

**AAFSC Board Meeting
Minutes
January 18th, 2022, at 7:15pm. Zoom**

7:15pm: Call to order by President Carmen Fox

In attendance: Warwick Anderson, Anjali Bhandari, Erin Donovan, Ann Dougherty, Craig Forsyth, Carmen Fox, Mary Johanson, Karen Meints, Ann Nicklas, Jennifer Nguyen, Matt Oonk, Bonnie Shay, Camille Ziolek.

Apologies: Jenny Land.

Minutes and Agenda Approval

Motion: Approval of minutes from November 16th, 2021: unanimous approval with the following corrections.

Office report, proposal 1. To approve the hourly rate for the assistant manager, position up to a set rate approved by the AAFSC board depending on the applicant's experience. The hours will be 35 to 40 per week.

Camille Proposed the corrected wording of proposal 1, Warwick seconded, and everyone voted in favor.

Office report proposal 2. To raise the assistant club managers salary to a set rate approved by the board from November 1st. The salary rate will be revisited when the other assistant club manager is recruited.

Camille Proposed the corrected wording of proposal 1, Warwick seconded, and everyone voted in favor

Motion: Approval of agenda: unanimous approval.

Committee Reports:

Finance committee: Warwick Anderson, Craig Forsyth

Warwick has sent out a summary and report to the board members. The Porter Classic was profitable. There are still several Synchro bills that must be paid which will affect the club finances.

Warwick said that the finance committee and Craig have done a fantastic job keeping the club afloat over the last 2 years.

Hockettes: Erin Donovan

The Hockettes have successfully completed 5 competitions and they have all been challenging in different ways, but they were a good experience. Erin asked if the club could recognize the main Porter volunteers and in particular Larry Ward and

Mary Reilly more. They put in many hours of hard work to make the competition the success that it is. A virtual Synchronized competition/ exhibition is scheduled for the afternoon of February 19th. The recognition awards could be presented to Larry and Mary at that event.

Erin also asked if the club was going to do any kind of tribute to the USA ice dancers who are competing in the Winter Olympics. Evan Bates is an AAFSC member and is competing in his 4th Olympics. The Team USA Synchronized Junior teams are skating in a joint event at Skate Illinois in January which is going to be televised. Discussions about having a watch party for skaters/ice dancers at the Ice Cube with TV cameras. Need an organizer.

Learn to Skate (LTS): Mary Johanson

January is National Skating month. There is an exhibition on Saturday January 22nd. The Sk8 to Elimin8 Scott Hamilton exhibition at Campus Martius in Detroit is on February 3rd. The Unified team has been invited to skate. LTS is very busy, and more staff need to be hired.

On January 18th there were 554 LTS skaters registered with the club. One year ago, there were 271 LTS skaters. In January 2020 there were 570 LTS members. The Winter 2022 session added a significant number of new skaters to the club.

Competitions: Ann Dougherty.

Margaret Faulkner Springtime invitational will be May 19th to 22nd.

Not much more to report. Ann sent out a long email regarding Springtime last week. Springtime has been approved by USFS for the National Solo Dance and Excel Series. A number of new committee chairs will be needed because others have retired. Detailed preparation for the Springtime competition will kick off after Melody on Ice.

Office Report: Craig Forsyth

Membership has increased by 5 members since October and by 29 since this time last year. There is a good chance that the club will have over 500 members by May 2022.

Club ice continues to make the club a profit, however, it is still very precarious. Porter did very well. Though not equal to the 2016 numbers, it is getting there. The club office is looking at options to update the website.

Craig was offered support with orientation for the new office team to their roles.

HR Update: Bonnie Shay

HR recommends Anya Fitzpatrick as a LTS Instructor.

Motion: Mary proposed the appointment of Anya Fitzpatrick as a LTS Instructor. Carmen seconded; unanimous approval.

HR recommends Carolyn Zhang as a LTS Instructor.

Motion: Jennifer proposed the appointment of Carolyn Zhang as a LTS Instructor. Anjali seconded; unanimous approval.

HR recommends Katherine Soldes as a LTS Instructor.

Motion: Camille proposed the appointment of Katherine Soldes as a LTS Instructor. Jennifer seconded; unanimous approval.

HR recommends Rebecka Hakansson as a LTS Instructor.

Motion: Camille proposed the appointment of Rebecca Hakansson as a LTS Instructor. Carmen seconded; unanimous approval.

It is difficult to recruit LTS instructors if they only work a half hour session. The finance committee has agreed that they should be paid for a full hour even if the session is shorter. The club will also pay for their insurance up to a reasonable amount and the background check if they are over 18. LTS instructors will also get 4 volunteer hours for completing their safe sport training.

Any Other Business:

Melody on Ice (MOI): Camille Ziolek

55 club members have signed up for MOI so far. In addition, 50 LTS members have also signed up. In 2020 we had 70 club members and 100 LTS members so we are down but it is still a good cast. Costumes are being worked on and Picture night will be on February 7th. There will not be a potluck meal this year.

Safe Sport: Jennifer Nguyen, Jenny Land.

Carmen and Jennifer have met with Julie Parks, the new Safe Sport personnel at US Figure Skating. Julie does education and outreach with clubs' needs around Safe Sport.

Governing Council Update: Ann Dougherty

The club is allotted 6 or 7 delegates (Craig to check; it's based on membership numbers) at the US Figure Skating Governing Council April 27– 30th in Colorado Springs. The club may also send Observers who can do everything but vote.

Motion: to send Ann Dougherty, Jim Achtenberg, Bonnie Shay and Craig Forsyth to the Governing Council as Delegates for the AAFSC. Matt proposed, Camille seconded; unanimous approval.

If anyone else is interested in attending, they should let Ann know in the next two weeks. The remaining 2 or 3 delegates for the club will then be confirmed.

Any other Business.

- Craig reported that the US Figure Skating website has an article about the Hockettes entitled “When two passions collide.”
- Carmen suggested that the club discuss awarding small stipends for special achievements to skaters in the February meeting. This item will be put onto the February agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54pm

Date of next meeting: Tuesday February 15th, 2022