**Genesee Amateur Hockey Association**

**Annual Meeting**

**6pm, March 15th, 2023**

**Meeting Minutes**

Members in attendance: *C. Hutchins, M. Barnes, B. McCarthy, M. Jafari, C. Minuto, T. Sprague, A. Valyear, J. Hale, J. Kujawski, S. Pies, D. Dedman, H. Carney, D. Hutchins, T. DeMars*

Members absent*: J. Patric*

Meeting called to order at 6:02pm.

* Elections
  + Theresa presented ballots for annual board and officer elections. Ballots were presented to board members and GAHA members for voting. Once voting was completed, Dale, Theresa and Carrie counted the ballots.
  + The following Board Officers were selected:

President: Dale Hutchins

VP/VP of WNY: Timothy Sprague

VP of Empire: Michael Jafari

Treasurer: Carrie Hutchins

Secretary: Theresa DeMars

Registrar: Allyson Valyear

* + The following new board members were selected, with terms ending in 2025:

Jeremy Hale

Marcia Barnes

Malorie Benjamin

* + Should a member of the board not be able to fulfil their term, per the By-Laws, the candidate with the next highest votes will be asked to fill the vacancy. In this case, we would call on Kayla Bennett.
* Year in Review: Dale congratulated the organization as a whole for a successful year. A lot of great things happened this year, starting with the naming of the rink in June, Jeremy spearheading the Ramparts sponsor board project and the change in rink management. The rink staff is amazing and outstanding to work with. Parents, teams and volunteers stepped up organization wide and the teams did very well. The updated jerseys brought a lot of attention to GAHA as well. Brian added that Batavia Youth Baseball is mimicking the Ramparts practice model and Steve mentioned the overall uptick in rink pride.
* Registration for 23-24 year cannot start until USA Hockey Registration ends. Coaches CAN get registration forms and deposits collected in advance, however.
* We are anticipating the same ice fees.
* Committee Reports:
  + Treasurer: February/March ice fees needs to be invoiced & paid. Tim forwarded a playoff invoice to Carrie. Coaches & managers need to be reimbursed for trainings.
    - Carrie also stated that we have funds in the Schum Memorial Fund totaling $2,000. A discussion was held on the possibility of a new scoreboard component.
  + Registrar: Allyson is ready to open registration for the next season. She is also working on a Mite Tournament, to be held 12/1/12-12/3/2023. Kathy Antinore is helping with this.
  + Ice Scheduler: Jim will meet with Kati and Matt over the summer to see what is available to GAHA. Jim asked that teams look ahead and specify tournaments and dates as soon as possible. We want to be sure that scheduled ice, that is paid for, is used. Kayla Bennett suggested having a cut off date where coaches have to secure tournament dates by. Jim said that with 2 additional teams on the ice next year, scheduling in December and January will be tough.
  + Coaching: Teams will be announced after seasons are completely over. There will be 2 Pee Wee Travel Teams.
    - Tim would like to create a coaching guidebook for newer, younger coaches.
    - Mike J has 2 more tryouts being held.
    - Dale wants a coaching committee meeting in May.
  + WNY:
    - Tim advised that the meeting was pushed back. Congratulations to Jim’s Pee Wee Team! MOHL Championships will be this upcoming weekend (3/17-3/19).
  + Empire:
    - Mike discussed an incident that happened with our Squirt B’s team during the Big Thaw Tournament. Dale suggested that Mike reach out to Carrie Joseph on WNY’s disciplinary committee.
  + For the good of the group:
    - Bob Gray announced that the City is working on securing a grant and has committed that money to the replacement of the refrigeration system, which will approximately cost $1.5M.
    - Bob thanked GAHA for their participation in the Bi-Annual Try Hockey For Free Events. Both are successful for the sport and the organization.
    - Friends of the Rink will donate 2 nets next year.
    - Kayla Bennett suggested holding a managers training; she would help with this.

Meeting adjourned, 7:02pm