

**St. Francis Youth Hockey Association
Board Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)
Tuesday May 1st- 7:00 p.m. @ St. Francis Community Center**

In Attendance:

Bill Karas	Don Blankenship	Guy Farah
Tina Mraz	Brad Kaehler	Doug Folk
Marty Dekanick	Corey Denny	John Huninghake
John Dreshar	Brian Besch	Rob Erickson
Mark Brettschneider	Kristie Wilmer	Jeanine Tasler

Absent:

Dan King	John Squire	Kathy Schmid
Joe Fredrickson	Guy Farah	Jeff Palmer

Minutes:

Minutes from last board meeting were passed out and reviewed. Bill Karas asked that the board review the minutes and suggest any changes. No changes were necessary. A motion was made to approve the minutes; motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Presidents Report:

Bill Karas opened with a thank you to those that attended the Budget Meeting. A preliminary Budget is attached. The Budget is \$130,448 for the year. Ice time was increased \$5/ hour this year. 10 extra hours of ice time were added for the Squirts and the PeeWees. Girls ice time remains the same per a survey with the parents of the girls teams. Bantam ice time remained the same due to the uncertainty of the merger. There was some discussion on the ability to schedule all of the added ice time. Bill stated that the High School had added some early morning hours to help alleviate this. There was some discussion on utilizing the Gambling profits to offset the cost of ice time as well. Further discussion later in the meeting. There was some concern as to not focusing this ice time in October and February, but to keep it consistent throughout the season. Brad stated that this Budget is "high end" for what we expect for the season. John asked how this compared to other Associations, and Bill answered that we were middle to low in comparison. The Budget with the added ice is approximately \$8500 higher than last year, with an increase per child of approximately \$171, except Bantams with no increase due to no added ice. Possible changes to the Budget were try out fees as Bantams and Girls would most likely not need tryouts due to the small number of players. Currently not on the Budget is the proposed Palmer Clinics. A motion was made to use up to \$5000 of the Gambling profits to offset the cost of the Palmer clinic. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously. A motion was made to accept the preliminary Budget, was seconded and passed unanimously.

Vice Presidents Report:

Bill and Brad presented a Budget to purchase the ice arena from East Bethel. Budget is attached. Brad and Bill met with Village Bank to discuss the possibility of purchasing the ice arena for \$1 million. Village Bank was very willing to work with the Association to do this. What appears to be the most cost effective is to set up an Interest Only loan with the Bank. With \$100,000 revenue from the Budget and \$112,000 of proposed income from the sale of 650+ hours of ice, off season rental of proposed \$16,000+, we should profit from the arena annually. The KEY to making this work is to have extreme involvement of the parents. If we were able to utilize our parents for repairs and maintenance as well as staffing we would save thousands of dollars annually. In reviewing the Budget it was pointed out that taxes and insurance may be higher than anticipated. Brad will do some research on this. Bills concern is that the city wants to sell the arena and that we will not have a place for our kids to play hockey after next year. Some "inside" information was supplied that Forest Lake had made an offer that was very close to being accepted by East Bethel last year. Bills concern is that we need to act fast. Within 3 years it is proposed that city water and sewer will go in on Highway 65 which could dramatically increase the value of the land for the arena. It was brought up that at that point the land may be worth in the \$3 Million range, we could sell and build a new arena. Schwanns has 1 more year on their contract. Bill and Brad asked for a show of hands on

interest that they meet with the Village Bank representatives on May 8th along with Doug whom is to provide the current costs of running the rink. All hands were raised and the meeting will be scheduled. Bill stated that our accountant was willing to review the information from Doug regarding the current cost to run the rink. It was also pointed out that we can use advertising within the rink to increase profit. Bill spoke to the Princeton Association and they strongly encouraged our Association to purchase the rink. Bills last statement was that we needed to do what is right for not just the Association, but the entire Community as this arena can be utilized for LaCrosse, Baseball, Soccer and other Community events.

Merger: Rob has had discussions with other Associations regarding the merger of the Bantams, and possibly the PeeWees. He will continue to follow up on this, and communicate with John Dreshar. There appears to be some interest with both Cambridge and North Branch. With 6 skaters ineligible due to age for the Bantam team, and only 6 kids moving up from PeeWees, besides the need for 5 to advance to High School, we may not have enough kids to form a Bantam team without a merger.

Palmer Clinics: After much discussion on when to hold tryouts, when we needed Final Declaration and the timing of the Palmer Clinic, it was unanimously decided that we would hold the Palmer Clinics the first week of October as this is all that Jeff has available. Overall the consensus was that Final Declarations are on October 1st. Pre tryout skate is tentatively scheduled for the end of September, with tryouts on the last Friday, Saturday and Sunday of September. These things will be further discussed at a later date.

Treasures Report:

Brian stated that there is just over \$11,000 in the checking account, with \$7200+ in outstanding invoices. He is in the process of getting organized and will be working on collection those soon. Bill and Brian will be going to the bank this week to get Brian set up on the account. Outstanding bills were to be paid tonight.

Gambling Manager:

Per Bill for Kathy, a request for funds in the amount of \$620.80 was requested for a license swiper as the current one no longer was working. A motion was made to approve this expense, seconded and passed unanimously.

Equipment Director:

Nothing to report.

ACE Coordinator:

Mark stated that we can order the HEP (Hockey Education Program) pamphlets now. He questioned how many levels we wanted to start this at. Consensus is that we will start with Mite and PeeWee levels for now, as well as Girls U8 and U10. Mark will get approximate numbers for each level. Mark gave a brief description of what is in the booklets, more info to come. Bill stated that HEP make very well become mandatory in MN soon, so it is very important that we implement this soon. HEP skills and report cards will take some ice time and some serious organization, it will be important that parents help as well as coaches. More info next month.

House Director:

Nothing to report.

Girls Director:

Nothing to report.

Bantam Director:

Rob discussed the option of the merger again for Bantams. Approximately 6 players will move up to Bantam.

PeeWee Director:

John thinks that we should try to recruit our coaches earlier.

Squirt Director:

John stated that we have 2 Squirt teams in playoffs in the Spring League.

Mite Director:

Marty stated that we would be in 2 parades for sure this year, St. Francis and East Bethel. He will be checking on the trailer and the things we need for the parade. The Association will pay for candy.

Goalie Director:

OK. The group tossed around ideas to get Goalies to come to tryouts. Any input would be appreciated.

Ice Purchaser:

Nothing to report

Volunteer Coordinator:

Karen said that we have a few folks doing the Twins deal at the Dome. Bill encourages everyone to do it.

Continuing Business:

Bill will have a discussion with Jeff Palmer regarding the play books that were discussed last month. The feeling of the Board is that we should not need to pay for the books.

New Business:

Some discussion on selling Logo Water bottles at events. More info to follow.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:15, was seconded and passed.