back from the users.

- A discussion was held on what the outcome of closing the arena would do to the town and the community.

-Facility Enhancement Committee is in need of volunteers from different user groups and the community, looking at ways to fundraise for the ice plant but this committee is to help raise funds not just for that one group but this is the most needed upgrade at this time. This committee is also for raising funds for soccer fields, swimming pool, ball diamonds etc.

-Thought maybe VMHA could try and ease the tension between them and the Town, maybe every year the Bantam age group could volunteer with Town cleanup and show that VMHA is giving back to the Town. Why is there this tension?

**b) Placement of New Players**

-A discussion was held about a new player that joined VMHA recently, he was placed on the Atom Tier 5 team as he didn’t participate in tryouts, Ross Wilson thinks VMHA should be more concerned with the development of players and that they be placed on the appropriate team based on the players skill level, he believes this player should be on the Atom Tier 2 team. Ross believes this is something that VMHA needs to look into going forward. A concern with that would be the lack of consistency with the evaluation process. Another concern is what about all those players on the Tier5 team that have been working hard to improve since the beginning of the season and now a new player comes in and joins the Tier 2 team, maybe one or more of the Tier 5 players have worked hard and improved enough that they are now at the same skill level as the new player coming in, how is that fair to the Tier 5 players. All rosters were locked as of January 10, 2019 so there is no player movement allowed.

**C) Provincial’s**

-March 14-17

-Angie just needs to bring a list forward of what the Provincial committee needs from each age division, if they need ambassadorsetc, those teams will have to make their schedule work to help with Provincials. All teams need to help as this is a VMHA event and it benefits the whole association.

-ATB is the major supporter of Provincials and they will give the Provincial committee a list of the volunteer positions they will cover and then Angie will bring the remaining positions to VMHA to get filled.

-Directors please spread the message that Provincials benefits the whole association and if you would like to volunteer please sign up.

-just under $10,000 in sponsorship so far

-there is possibly a provincial banner around from the bantam girls provincials that can be used

**d) Reffing**

-all playoff and provincial games go to a 3 man system to help develop refs

-talk to Dom about discipline issues during a tournament

**7. Next Meeting:** Feb. 20, 2019

**8. Adjournment:**Meeting adjourned at 9:38 pm