



Red Arrow Soccer Club
Annual General Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2017
7:00 pm
Oshtemo Fire Station

Board members present: Janae Resh, Jeff Johnson, Hillary Hogarth, Sarah Bedau, Barb Fitzpatrick, and Carrie Vanderbush

Board members absent: Stacy Jensen

Guests: Jake Puente, Denise Hanley, Others (not introduced)

I. Call to Order – Jeff Johnson

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm. Jeff had the Board introduce themselves.

II. Approval of Agenda/AGM Minutes – Jeff Johnson

Jeff asked for approval of the agenda. Carrie moved to approve the agenda. Janae seconded. Motion passed.

Jeff asked for the approval of the AGM minutes from August 4, 2016. Hillary moved to approve the minutes. Barb seconded. Motion passed.

III. President's Report – Jeff Johnson

Jeff gave the President's report on the past year. He indicated that 2016-2017 was a really good year and it was the most players that we have had in the past five years. Jeff stated that he had prepared some remarks but had forgotten them at home. He thought we had 197 kids – an increase of 24 or so from previous year. Number of teams had changed because several teams had moved to half year teams as they got older.

Jeff indicated that the Mattawan Little League Board allowed us to rent fields in front of their complex as practice fields. We are working with the Little League to reconfigure the fields. We will have three practice fields in the fall and two in the spring. The Mattawan Little League has asked us to sign a three year agreement and Shawn Matelka is spearheading the effort to get the fields put together.

Jeff introduced the Director of Coaching, Jake Puente that the Board has brought on. Jake's responsibilities include coach training and evaluation, player development and coaching perspective.

Jeff asked for questions from the floor. Someone asked about other space besides the Little League fields that are available for practicing. Jeff stated that he felt that not purchasing land was one of the items he didn't accomplish during his tenure as President because he recognizes that practice space is at a premium. Hillary stated that teams could work with the Mattawan AYSO for fields by the Mattawan bus garage and behind the middle school. Jake indicated that he has spoken with the Head Coach of Paw Paw Men's team and that he has marked off an area to the back of the practice fields at PPHS that will be used for team practices. The area in the

front can be used for RASC. Additionally, the space to the left of the PPHS soccer field is also being discussed since football practice happens right after school. The field behind the barn was also discussed as a possibility for development but we would need to purchase some goals. Jeff indicated that he would not want to put in goals unless we had an agreement with Randy or Mattawan Little League. Carrie stated that portable practice goals that are regulation size but not as deep could be purchased for about \$250/each but wouldn't be a permanent solution. Hillary indicated that we would love to have a committee that would explore these ideas and work with Shawn for the Mattawan Little League fields.

IV. Treasurer's Report – Janae Resh

Janae discussed that we currently have monthly fees related to the Mattawan Little League including rental of a port-a-jon and mowing the fields. Jeff indicated that he has paint that he could contribute to painting lines at the new fields. Starting in November and December, we get fees from helping to rent the barn that offset the cost of RASC players paying for training time in the barn. We typically outlay \$5,400/year for barn time. We give \$6000/year to WMYSA for fees and \$10,000/year to the Kalamazoo Soccer Complex for field rentals. We also outlay approximately \$3,500/season in ref fees. Coaching fees vary as does bank fees and tax prep. General discussion regarding WMYSA fees. Overall, we spend about \$30,000/year on running the club. Jeff indicated that we're in a really good spot financially from when he took over as President after the Dan Bulley years. Question was asked if we considered a fundraiser that would allow someone's name on our jersey like some of the other clubs have. Barb indicated that we have approached Coca Cola and they were willing to donate \$500 towards it which isn't enough to put on the uniforms. Janae suggested that interested parties join a fundraising committee that can work on getting a kit sponsor.

V. Uniforms/Swag – Barb Fitzpatrick

Barb indicated that we have switched uniform suppliers and that the new uniforms are Under Armor from the Jack Pearl Company in Battle Creek. As with any transition, there will be some challenges that arise. Everyone should have received or are in the process of receiving their new uniforms with the exceptions of socks that are on back order. Last year's uniform included blue socks so Barb suggested using those ones until the new ones are shipped. Question was raised what if the order is wrong (i.e. wrong number). Barb indicated that any uniform issues should go to the manager and the manager will talk to Barb. Barb will gather up the information and give to our supplier. No need to send in the uniform currently, because it may take a while to get the issues resolved and the player may need the uniform in the meantime. Barb suggested covering the number with tape in the interim. Another person raised the question regarding fit as the uniforms seem to run small. Barb asked if the person tried on the uniform at tryouts or during the time Barb reached out to the club to have uniform fittings at her house. This person admitted that the person in question had not tried on the uniform but was relying on other kids' sizes as measurements. Barb asked that that manager get in touch with her to discuss. Swag store will be open again at the end of October. Asked if people had received swag and their opinion of the items – general agreement that they were nice. Barb indicated that the coaches will be receiving their coaches shirts soon and that she had game balls as well for the coaches – any that want to pick them up tonight, she has them in her car – otherwise, they can get them at the coaches meeting.

