

ESHBC General Membership Meeting
November 15, 2009
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Snohomish County P.U.D. Building

Agenda

Call to order 1:05 pm

Minutes of August 23, 2009 General Meeting approved by voice vote (full text available at silvertipsboosterclub.com)

Roll Call of Officers

President – Jim Staniford no report

Vice President – Debbie Mitchell no report

Past President - Larry Hawk no report

Treasurer – Amy Van Dalen reported on the current totals for various committees and bank balance.

Secretary – Susan Strong reported that a survey of members resulted in 7 responses. These are included at the end of the minutes.

Members at Large - Joyce Mannon; Joannie Cowles; John Postlewait no reports

Open position – Voice vote on the appointment of Jessica Laughlin as member at large to complete Jim Staniford's term.

Old Business:

Budget – passed by a show of hands 24 yeah – 0 nay.

Exercise bikes for the Tips locker room – passed by a vote of 18 yes, 3 opposed to purchase 5 exercise bikes, not to exceed \$5,500 total cost. Motion to amend budget to include purchase of bikes passed by verbal vote, one dissenting vote.

Committee Update:

Budget - passed with a deficit

Bylaws – no report

Calendar – averaging 2-3 calendars per game. Request made to start the 2 for \$15 holiday offer. Topic tabled until board can discuss it.

Fundraising – Barbara Morris absent, Debbie Mitchell gave an update on table sales

Membership – Shirley Olsen absent, Sue Strong provided membership numbers provided at last gathering.

Outreach – no report

Scrapbook – Terri Brennan absent, Becky Postlewait provided an update that there was a recent page check and there are no issues

Secret Pal – Debbie Steigerwald absent, Debbie Mitchell provided update that the card drops are going well and the feedback from the players are they really like them.

Table – Becky Postlewait reported that it's going okay but more volunteers would be appreciated.

Travel – Pam Henderson reported that the Kelowna trip was -\$75 on breaking even and the Tri City trip is not full yet. Discussion followed on how to get the word out and fill up the bus.

Event – Anne Malmevik reported that they have received some great donations for door prizes and gifts for the player bags. Ticket sales are slow with only 36 sold and only 6

player dinners sponsored. She thanked all of the people on her committee for their hard work and enthusiasm.

New Business:

EYH request for funds - \$1,500 to purchase dark green jersey's for the Bantam "B" team. Approved by verbal vote, budget will need to be amended.

Thank you card from Ryan Higgs, for providing an ESHBC hockey camp scholarship

Discussion on how to make more people aware that road trips are open to everyone, what events are coming up and that the booster club table provides information to everyone.

Ideas –

1. Get Jon Rosen to announce the road trips on the radio show letting people know they are open to everyone
2. Get the road trips and holiday party on the big screen during intermissions
3. Call in to the Tuesday radio shows and let people know what trip is coming up and that it's open to everyone.
4. Have the ESHBC president or vice president do a guest appearance with Rosen.
5. Send out road trip specific emails

Change to meeting date – February General Membership Meeting will be on February 13 at 3:00pm.

Door prize won by Anne Malmevik – bobble head.

Adjourned at 2:00 PM

The survey questions and answers

1 In your opinion what is the best day and time for ESHBC general membership meetings?

I would like to see meetings happen in the evenings, Mondays or Wednesdays are great.

Best day and time for us is prior to a weekend game. Next, earlier on a Sunday or Saturday afternoon. Finally any week night after 7 PM.

2 How long should meetings last?

No longer than an hour.

General meetings on an agenda shouldn't need to run more than an hour, except for the special discussion meetings, such as budget, nominations and elections. Special guests, announced in advance can draw more members, requiring a longer meeting.

3 Do you think the booster club is meeting its stated goals?

a to promote goodwill at all hockey games

b to support teams and their members in their community efforts both on and off the ice

c to promote open lines of communication between the Everett Silvertips management, the public and the ESHBC and to support and promote hockey in the Everett area

d to inform the general membership and the public of ESHBC activities and local hockey news

e to encourage socialization and communication between ESHBC and the booster clubs of other hockey teams

a. I have heard of members not acting appropriately while in their seats during games. On the flip side, I have heard people talk about how nice everyone at the table is.

