

**AAFSC Board Meeting
Minutes
March 15th, 2022. 7:30pm. Zoom**

7:35pm: Call to order by President Carmen Fox

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

Apologies: Erin Donovan.

Minutes and Agenda Approval

Motion: Approval of minutes from February 15th, 2022: unanimous approval

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 club's finances are in a good place given the time of year.

Hockettes: Erin Donovan

Erin was unable to attend the meeting.

- The Junior Hockettes did well at Nationals.
- The teams will skate together for the last time at MOI.
- Tryouts for next season's teams are next month.

Learn to Skate (LTS): Mary Johanson

- The Spring LTS session starts in 2.5 weeks.
- Many LTS times for the spring session are full and there is a waiting list.
- Mary and the club will need to be creative when the college students leave at the end of April. Mary is confident it will work out.
- LTS is very close to 700 skaters.
- The half hour classes are working out well and they will be continued.
- Much of LTS is subsidizing other activities.
- Need to look at Coaches' recompense.

- There needs to be a way for LTS skaters to sign up for more distinctive classes. For instance there is no way at the moment to sign up for a specific Snowplow Sam class. LTS is often ending up with too many Snowplow 1s and not enough Snowplow 4s. This makes allocating coaches very difficult.
- Mary requested help for LTS. Volunteers could sit out the front and hand out name tags and get waivers signed. The sessions will be color coded.

Competitions: Ann Dougherty.

Margaret Faulkner Springtime invitational (May 19th to 22nd)

- Registration opened 2 weeks ago.
- Not many skaters have signed up so far.
- New medals and ribbons have been ordered and they look nice.
- There are a couple of hundred silver to pewter old style medals, Ann asked if any one had ideas for what we could do with them because she is reluctant to throw them out. No definite decision was made.
- Ann wants to put competition announcements on Facebook and Instagram and needs help from Molly to do that.
- The Covid guidelines have been revised and some restrictions have been lifted. However, any announcement should include that the restrictions will be reinstated if another surge happens.
- Skater gifts will be handed out again.

Office Report: Craig Forsyth

- There is lots going on.
- The staff roles and responsibilities are being restructured.
- Molly will be in charge of media and social media. She will be sending out an email with club information at least once a month.
- The club now has a traveling duck. This is a fun thing and pictures of it will be taken as it travels the world.
- Jenette is working on the website. It needs to be easy to navigate and information should be easy to find. There should be a team of club members involved in the design of it and supporting it. Carmen will meet with Jenette regarding the website and help her with setting it up. The board's intent is to assist Jenette and make sure she is not working on this alone and has the board's support.

HR Update: Bonnie Shay

HR recommends Annika Anderson Meyer as a LTS Instructor. Jennifer Nguyen proposed, Anjali seconded, one abstention, all other members approved.

HR recommends Kyra Christensen as a LTS Instructor. Matt proposed, Warwick seconded and unanimous approval.

- HR will be holding another update meeting with the coaches after spring break. It was suggested that more members of the board should participate. The coaches will be sent an email so that they can choose the discussion items/ topics. There will be a private discussion part of the meeting too.
- Ice Etiquette. Ice etiquette is not always being followed. There are problems with skaters (and some coaches) understanding who has the right of way. Vests have been suggested as a solution.
- It was also suggested that the skaters and coaches are sent out a reminder of the Ice etiquette guidelines. This was updated 2 year ago. Craig agreed to send it out.
- Everybody has to work together and also accept that it will never be a perfect scenario. Skaters and coaches should be reminded that everyone is doing their best and should practice tolerance and kindness with each other.
- Carmen will reach out to the coaches and if they agree, a red vest/ sash will be piloted. Signage around the rink was also suggested as a solution.
- Options for different ice sessions for different levels and disciplines will be discussed at the next meeting.

Other Business

Melody on Ice (MOI): Camille Ziolek

- MOI is going really well.
- The arrangements are all set.
- The only item still needed is for a few more volunteers but there is still time.
- The programs look good.
- There will be two photographers for the show and the skaters will be able to purchase either the whole video or specific acts.

DEI: Erin Donovan and Matt Oonk.

- The DEI page is ready to add to the new website.

- There is a Google doc with further reading which will also be added to the website.
- More information on adaptive skating and special needs needs to be added.
- DEI will be added to the Hockettes handbook and the member information handbook when they are ready.

Skate Safe: Jennifer Nguyen, Jenny Land.

- Jennifer and Jenny have had a virtual meeting. They don't want to be the patrol team looking out for skate safe transgression in the club.
- They will be looking at all the club activities through the Skate Safe lens.
- They will start by meeting with Camille to debrief after MOI has finished. They will also meet with Ann after Springtime.
- Mary asked for help for skaters who are having trouble registering for Skate Safe. Jennifer and Jenny are looking at documenting or compiling a video of the process for the club website.
- It was suggested that encouragement to complete the skate safe training should be sent out with the yearly club membership email reminders.

Governing Council Update: Ann Dougherty

- The club is sending the following delegates to the Governing council. Ann Dougherty, Jim Achtenberg, Bonnie Shay, Craig Forsyth, Warwick Anderson, and Carmen Fox. Jenette Maitz will be attending as an observer.

Membership changes: Craig Forsyth.

- Craig outlined the changes he is going to make to the club membership categories.
- The aim of these changes is to make the membership as simple as possible.
- The lower membership price over the last 2 years has increased the number of members.
- All of the new membership details and prices will be found on the club website. They will be finalized after the Governing Council meeting in April.

Gordon C Brown Nominee:

Two names were put forward. The final decision by the board needs to be decided by May. This will be decided via an email vote.

Revised Covid policy:

- Washtenaw Health Dept has revised its Covid policy. Masks are no longer required for everyone to wear indoors.
- Some families have asked for the Covid precautions to remain in place until after MOI.
- Carmen has discussed this with Ranjit and Craig. MOI attendees will be gently reminded to wear a mask and masks will be provided for skaters and attendees.
- An email with the clubs updated Covid precautions and mask policy will be sent out after MOI.

Evan Bates: Award and recognition.

- Plans are still in progress. There have been discussions with Nancy Bates and with other club personnel. More details will follow at next month's meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:59pm

Date of next meeting: Tuesday April 19th, 2022