VI. Good sportsmanship campaign – Hillary Hogarth

Hillary discussed attending a WMYSA administration meeting on behalf of the club where a ref spoke about poor sportsmanship across the league. Hillary would like to form a committee to come up with a campaign and slogan for our club that we

could publicize. Jeff discussed that some teams have their players and parents sign the expectations contract but that was not made mandatory by the whole club. Hillary indicated that she would love some volunteers that would make sure that our club reflects positively for our kids.

VII. Elections – Jeff Johnson

Jeff stated that we would begin the election process in reverse order of what is listed on the agenda. Jeff began by taking nominations for the at-large board member position that Sarah Bedau filled mid-year after Mike McKay's resignation from the board. Carrie asked if we had received any applications for board membership as per our new process. Jeff indicated that he had seen two – Sarah's and Hillary's. Jeff nominated Sarah Bedau for at-large board member, Janae Resh seconded. Jeff then called for nominations from the floor. Jody Williford nominated Mike Lounsbury for at-large board member, Robert Anderson seconded. Jeff asked for any other nominations. Seeing none, Jeff closed nominations for at-large board member.

Jeff began to pass out blank slips of paper for the vote – giving each person three slips for each of the three positions. Jeff asked if players get a vote. Carrie responded that it is not stated in the bylaws that members get a vote on Board members and that it is unclear that anyone other than the Board votes on nominations. Jeff asked to see the bylaws, Carrie produced the most recent bylaws and referenced the section on voting. Jeff read the section and then flipped through the bylaws and stated that it states it in there somewhere. Carrie objected because we have never had a ballot vote nor has the board voted in this manner during her time on the board – only the Board of Directors have voted for the open Board positions. Carrie also expressed concern that we don't know who is in the room and whether they are eligible to vote or not. Jeff stated that there is precedence for holding a ballot vote when he ran against John Connor and lost. Carrie indicated that she wasn't aware of this precedence since she wasn't on the board at that time. Jeff stated that he would proceed with the vote by ballot because he is the President and that he and the DoC, Jake Puente would count the votes since he didn't have a vote unless it was a tie. Votes were collected and counted and Jeff announced that Mike Lounsbury would be our new member at-large. He thanked Sarah for her service.

Jeff indicated that he had just received a text message that Stacy Jensen would like to be nominated for Treasurer. Jeff Johnson nominated Stacy Jensen for Treasurer, Mike Lounsbury seconded. Jeff called for other nominations for Treasurer, seeing none, Jeff closed nominations. Jeff asked all those to vote in favor of Stacy Jensen for Treasurer to vote "aye." Jeff announced Stacy Jensen as our new Treasurer.

Jeff asked for nominations for President. Jody Williford nominated Ernesto Diaz for President, Robert Anderson seconded. Carrie Vanderbush nominated Hillary Hogarth for President, Janae Resh seconded. Jeff asked that people write down their vote but first, gave Ernesto and Hillary a chance to speak. Ernesto cited his many years of soccer experience. Hillary indicated that she has had many years of board and soccer experience. Jeff collected votes. There was some confusion regarding handing in the third blank slip of paper so that people wouldn't vote twice. Someone in the audience indicated that we would still need the slip of paper to vote for the open Board seat. Carrie questioned Jeff on why we would be voting on an open board seat that wasn't listed on the agenda. Jeff indicated that it was the board seat that was just vacated by Stacy taking the Treasurer position. Votes were

counted and Jeff declared Ernesto Diaz the new President. He expressed that he was happy that he didn't have to break a tie.

Someone from the audience reminded Jeff that we still have the open board seat vacated by Stacy to fill the Treasurer position. Jeff called for nominations for an at-large board member position. Janae Resh nominated Sarah Bedau, Denise Hanley seconded. Gina Schming nominated Kim Tremistra, Megan Ricker seconded. Barb Fitzpatrick nominated Shawn Matelka, Hillary Hogarth seconded. Jeff asked for any more nominations, seeing none, he closed nominations for at-large board member. Jeff asked people to mark their slip of paper for Kim, Sarah or Shawn. Votes were counted. Jeff announced that Kim Tremistra is a new board member.

Jeff asked for a motion to close elections for the 2017 year. Jody moved to close elections, Mike seconded. Elections were closed. Jeff welcomed the new board members and thanked the exiting board members. Hillary presented Jeff with a thank you from the Board for his years of service.

VIII. Open Forum – Kim thanked Barb for all her hard work on the uniforms. Hillary indicated that a coaches meeting will take place where the cards and rosters will be delivered from WMYSA later this month.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm.