

**Ontario Water Polo Association
Board Meeting Minutes - approved
Conference Call
Sunday, January 11th, 2015
8:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

Present: Joanne Brown, Andrea Kennedy, John Krawchenko, Angelos Kotzambasis, Dragana Sunjic, Robert Thompson, Quinn Fairley
Staff: Kathy Torrens

Regrets: Scott Craig

Motion: I move that the minutes of the Board meeting of December 7, 2014 be accepted as presented; with the note that Tech Advisor posting meeting minutes deferred to next meeting (Kathy to send)

Andrea Kennedy, second Joanne Brown, carried.

3. Old Business: Review Action Item worksheet

Angelos looked into two different platforms for posting interactive worksheets. OneDrive offers easy access and 15G free memory.

Action Item: Angelos to send email with direction how to access OneDrive, post, and share information and updates with all

Action Items form last meeting reviewed:

- Robert was in contact with David Hart;
- Technical Committee draft not approved yet, extended to next meeting;
- Joanne reported on Webex options, still exploring;
- Tech Advisor posting – done;
- Base spending reporting – Andrea and Kathy done;
- Referee compensation – Kathy and Tech committee- on-going
- Tabulating elections voting as a percentage of eligible votes – deferred to next meeting

4. Committee Updates

Constitution and By-law review: John

John has been in touch with the lawyer from Sports law; work done on 19 policies, updates to by-laws to be ratified. Cost and timelines discussed. Budget for the cost was approved in the past year. By-laws changes to be passed at the special meeting of the membership to be set up as a part of the planning meeting in June 2015. By-laws to be implemented at AGM in November 2015.

Action item: John to send the information to the Board

Website : Angelos

Angelos has obtained information and access to be able to update website in a timely manner.

Action item: all Board members to look at the website content and send feedback to Angelos.

Provincial League: Angelos

Discussion to differentiate National and Provincial League took place: Kathy informed the Board about new National League format, leading to National Championship. Provincial League for OWP to be determined; Angelo reported K/W being interested in hosting 14U and possibly London hosting 16U. Traditionally Tech Committee would be in charge of organizing Provincial League.

Action Item: Angelos and Kathy to contact Clubs and determine how would be interested in hosting and/or participating in Provincial tournament

Promotions : Joanne

Joanne will be sending information/ letter to Kathy to forward to all Clubs. Budget to be confirmed with Scott.

Grant submissions: Andrea/Kathy

Andrea presented idea for Best Practices Symposium: two members of each Club, to meet for 1-2 days, to discuss recruitment and share ideas on how to grow the sport of water polo. To be filled under Sport Priority Fundraising.

Teleconferencing: Joanne

Joanne was looking into available options (Accutel vs less expensive webex). All agreed to use teleconference until final decision in April. Angelos suggested exploring www.gotomeeting.com as a platform for webex.

Financial investment review: Scott

Deferred

5. Strategic Planning meeting

Andrea reported meeting with Jeff Lindell in Ottawa: WPC AGM is taking place in Toronto one week before our strategic Planning meeting. WPC is negotiating potentially good deals with Sheraton Hotel (room rates \$75/night, good rate for conference rooms, meals, etc). Potential for OWP to get the same deal to be explored.

Discussion regarding need for facilitator for the June meeting- all agreed. Andrea to determine suitable candidate.

6. Documents storage

All agreed to defer to March meeting before making final decision

7. Technical Committee update

a. Quest for Gold

Robert reported he asked to be excluded from decision making process.

Quinn and Kathy reported there were more candidates than available cards. Based on the criteria last card will not be awarded on either side to avoid appeal route.

Robert suggested working on setting up guidelines to remove bias and avoid having similar situation in the future.

b. Tech Advisor position

Discussion took place about both the short application deadline and the narrow distribution of the position availability. Because the job posting was put out only to Ontario clubs, this did not give other interested parties the opportunity to learn about the opening and to subsequently apply. Originally, the tight timeline was due to Ontario Ministry deadlines with Quest for Gold. The board agreed to re-open the posting and display outside Ontario. The new deadline is 25 January 2015. Kathy will distribute the posting to other PSO's in Canada.

Interviews will be held based on recommendations by the Technical Committee and these interviews will be conducted by teleconference. At least one Technical Committee member (either Quinn Fairley or Robert Thompson) will be in attendance and at least one OWP Board Member (either Andrea Kennedy or John Krawchenko) will be on the call. Kathy will be present at all teleconference interviews. The Technical Committee and the OWP board will prepare and agree on a list of interview questions.

c. Team Ontario

Nothing to report; waiting for Tech Advisor

John reported receiving inquiries from clubs about Team Ontario.

d. Other items: Head referee discussion

Discussion who is responsible for determining head referee: tech committee to make a shortlist of recommendations to the Board; Board to approve

Action item: tech committee to send short list and recommendations rated; deadlines same as for Tech Advisor position, January 25th, 2015

Motion to approve head referee by email vote approved by all

Reports: Kathy- nothing to report

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m..

Andrea Kennedy, President

Dragana Sunjic, Secretary