**Genesee County Amateur Hockey Association**

**Annual Meeting – Board Elections**

**March 20th, 2024 – David M. McCarthy Memorial Ice Arena**

**Meeting Minutes**

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

Members absent: *M. Jafari, J. Patric*

Meeting called to order at 6:05pm

* Motion to approve the agenda for this meeting, 3/20/2024 of the GAHA Board of Directors: Carrie
  + 2nd: Marcia
  + 0 Opposed
* Motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting, 2/27/2024: Jeremy
  + 2nd: Brian
  + 0 Opposed
* New Business
  + Board Elections: Malorie presented Officer Ballots and General Election Ballots. Officer Ballots indicated nominees for the officer positions; President, VPs, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar. Ballots for Officers were also distributed, indicating 9 nominees for 5 positions. Ballots were collected and counted by Malorie, Dale and Theresa. Results were as follows:
    - Officers:
      * President: Dale Hutchins
      * VP of WNY: Tim Sprague
      * VP of Empire: Chad Minuto
      * Treasurer: Carrie Hutchins
      * Secretary: Theresa DeMars
      * Registrar: Allyson Valyear
    - Directors:
      * Brian McCarthy
      * James Patric
      * Steve Pies
      * Jim Kujawski
      * Dan Calkins
    - Should the board need to fulfill a spot left open by a director midterm, the board would contact Russ Borden, PJ Maier, John Caleb and Josh Smith, respectively.
  + President’s Report
    - Dale thanked all individuals who expressed interest in serving on the board. He reminded all in attendance that our monthly board meetings are open and while only directors get a vote, all in attendance can participate in discussion and share thoughts and ideas. Dale shared highlights of the year, mainly the cosmetic improvements at the rink, two successful tournaments and the community’s excitement overall, for youth hockey.
    - Dale thanked Dave Dedman, who has served on our board for several years, for his contributions to the program.
    - Dale praised Matt and Kati and their team for all of the work they do to make GAHA run as successfully as it does.
  + Open Discussion
    - Brian McCarthy shared how impactful the rink and program’s positivity has improved since the new management took over and the renaming of the rink happened. There is such great buzz around our program.
    - Bob Gray shared all of the work Friends of the Rink has done this year and plans to do before next season. This includes working with the City of Batavia to add railings to the ramp and steps, 2 new stools in the timer booth with a heater, roof being added to the timer booth, railing is being added to the bleacher steps and the chain link fence is being removed. They are looking at adding ‘HOME OF’ Banners to the back wall. The entry floor will be replaced; the floor is believed to be the original floor. Bob also praised Allyson and James for the positive impact their social media publicity has had on the rink and the organization.
  + Committee Reports
    - Treasurer: This is Carrie’s final year of her term and she will not be seeking reelection. The board must find a replacement secretary to work alongside Carrie this year, to take the reins starting in 2025.
    - Registrar
    - Ice Scheduler: Jim was thanked by Dale for the work that is put in to the ice schedule; Jim does a great job!
    - Coaching Committee: Theresa read in Tim’s absence:
      * PW and Squirt teams will be announced Monday, 3/25. All players will find out their teams at the same time, coaches will be given their team information at that time as well. There will be 3 teams at each level:
        + Pee Wee III AA, Pee Wee III A, and Pee Wee Empire
        + Squirt III, Squirt Empire White, Squirt Empire Blue
      * Based on the total number of players, we might have to consider adding an additional team at the Empire Level for Pee Wee and/or Squirt. This is a GREAT problem to have.
      * Evaluations are Monday, 3/25 for 14u and up, Mike Jafari has been working on this.
    - VP of WNY: Pee Wee III AA competed in the state tournament the first weekend in March. They competed very hard and it was a great experience for all! 18u will be competing in their state tournament this weekend. Next season, there will be a play-in tournament in August for Squirt and Pee Wee minor teams that will be mandatory in order to play in the WNY AHL League. More information will come in the next few months.
    - VP of Empire: Last meeting was a year in review; Playoffs went very well.
    - Rink Report

Motion to adjourn this meeting at 6:43pm: Chad

* 2nd: Marcia
* 0 Opposed

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 17th, 2024.