

## **FIFTY FC BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE: August 14, 2024**

**TIME: 8:30-10:15**

**LOCATION: GOOGLE MEET**

- I. **ATTENDANCE:** FJ Zwicklbauer, Kristin Armstrong, Lindsey Kerby, Jenn Walbroehl, Stephanie Rodriguez, Nathan Jerard, Kara Winchester, Chad Bradt, Carrina Bestvina, Sue Torelli, Morgan Montone, and Megan Jeffers
  
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes from the July meeting were approved by all present at the meeting
  
- III. **OFFICER'S REPORTS:**
  - A. **UNIFORM COORDINATOR-JAMES PREECE (5 MIN)**
  
  - B. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT-FJ ZWICKLBAUER (5 MIN)**
    - **3 Step Tournament:** Discover Schenectady contacted us about using our fields for a 3 Step tournament the first weekend in May. It is a competitive tournament. We could run concessions and/or get food trucks which would be an additional fundraiser for our club. Kara asked about how it would affect Rec for that weekend. FJ said that the Rec games may need to be moved and he would tell CDYSL no home travel games that weekend. FJ also asked if Lindsey and the tournament reps could help arrange to run the concession for the weekend.
    - **Discover Schenectady:** Fifty FC could apply for a \$5,000 grant award for community enrichment each year.
    - **VP of Community:** we need to become more involved in community events (ex. Parades and other events). He appointed Carrina Bestvina to be our VP of Community. Kristin shared that Eric Fogg might be interested in helping with parades.
    - **Registrar:** The position was offered to Nathan Jerard. He shared that he has experience in sales and is interested in learning how to do it.

- **Affiliation with Blackwatch Premier:**
  1. The cost to play for Blackwatch Premier is about \$8,000-10,000 which includes the fee to play and also travel. They practice four nights a week and travel on the weekends. They don't field a "B" team. They practice at CBA and other places.
  2. The focus of Blackwatch Premier is developing the individual player.
  3. If we were to become affiliated, we would be able to provide a pathway from community level soccer to premier for those who are interested. It would be a way to keep our community of players together and help them continue to grow.
  4. The affiliation also would offer a network of coaches to help us continue to do what our club is doing but also give them a chance to look at our players.
  5. **Line by Line affiliation**-We could ask them for ten line items to open the discussion about the affiliation and we could come up with our ten items. The first year we could open up the affiliation by displaying logos.
  6. **Advantage**-An advantage to the affiliation is that other soccer players may look at our club because they might be interested in Blackwatch. If Blackwatch is too much, they could come back to our club.
  7. **Questions:** Would there be a discount for our players who play for them? Would we have to change our by-laws? FJ said that our bylaws would remain the same; it would be an affiliation.
  8. **Network of Coaches:** We would have access to coaches who could come and run sessions for our players and also train our coaches.
- **BHBL Coach:** Cory Leggiro has been appointed as the Varsity Boys Soccer Coach at BHBL. He is interested in getting involved in our club. He wants to work with U8, U10, and U12 age groups by doing clinics. Kristin asked if we need to do an agreement similar to what we have done for other coaches. FJ said that an agreement would not be necessary.

FJ would like to get the Modified and JV coaches involved as well.

- **Club Sign on Route 5:** Our Fifty FC sign has been taken down because of complaints. The Oktoberfest sign is in its place on Route 5 and has been there for a week. FJ plans to go to the next town board meeting to get a spot for our sign.
- **Scholarships:** The process to apply for scholarships is to write an email explaining why they need it and how much. At this time, there are two families that have inquired for this season. We would like to give what we can to help families so their children can play soccer. FJ mentioned using part of the money from the tournament to pay for the scholarships. Sue motioned to award 4-6 scholarships for the upcoming season. The motion was seconded and passed by FJ, Kristin, Lindsey, and also Morgan. FJ said he would be in touch with the families about the scholarship.
- **Board Member Waiver:** FJ would like to give his board member waiver to a player in the club since his son is no longer playing for Fifty FC and he does not need it. Kristin, Morgan, and Sue voted yes. Lindsey would like to give her waiver to a family who can use it because her son is no longer playing for Fifty FC.
- **Albany EmUrgent Care:** Albany EmUrgent Care contacted us about being a sponsor for our club. Their emblem has been placed on the pinnies that will be used during Rec.
- **VP of Scheduling:** Jenn Walbroehl has been appointed as our VP of Scheduling. Information has been shared with her about who to contact.

## C. VICE PRESIDENT

### 1. VP OF COACHING-KRISTIN ARMSTRONG (5 MIN)

- **U16 Boys-**We continue to lose boys at this age level. As of today, there are 5 boys registered. Numerous families have said that they are not returning. The team for this age group may not get off the ground. Kristin has sent emails asking families to reply with either a yes or no and is not receiving responses. FJ said to send

another email that we are looking to put a winter team together. Sue suggested sending another email stating to let us know if their child plans on playing by Monday (8/19) in order to make a final decision and give players time to find another team if necessary.

- **Brian Grimmick:** interested in running the Goalkeeper sessions again this year.
- **Coaches Meeting:** Looking to set up the Coaches Meeting the Week of August 26th. A date has not been set at this time.

## 2. VP of SCHEDULING-JENN FRITZ-WALBROHEL (5 MIN)

- **Oak Hill:** has four one hour shifts (5:30-6:30)
- **Afrim's:** there is a new scheduler this year. We still need to work on availability. Our time at Malta needs to be scheduled around game times so we will be able to use it.
- **BHBL:** Amy contacted us regarding availability. She is working on giving us what we used before.
- **YMCA's:** the fee to use the YMCA's is \$200 an hour. Brittney (Glenville YMCA) is looking to give us the same times: Monday (6:30-7:30), Tuesday (7:00-9:00), and Thursday (6:00-9:00). Schenectady has Tuesday/Wednesday available. Sue mentioned that we might not need as much time because we have fewer teams.
- **Scotia School District:** holding off on contacting them about availability
- Need to reach out to coaches to ask them to give three nights they would want.

## C. TREASURER-PATRICK AND MORGAN (5 MIN)

## D. SECRETARY-MEGAN JEFFERS (5 MIN)

- **Refund Travel Payment:** Contacted about refunding the volunteer fee and also the second travel payment because the child was unable to finish the season due to medical reasons. Board voted to refund the payments to the family.
- **Board Member Position List:** FJ said we need to put together another email blast with the open board positions.
- **Scholarship List:** email a list of families who have reached out regarding scholarships to FJ.
- **Sign-Up Genius:** Need to prepare and send out a sign up sheet to get volunteers to work the concession stand for Rec

#### **E. PAST EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER-SUE TORELLI (5 MIN)**

- **Rec:** Need to find someone to help run the concession stand during Rec.

#### **F. RECREATIONAL SOCCER DIRECTOR-KARA WINCHESTER**

- **Rec Pinnies:** The pinnies will arrive in time for Rec and will say Albany EmUrgent Care on the back with their logo. There are 200 in the barn that can also be used if the new ones don't arrive on time.
- **Registrations:** There are 150 registered for Rec as of today. Will send an email blast reminding families to register.
- **Late Fee:** Families who register after August 31st will be charged a \$20 late fee.
- **Flyers:** the flyers were emailed to the schools about registering for Rec soccer.

#### **G. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR-CHAD BRADT (5 MIN)**

- Looking to find a replacement for this position that he can give the information to.

#### **H. REGISTRAR-BRIAN BREWER (5 MIN)**

- Not present at the meeting tonight-emailed the board that he is resigning from his position but is willing to stay on through October and train the new person who will be taking it over.

**I. CDYSL REPRESENTATIVE-**

- We did not have a representative at the meeting on August 11th.

**J. Tournament Director-LINDSEY KERBY (5 MIN)**

- **Sponsors:** getting ready to reach out to bigger corporations to see if they would be interested in sponsoring our tournament.
- **NJHS:** will ask if the NJHS students would be interested in volunteering again for the tournament.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS (5 MINUTES)**

**V. NEW BUSINESS (5 MINUTES)**

- **Oktoberfest:** FJ would like to set up a tent with a raffle at Oktoberfest again this year. We raised about \$1300 last year. He will speak with Carrina about setting this up.
- **Bathrooms:** FJ mentioned going to the Town to ask about drilling a well to have bathrooms near our barn and/or access to water. It is an item that we can talk about again.

**VI. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR (5 MINUTES)**

**VII. NEXT MEETING: September 11, 2024 AT 8:30pm**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT-Meeting was adjourned at 10:15pm**