

**BENTON H. WILCOXON
MUNICIPAL ICE COMPLEX
BOARD OF CONTROL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

All motions passed unanimously unless otherwise stated.

MINUTES OF October 18, 2017:

Presiding Officer: Chuck Saunders

Present: **Board Members:**
Kimberly Ford
Ed Ragland
Fred Hudson
Ralph Stone
Susan Phelan
Keith Schonrock, III

Absent: Jan Davis
Dita Dotson-Bowser

Facility Representatives: Steve Clough
Chantay Naeger
Wendy Ruch
Trey Riley - Attorney
Bruce Pitts - Attorney

Press Representatives: None

Visitors: David Edwards, Ryan McCormick, Greg Meisser, Troy Skinner, Ryan Crim, Daniel Thompson, Sean Higgins, various members of hockey programs unidentified

Call to Order: Chuck called the meeting to order at 5:30pm – The board of control and attorneys immediately went into recess. The meeting was again called to order at 5:52

Special Announcement: Trey Riley reported that NAHA had responded to a previous proposal made by the Ice Complex, however, due to the information being received last minute (5 minutes before the start of the meeting) the MIC representatives did not have the proper time to assess. Trey could not comment on the subject of ice rental because both parties are represented by lawyers and can only be discussed within council.

Minutes: Approved

Public Comments Wendy explained the public comment rules and conveyed that comments would be limited to 3 minutes with a 1 minute warning. These are to be comments only, not a Q&A session.

a. General Public:

Chuck opened the floor for public comments starting with the first name on the sign-up sheet, Troy Skinner. Troy announced he had several concerns, one regarding the perceived lack of transparency with rink policies. He was upset that the public was not given the opportunity to review policies before being passed by the Board of Control. Troy believes that the rink manager is not following said policies because ice time for NAHA's adult programs had not been confirmed. Troy is also concerned with the lack of priority towards "Fight Club" the Wednesday night skate group hosted by Debbie Barrie. He stated he was also there on behalf of the Adult Development League and wants noted his belief in the importance of these adult programs that precede league play and how they help to learn the game. The second name on the list was called, Daniel Thompson. Daniel announced that he was there on behalf of Adult Development League. He spoke of his success in the SOL and helping children's programs grow and agrees that youth should be the priority and adult programs should skate later at night. He thinks ADL is the future of the sport and is good for the rink's success. Third on the list was Ryan Crim. Ryan started off by saying he was here last month about the policies and wants the board to consider changing venues for future BOC meetings. He was in disbelief of the rink manager's comment that youth hockey comes first because at that moment, the team on the ice was not youth. He again wants the board to consider who wrote the new policies. Ryan claimed he has been finding out more "stuff" at the rink and is not excited about it, for example, he believes figure skaters do not pay for ice time. Ryan ended by saying he hopes to resolve these issues. Next on the list was Greg Messier. Greg stated he was speaking on behalf of Fight Club and the fact that they were not skating that night because ice was taken away. He wants to better understand why Debbie's group isn't over the Havoc group and why the dates for prior year in the policy changed. Greg calculated 7000 hours of rentable ice and wondered why the cutoff for the preferred group is only 120 hours. He stated that the fight club has hosted 3 tournaments that have always been open to anyone who wanted to play. Chuck, at this point, asked for clarification on who Debbie is, Greg explained that Debbie was the one who rents all the ice for Fight Club. Chuck mentioned receiving monotonous emails originating from Debbie. Trey thought best to intervene at that point to keep order and re-explain the rules of the public comment portion of the meeting. Trey also stated that both NAHA and the Fight Club were represented to which Greg disagreed. Greg then asked if the fight club could be a part of NAHA and Trey said he could not speak on behalf of NAHA. The last name on the list was called, Sean Higgins. Sean requested the board take a new look at the policies on a whole including the number of hours the Havoc has rented. Then Sean discussed his rink hockey locker condition saying it was falling apart and wants to see new funds used to improve that area.

During the Senior Manager's report, public comments were allowed again and Greg Meisser stated his belief that HSSTA does not charge for ice or have contracts. Gus Morard asked Steve why the current compressor system was approved and built the way it was. He suggested going back to the original contractor to see if they installed the correct equipment. If they didn't, make them provide the proper equipment today. Steve explained that this facility was built 25 years ago and utilizes equipment meant for food service refrigeration. He also pointed out that Pelham, AL & Decatur currently have the same system and struggles just as the MIC does. This system was quite common 25 years ago and at that time the cost was included in the 3.6 million total budget for the facility to be built. It had come down to the lowest bidder back then and that

approach was actually taken for other facets throughout the rink. Steve said the new funding will allow the MIC to go back to the most efficient way to maintain ice which is an ammonia system.

b. NAHA: None

c. SCH: None

Chairman's Report: None

FRIA Report: FRIA did not meet the month of October

Main Checking Account	\$ 2,605.04
Sponsorship/Scholarship Account	\$ 409.13
Expansion Account	\$181,450.74
M. Dotson Memorial Fund	\$ 1,598.11
Avadian Savings Account	<u>\$ 5.00</u>
Grand Total	\$186,068.05

Financial Report: Steve Clough provided an itemized description of the September financial report highlighting the following key items:

- These reports are just drafts until the annual audit has been completed. Updated reports will be sent to the finance committee once they are finalized.
- Steve just received the audit intent letter earlier that day from Brand & Blackwell Co.
- Account 4030.14 reflects ice time from the TPH Tier 1 AAA hockey games & practices hosted at the rink. That tournament brought in approximately \$11,000 over Labor Day weekend.
- The Skating School shows a significant increase over last year
- Total and net income were up

Facility Financials:

General Checking Account	\$ 45,092.64
Capital Account	\$ 19,918.92
Reserves Account	<u>\$ 4,436.20</u>
Grand Total	\$ 69,447.76

Senior Manager's Report: Steve confirmed the rink's struggle with ice conditions over the last month and said that compressors were being repaired and or replaced. He and the staff are excited about the new compressor & dehumidification system. The first week of October the ice was shaved down for repainting and took 7 days to get back up and running. A new electric edger is now in use and a new Zamboni has been ordered and will phase out the old, unreliable red Zamboni. It should be delivered mid- February 2018.

October Parties: 9 October Groups: 5

Incident Report: As reported

Fundraising Report: As reported

HSSTA Report: As reported

HR Report: As reported

Maintenance Report: As reported

Hockey Report: As reported

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: None

New Business: Wendy presented updated policies to BOC members to vote upon. The first policy presented was 1.1.5 which gave UAH the special ice rate of \$175 off peak, \$225 late night and \$260 prime time without advanced payment, which is not permissible according to the University's policies. Policy 1.1.4 was presented next. This policy was amended by removing the term off peak hours. The policy now states that short notice ice rental rate can be used for all hours. The next amended policy was 1.1.6. This modification to verbiage was to clarify and strengthen the policy. It now clarifies that the previous 12 month period coincides with the MIC's fiscal year October 1st through September 30th and requires the renter to specify which programs the ice slots are intended. The next batch of policies, 1.1.12 - 1.2.8, reflected minor changes and updates to old existing policies. All policies presented that night were approved by the Board of Control. Two old obsolete policies, 22 & 33, were voted to be dismissed as they do not apply to current rink procedures.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:39pm. The next scheduled Board meeting is November 15, 2017 at 5:15pm.