

Great Falls Community Ice Foundation Monthly Board of Directors Meeting July 8th, 2024 – 5:30 PM – GF Ice Plex

Call to Order: 5:33 PM

Attendees:

Ryan Smith, President GFCIF
Pam Stanczak, Vice President GFCIF
Patti Pancich, Treasurer GFCIF
Jill Ahlbrecht, Secretary GFCIF, GFFSC representative
Helena Harper, Admin
Aaron Leaf, Rink Manager
Matt Leaf, GFA
Justin Sweeney, Men's Hockey, Women's Hockey proxy
Marcus Ivey, Men's hockey (GFAHA proxy?)
No UP or GFAHA

Motion: Pam moved, Matt seconded to approve June minutes

Reports

Financial Report: Patti

Patti reports bank account is balanced and ice time is all paid

Net revenue for '23-'24 is down considerably from '22-'23; this is due to a 100k donation we received last year and a considerable amount of funds used for building and zam repairs this past season

- Dasher board status - all previous dashers expired in June, but some contracts are for multiple years. Need to start getting new ones printed and going forward will be done on Lexan to prevent damage. Cost will continue to be \$1400 per year/\$3600 for 3 years (see continuation of discussion under Operations Discussion)

Facility Discussion

Summer Projects List

- New kickplates have been installed and look shiny
- Central Plumbing and Heating came to inspect heat system for locker rooms 3,4,5. One thermostat will be installed in the skate rental office and be metered separately. Unresolved discussion of whether girls' hockey will keep their equipment in there and whether it should be metered and charged to Women's hockey or whether it is just part of normal heating within the building
- 6-8pm on Tuesday/Thursdays are for volunteer work parties. Pam has a form for tracking volunteer hours. Please forward to all participants.

Aaron's report from the training he attended in Minnesota last month on Ice Maintenance and Equipment operations

- Aaron's big takeaway is that we are over-chilling our ice and over-filling the hot water in our zambonis. He reports we will save a lot of money knowing we can do with less of both of these things. Aaron plans to retrain his staff and zam drivers to implement new methods.

Operations Discussion

- Updated bylaws and Policies and Procedures documents have been printed and dispersed with updates in red.
- Discussion of the Howard's Pizza Scoreboard sponsorship which expired end of '23-'24 season (according to updated GFCIF Policies and Procedures). Matt inquired as to whether he can approach Howard's Pizza with a package sponsorship from GFA - concern is whether Howard's will be hit up a second time by the GFCIF separately to renew the scoreboard contract. Previous Americans' owner received a \$7,500 check in January 2023. Status unknown of those funds
- Dasher board discussion continued. Question about the page 12 of the newly updated (May 2024) Policies and Procedures states "Set GFCIF price (min) \$425/dasher to the ice plex" need further clarification on where this came from.
- Need better record keeping of who has purchased which dasher boards and for what term (1 or 3 years) and when they expire.
- Any user group can sell dashers, however Matt of GFA sold the large majority of the dashers we had last year. Only a few were sold by the Ice Plex itself. Matt would like to reduce the price he pays to the Ice Plex for each sold dasher to \$300 so he can sell more of them.

Jill motioned, Pam seconded changing the rate of dasher board revenue the Ice Plex receives to \$300 instead of \$425. Majority in favor; motion passes

Website update:

Helena has a hockey teammate/friend who can design a new website for us with a new domain. We would let go of any connection of Speaking Socially. Estimate of \$1480 for her to set it up for us.

Jill motioned, Patti seconded approving \$1500 to have Helena work with Emily Wolfram to get a new website set up. All in favor; motion passes.

- Updated Affiliate User Agreements still need updated but will be emailed out by Friday July 12th with changes in red. Agreements will need to be reviewed by all users asap and signed at August meeting.
- Discussion of guest users and non-affiliate pricing: Two guest users hoping to gain affiliate status were told they could pay 5k at the start of the season to secure affiliate prices but neither is able at this time. One of these groups pays cash and the other is billed for ice time. Rate for non-affiliates is \$300 prime time ice and \$200 non prime time
- Concessions Contract: No GFAHA representative is present at this meeting so no major decisions will be made tonight. More discussion needed on how to have concessions staffed at appropriate times (public sessions, all games) and whether Ice Plex staff can step in when staffing by GFAHA is not available. Discussion of what equipment is owned by GFAHA currently.

Events

- Curling update: Aaron reports he found 3 sets of curling stones for \$6500. Initial deposit has been made. Aaron will pick up the stones in Manitoba August 26th. A "Learn to Curl" program will be offered shortly after that, and leagues will be formed. Aaron states it will cost an additional \$235 in paint to paint the houses this year, but that curling companies sell vinyl

'houses' and this could be a future advertising opportunity. Play it Again Sports will offer curling equipment.

- CPR/First Aid Training - all guest services staff and Zamboni staff will be trained and all others are encouraged to get certified

User group updates:

UP - no representative present

Men's Hockey - no update

GFA - camp starts August 19th. Matt would like permission from the board to paint the ice pink for a weekend for 'Think Pink for the Girls' (local Breast Cancer awareness organization) weekend. This would be the week of October 25th (set up Thursday night after last user - tear down that Sunday)

Jill motions, Pam seconds giving Matt permission to paint the ice pink that weekend. All in favor; motion passes

GFAHA - no update

Women's Hockey - no update

GFFSC - 10 skaters headed to San Diego next week for the State Games of America

Next board meeting: August 12th at 5:30 @ Ice Plex

Meeting adjourned 7:44pm