We are meeting these goals at this time

b. I think the boosters have done a great job at this.

c. I think local hockey is being supported, however I would like to see EYH promoted more, I think Seattle Junior has plenty of support. Could we get a time for the Tips players and EYH kids to skate and play some mini hockey games (kind of like broom hockey and paper airplanes at the ESHBC meet and greet) with the players? I have seen some other teams do something like this. I have noticed over the last couple of seasons that the players don't enjoy the "skate with the tips", it ends up turning into "stand on the ice and get a picture with a player night". I realize that if you do not skate, then you have no choice but to just stand and do nothing. I have also seen how the players love it when the kids go up and tag them and give them a reason to give chase. We have plenty of EYH players that would really like to interact, hang out, get tips, and ask questions about the life of hockey players. I think this could draw more EYH families into the booster club, and give our youth players more access to local heroes.

d. Email is getting the word out.

e. We do this? I have never seen anything about other boosters being at our games.

Other Comments:

I just want to confirm that approval of the stationary bikes purchased for the team will be on the agenda.

In response to your earlier call for comments, I think that the booster club has gone overboard on its rigid enforcement of its rules of order. I have been involved with many organizations and have never before seen Roberts Rules so dominate meetings. Furthermore, the ESHBC Executive Board's total control and compulsive secrecy do not promote participation by members.

I want the Booster Club to be very successful, but I do not measure its success by the amount of funds raised, especially when our team does not require any financial assistance. Scrap bookers and Secret Pals tolerate ever increasing rules and restrictions to contribute to the players. Involved volunteers swim against the bureaucratic current to attempt to serve the club's members. The old guard digs their feet in. General members, having been disenfranchised, vote with their feet.

I think one of the reasons the BC is losing member interest is that the meetings are not fun. I go to about 2 meetings each season and I always say that I won't go back. I am either watching members take "pot shots" at each other or getting a lesson in Robert's

Rules of Order. Definitely not how I want to spend time on a weekend. I have talked to a number of members and these are the main reasons that they no longer attend the meetings. I belonged to Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis and Soroptimists and none of those groups ran meetings according to strict Roberts Rules of Order. I do not want to be "schooled" on Robert's Rules of Order at a BC meeting or any other meeting. There are ways to bring a group back to the task at hand without resorting to Roberts.

There also seem to be a couple of groups that don't get along with each other and it seems that they are continually fighting some kind of "turf" war and looking to gather more people to their side.

I don't see the BC surviving much longer unless this "in fighting" stops. I don't think the issue is that the meeting date doesn't work for people. I think the root issue is that people don't enjoy themselves at the meetings and when you are volunteering your time you expect to have some fun or see some type of result.

These are just my thoughts. I join the BC to support Secret Pals and the team. If it wasn't for that, I can't honestly say that I would continue to be involved. I also do not think that a non BC fan club should be promoted at the BC meetings. I have no problem with the Fan Club, and in fact think it is a great idea, it is not endorsed by the Silvertips or part of the BC, so I think there are other means of promoting the membership.

I don't know if you will ever find a date and time that works for everybody...but in other groups that I have been involved with, there was the option of a proxy vote on things like budget, etc. Maybe this would be a solution ?

I think the intent of the ESHBC is great. However, as long as you meet on Sundays, some of us are unable to attend due to religious convictions. Unfortunately, this probably too much of a minority of make a difference.

My husband and I both work during the day so we are unable to attend meetings during the day We still very much want to be involved though.

We have members communicating with visiting fans, though not in a static setting as we found those to be not very successful. One-on-one seems to work better.

We provide support to the team when asked, within reason. Obviously some things are prohibited under bylaws, and by previous precedent set by the directors.

I haven't heard of any communication issues, so we must be doing OK in that, The membership is informed by email, by flyers at the table, by the calendar entries and by word of mouth. Perhaps sending a postcard out for the meeting covering the budget could obtain membership participation like the ones sent for nominations and elections do. If a schedule of meetings was available (which is difficult) at the time the membership renewals were sent out, that also would be helpful.