

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

Attendees : Kara Blazek, Gordon Sitter, Rocio Alejandre, Michelle McCrea, Bryan Ford, Conni Damini, Jodi Peshko

Regrets: Jodi Tung, Katie Reid, Erik Locke, Les Hobenshield

Guest: Sam Mowat

Meeting began at 6:20pm once a quorum was established.

1. Approval of Agenda

- Approved by Bryan, 2nd Conni

2. Approval of Minutes

- Approved as amended by Bryan, 2nd Conni
- Rocio asked that the spelling of her name be corrected

3. Financial Report

- Approved as presented by Conni, 2nd Rocio
- Jodi P. spoke to our financial position as of March 10th. She noted the final ice invoices came in from the City of Vernon (COV) and OTR. They were more than anticipated last month during the discussions.
- Rocio/Gord – said they heard the COV will be increasing ice rates by 5% next season. We will anticipate for this increase in our ice budget next season.
- Rocio asked what the procedure for our financial year end is. Jodi P explained that O'Callaghan Bilodeau – Steve Maglio is our accountant and works with her each year to prepare our Financial Statements. They are sent to the President for review and signature and available to the membership at the AGM in May.
- Rocio asked what the Secretary/Treasurer role is around the year end review of the financials. Kara will make sure we are being compliant with our ByLaws and Constitution.
- A discussion took place regarding a possible refund to the membership from this past season. No board members had heard of anyone asking. Jodi explained our financial situation depends very much on whether we receive the gaming grant each year. Gord suggested we error on the side of caution, we have fixed costs and everything is going up. If we do receive the gaming grant in the fall, look at how we can give back to the membership at that time. All agreed.

Action item: Once completed, the budget for the 2021-22 season will be reviewed and approved by the Executive.

4. **Update of Strategic Plan – Sam Mowat**

Sam introduced himself to everyone and explained how he facilitated the January 2018 strategic plan meeting with the board/staff. With the boards help came up with a recap, which included the imperative goals to start with and a set of execution plans to assist in the implementation.

Kara said it truly is about the execution. We need to pick a couple of key points, get committee's together and work on it. Sam pointed out that times have changed since 2018 and maybe the key focus' this year could be the younger age groups and female players.

Bryan said he has been thinking about incentives for membership recruitment and will discuss them shortly. Sam mentioned with the HPL now in BC, the sports schools and other winter sports to compete with, we have to step up our recruitment strategies.

Action items 1. Continue discussion around the Strategic Plan 2. Have Sam come at a later date to update/refresh the plan with the new Executive after the AGM in May.

Conni had to leave the meeting during this discussion.

5. **Registration**

Michelle notified everyone that the Hockey Canada Registry (HCR) 2.0 – our current platform for online registration is now changing to the HCR 3.0 but won't be available for use until June 2021 (no specific date).

Since TeamSnap has become more involved with BC Hockey/Hockey Canada, and most of our teams use it for a communication tool, Michelle suggested use them for our online Registration process this year. It is a cost to us versus no cost with the HCR - approximately \$50 US per team, plus credit card fee's. It will then be free for our teams to use (normally they would pay out of team fee's).

Rocio said she had used the TeamSnap for Tournaments once and it was a good tool. Michelle said it would be an extra cost to the association and that Chris Collard had come up with a live document that the committees used that worked well for communication. It was agreed to start with online registration.

Action item: Michelle to find out more about the Team Snap Online Registration and present the Board with a summary for the 2021-22 hockey season.

6. **Female Program**

In Conni's absence, Michelle gave an update on what is in the works for our females. Michelle and Conni met to make a master spreadsheet of all female players (members and outlying members) by birth year. This will be a live document and gives us a good indication where our numbers lie for recruitment and possible female teams in future.

A female only Come Try It clinic is in the early stages of being planned. Michelle has asked COV for ice and found April 10th may be the best date. If we have enough for 2 sessions, all agreed the best scenario would be younger (7-8-9) players in the morning and older (10-11-12) in the afternoon. Ask some older

girls to come be helpers/mentors to the younger ones. Kara reminded everyone a maximum of 5 instructors are allowed on the ice with up to 20 players.

Action item: Once ice is confirmed Conni will begin organizing female clinic, find a head instructor and communicate with everyone.

7. GVMHA – Annual General Meeting

Michelle notified everyone the AGM is being planned for Thursday, May 13th 6:30pm. It will be via Zoom until further notice. Plans for gathering outside at KTPN could also happen.

8. Conduct Chair Update

Rocio indicated the one official complaint she received this year is now complete. Kara thanked Rocio for her thoroughness in dealing with it, and indicated there were a lot of takeaways we can learn from it moving forward.

9. Association Development

Bryan is now our GVMHA Facebook admin person ~ please send him any items you want posted. He shared with the board how he would like to host a brain storming session about what we can do differently to promote minor hockey in Vernon. Sending someone of high profile into elementary schools – make a tutorial – use social media platforms - paid promotions/advertising.

Action item: Bryan will contact the School Board to find out how we could schedule visits, and the Board members will start thinking of a good ambassador to represent minor hockey ~ get the kids excited about playing hockey ~ maybe have a medal/ring to show the kids.

10. President Update

Kara is in talks with the Vernon Vipers about the partnership between the two organizations and would like to form a committee to work on this more. It is important we foster a good relationship with our Junior A team. The Vipers have committed to working with us on a Summer Hockey School, give us 50/50 games and have the players come out as guests with our teams. A strong partnership with the Vipers will help grow the Association development as well.

Kara spoke on a succession plan for the President of GVMHA moving forward. She said she would run for President for another two year term at this AGM, but needs to have someone in place she can mentor who can step into that role in future. This person must be on the board at least one year prior to stepping into the Presidents role. Anyone who may be interested, please contact a member of the board and plan to be present at the 2020 AGM.

Action item: Kara will provide an update on the Viper Partnership

Review of Action Items:

1. Once completed, the budget for the 2021-22 season will be reviewed and approved by the Executive.
2. Continue discussion around the Strategic Plan
3. Have Sam come at a later date to update/refresh the plan with the new Executive
4. Once ice is confirmed Conni will begin organizing female clinic, find a head instructor and communicate with everyone.

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7. Bryan will contact the School Board to find out how we could schedule visits, and the Board members will start thinking of a good ambassador to represent minor hockey ~ get the kids excited about playing hockey ~ maybe have a medal/ring to show the kids
8. Kara will provide an update on the GVMHA/Viper Partnership

Adjourned: 7:56pm Motioned by Gord, 2nd by Rocio