

# **AAFSC Board Meeting**

## **Minutes**

February 16th at 7:15pm. Zoom

**7:15pm:** Call to order by President Ranjit Aiyagari

**In attendance:** Ranjit Aiyagari, Warwick Anderson, Anjali Bhandari, Erin Donovan, Craig Forsyth, Carmen Fox, Mary Johanson, Karen Meints, Matt Oonk, Helena Schotland, Karla Stoermer-Grossman, Camille Ziolek.

**Also in attendance:** Ann Dougherty, Bonnie Shay, Ann Nicklas.

### **Minutes and Agenda Approval**

**Motion:** Approval of minutes from January 19th, 2021: unanimous approval.

**Motion:** Approval of agenda: unanimous approval.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Finance committee: Warwick Anderson, Craig Forsyth**

Warwick sent out two reports to the committee. The club is making just enough money to keep its head above water. The club has also been awarded a Michigan small business survival grant which will help with payroll.

#### **Hockettes Erin Donovan**

There is a lot going on right now. This week is the last week for on ice activities for teams this year. Teams are being filmed this week for the virtual competition. The Tri -States competition is Saturday and Sunday February 27 and 28<sup>th</sup>. It has had more entries than any other Synchro competition this season. There are entries from Turkey, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, The Netherlands and Australia.

The competition is selling adverts and merchandise which is going fairly well.

Try outs for next year's Hockettes teams are planned for March.

The film "Life in Synchro" which features the Hockettes has been sold to PBS. People are encouraged to contact the local PBS station to ask that they be sure to show it in this area.

#### **Learn to Skate: Mary Johanson**

The Winter II session of LTS is filling up fast.

The US Figure Skating Association adaptive skating committee is mapping out where all the Figure skating clubs membership levels are. This club has increased its regular membership levels by 10% from this time last year and is now the 8<sup>th</sup> largest club in the county, and the largest with only one facility under its umbrella.

### **Competitions: Ann Dougherty.**

The Springtime Invitational committee had an in-person meeting at the Cube with Cube staff and long-time competition volunteers to go over logistics. It was productive and useful. Ann sent an email to about 100 coaches asking if they were ready/willing to attend the competition in person with health and safety protocols in place; there was an overwhelming response of yes. Announcements for registration will be up next week.

Ann has spoken to Margret Faulkner and has told her that the Springtime invitational will be renamed the Margaret Faulkner Springtime Invitational. She is very honored.

### **Office Report: Craig Forsyth**

**Membership:** The Club membership currently stands at 472 which is 11 more than January 2021 and 44 more than this time last year in February 2020.

**Basic Skills:** Has recruited 271 members since June 1<sup>st</sup> and 31 new members since last month.

**Club Communication:** The club has sent out 21 email blasts with an average 45% opening rate. The email with the highest opening rate (65%) was the email sent out on February 9th about the covid 19 update

### **HR Update: Bonnie Shay**

Permission has been given to start the apprentice coaching program back up again. Applicants will be able to start volunteering for the Winter II LTS session which begins on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Any Other Business:**

**Melody on Ice: Camille Ziolek and Craig Forsyth**

Nothing to report at this moment.

### **Fundraising: Carmen Fox**

Nothing to report at the moment.

### **DEI (Diversity, Equality, Inclusion): Erin Donovan and Matt Oonk**

Matt has sent a presentation out and shared it again in the meeting. He is going to revise the statement that is on the Club website.

A subcommittee is going to be formed of club members with interest. Ideally, they will have a wide range of experiences, identity and expertise. Members should send an email to Matt if they are interested in joining the group.

Erin would like to bring in Jessica Garcia from the UOM to do a seminar to the coaches and the Board members. This seminar will work on raising awareness, consciousness and get members thinking about how inclusive we are

**Motion: That Erin moves forward with arranging the training with Jessica Garcia to run a 2-hour seminar for coaches and board members at the cost of \$1000.**

**Proposed: Erin. Seconded: Karla: unanimous approval.**

**Hockettes. Withdrawal from the Intermediate team: Craig Forsyth**

Two skaters (2<sup>nd</sup> club members) withdrew from the Intermediate team in early February before the end of the practice season. Both families requested that the club waive their volunteer obligations and refund the remainder of their season's fees to Hockettes. This year's refund policy is different from previous years and was offered for Hockette members at the beginning of this season *only*, because we did not know what the season would look like due to Covid. The board agreed that their volunteer obligation need not be enforced.

The finance committee is recommending that they be refunded the remaining 10% of their fees.

**Motion: To refund both skaters' families that have withdrawn from the Intermediate team early the remaining 10% of their year's fees: Proposed: Carmen. Seconded Helena. 11 members in favor. 1 member opposed.**

**Summer club ice pricing plan: Craig Forsyth.**

Craig has sent out a Summer ice pricing plan proposal to the Board members.

Pass through ice will cost \$12 and Club ice will cost \$17. Credits will be given to club members for signing up for more than 25 Club ice sessions at the end of the season.

**Motion: That the summer 2021 Ice pricing plan is adopted. Proposed: Ranjit. Seconded. Helena. All in favor.**

**Hockettes 2021/22 club funding plan: Craig Forsyth**

Craig has sent all the board members a proposal for the 2021/22 Hockettes finances to make the membership fees for Hockette members affordable in the coming season. These measures are needed because the Porter competition did not make very much money this year due to it being virtual. Most of the income in previous years has come from ticket sales.

**Motion: That 100% of the proceeds from the 2020 virtual Porter competition be transferred to the Hockettes account and that the Club loan the Hockettes a lump sum on May 31<sup>st</sup> which is to be paid back over the next 2 or 3 years. Proposed: Mary. Seconded: Carmen. All in favor.**

**Covid announcement policy: Karla Stoermer-Grossman.**

The club and Hockettes have been doing a good job of handling and conveying the Covid protocols but some club members are still not following the guidelines. Karla is going to find a pictorial guide to the protocols that members should follow. She will send it to the medically qualified board members for approval first and then the club office will send it out to the members.

**Jump/Spinner cabinet: Karla Stoermer Grossman.**

Steven is still carrying the jump/spinner round from the locker room to its position at the other side of the rink because the cabinet is not in place. Funding for the cabinet has been approved and Steven should go ahead and purchase it and install it.

**Ann Arbor Public Schools (AAPS) High School Figure Skating team: Camille Ziolek**

The AAPS high school Figure Skating team had their competition last Sunday and the A team came first, and the B team came second in their groups. Both teams are through to the State finals in March.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03pm by Ranjit

**Date of next meeting:** Tuesday March 16th at 7:15pm. Zoom.