

GVMHA Executive Meeting Minutes
Thursday February 11, 2021
Zoom Meeting - 6:00pm

Attendees: Kara Blazek, Rocio Alejandre, Jodi Tung, Katie Reid, Michelle McCrea, Bryan Ford, Erik Locke, Conni Damini

Regrets: Gordon Sitter, Les Hobenshield

Approval of Agenda

-Approved by Bryan, 2nd by Rocio

Additions: Bryan raised marketing strategies for player recruitment/retention as a standing agenda/action item as there is concern that players registration is down.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

-Approved by Bryan, 2nd by Katie

Approval of Financial Report

-Approved by Conni, 2nd by Bryan

-2020-2021 Registration Refund? Should the Board consider a credit towards next years registration/provide refund to aging out midget players. With the surplus of funds, it could affect the GVMHA annual gaming grant application of \$75000. Discussion of a credit towards 2021-2022 player registration. Other strategies were discussed to reinvest in GVMHA membership.

Update from the President

GVMHA Covid Safety Plan update-continues to be a fluid document that the city guided by the City of Vernon. Coaches appear to be adhering to guidelines with a couple of exceptions. GVMHA ambassador acknowledges status quo (Stage 2 Via Sport) until end of February, first week of March 2021.

-there has been much discussion regarding extension of ice sessions beyond the regular season given such current restrictions. The plan by OMAHA is not to extend the season.

-GVMHA Administrator confirmed ice sessions are currently scheduled until the first week of March 2021 for all GVMHA teams. There will be no March fun hockey as in previous years due to current provincial health restrictions.

There are delays in the completion of the OMAHA/GVMHA Observation Project, therefore posting the DHO position will be postponed once again.

BC Hockey's AGM-June 24, 2021. Tentative AGM date for GVMHA is May 2021. Both will likely be virtual. GVMHA President reminded persons to start to think about whether they want to run again for their Board elected positions, and we should start recruiting for possible vacant positions. Only standing positions are 1st Vice and Secretary.

Update from Conduct Chair

Rocio led a conduct committee through a process to investigate a complaint made against a GVMHA bantam player. A racial /ethnic comment was overheard during a game against a team from Winfield. Players, coaches, and manager were interviewed, with GVMHA president and OMAHA was being consulted throughout. Committee determined team to write an apology letter to affected Winfield player as it could not be determined who individually voiced the inappropriate commentary. GVMHA will also write a letter in good faith to the minor hockey association in Winfield.

Upon reflection of the process, Rocio noted that additional support/education to coaches should be provided readily in areas of diversity by DHO. Lack of knowledge by both player and team staff was highlighted (perhaps due to Covid-19) and code of conduct rules signed were overlooked. Rocio emphasized its importance related to respect in sport guidelines. Lastly, she shared that this is something to raise with BC Hockey as tools were not readily available to support GVMHA through the process in her opinion. Administrator agreed in that because there were no formal managers meeting due to Covid-19, Code of Conduct was not reviewed as per usual.

Update from Administrator

City of Vernon has not given Michelle ice times beyond this weekend. She will be sending out ice times for the next three weeks shortly.

Update/Discussion

Current strategic plan on GVMHA website. All board members are required to read and be available to follow through with action items identified in the agreed upon plan. The current plan was created by a previous board with generalities. Discussion was had when to review the current strategic plan (summer months?), what has been addressed since the plan was created (referee support) and how to address the specific needs of our current GVMHA membership.

-Action item for February meeting is determine what areas of strategic plan should the board focus on moving forward.

March Action Items:

- 1) 2021-2022 credit toward registration to balance surplus this year
- 2) Recruitment/Retention Strategies for 2021-2022 player registration
- 3) Strategic Plan-have Sam Mowat join next Board meeting to give background of existing plan

Adjourned: 7:34pm Motioned by Bryan, 2nd by Erik