

**McLean Youth Soccer Board of Directors Meeting
November 18, 2021**

Members Present:

Nancy McGuire Choi
Julie Dabrowski
Karen Gibian
Elizabeth Kaplan
Susan Mrachek
Chris Rodriquez

Staff Present:

Louise Waxler, Executive Director
Mike Curry, Director of Coaching Administration
Kelly Key, Finance Director
Cindi Harkes, Age Group Director

Meeting convened at 7:07 p.m. by Chair Susan Mrachek.

Approval of September 23 Minutes

Motion: To approve the September 23, 2021 Board Meeting minutes. Motion approved.

Approval of Changes to Club Policies

Motion: To approve changes to Policy 115, *Field Development and Improvements and Maintenance Reserve Accounts*, to clarify that these accounts may be used to make improvements to existing MYS fields; and to Policy 105, *Travel Policy*, to clarify that coaches may be reimbursed only for travel expenses for travel exceeding 75 miles. Motion approved.

Updates from the Chair

- The next Board meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, February 3, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.
- The Board discussed whether to hold the annual staff holiday party at an outdoor venue. The Board and the Executive Director decided to postpone the party until later in the year but to provide a holiday bonus to all coaches instead.
- Susan Mrachek thanked Louise Waxler for all her hard work with respect to funding and building the new Holladay Field and for organizing the opening ceremony and club festival.

Executive Director Report

Louise Waxler provided an update on the state and operations of the club:

- *Recreation*

- Fall registration season completed. SFL teams competed in the year-end tournament on November 13-14.
- Referees continued to be an issue with inadequate coverage.
- Twenty-five financial aid applications processed for recreation - \$4745.00.
- *Travel*
 - Updated Conflict of Interest Policy was shared with all coaches for signature.
 - Analyzing a potential adjustment to training rates for next fiscal year.
 - Nation's Capital Cup Girls Tournament (November 13-14) – 202 registered teams (2020: 192)
 - Nation's Capital Cup Boys Tournament (November 20-21) – 254 registered teams (2020: 247)
 - Twenty-five financial aid applications processed for travel players - \$37,559.00; team fees processed - \$7,446.00
 - MYS is partnering with Total Futbol to hold a girls college id clinic on November 27/28 at LP 2/3. Seven college coaches (to date) have committed to attend. The clinic is open to all clubs and all high school-age players.
 - Age Group Managers are researching programs to create a consistent and comprehensive tool for player evaluations.
- *Fields*
 - MYS field (Holladay field) is completed. The ribbon cutting ceremony and club festival were outstanding events held for and by the club. Leidos CEO Roger Krone, UAE Ambassador Yousef Al Otaiba, Paralympian Jessica Long, Olympic Gold Medalist Benita Fitzgerald Mosley, and other dignitaries and athletes attended the ceremonies. Thank you to Matt Shank for his remarks on behalf of the club. The first game played on the field was held after the ceremonies – Ambassador Al Otaiba's U11B recreation team.
 - Fence installation at Holladay began last week and should be completed by the end of November.
 - MYS Coach Ryan Sellers has assumed responsibilities for equipment maintenance on a part-time basis. Ryan is currently conducting an inventory of all MYS-owned property.
- *Programs – Winter 2021-22 Offerings*
 - Speed, Agility and Strength program will be offered after a successful initial program in the fall (37 participants).
 - Recreation indoor futsal league for ages U7-U12 (partnership with Marcelo Valencia) to resume this year (109 registrants to date).
 - Outdoor travel training program.
 - Recreation skills program.
 - Recreation outdoor league.
 - Future U9's program.
 - Shooting and finishing.
 - Goalkeeper.
- *Miscellaneous*
 - The fall season was uneventful and with minimal COVID issues – 1-2 teams were required to quarantine.
 - MYS will host a referee licensing course – dates TBD.

- We are interested in hosting a US Soccer D License course and are speaking with Keith Tabatznik who would serve as the instructor. We are waiting on details from Keith on requirements (i.e., facilities) needed to move forward.
- Golf tournament/outing – Considering holding a tournament or outing in June to help identify potential sponsors. Matt Shank has offered to assist with the efforts.
- MYS will have a branded vehicle for club marketing purposes by the end of year. The vehicle is being donated by a club member (who has asked to remain anonymous).
- Mike Curry and Louise Waxler will be presenters at the United Soccer Coaches Convention to be held in mid-January.
- Mike, Matt and Louise continue to discuss associated roles and goals associated with the Strategic Plan, most specifically board committees that would help drive the strategic initiatives outlined in the plan.

Financial Review

Kelly Key reviewed the finances of the club:

- Finances continue to be in good shape.
- Twenty employees currently enrolled in the MYS retirement plan.
- Switching to Travel Perk travel management company – will provide more transparency into coach travel costs.
- Operating accounts will be moved to Capital Bank as of January 1, 2022.

Director of Coaching Administration Update

Mike Curry provided an update on areas on which he has been focused:

- Improving communication with members: “Tech Talks,” end-of-season letters from coaches, working to reduce miscommunication.
- Revised all job descriptions to provide consistency throughout the club.
- Player Assessments and Tryouts – making changes to current process.
- Organization as a whole – examining how the club can become more efficient.
- Creating “Centers for Excellence” where MYS could become a leader, possibly to include video analysis; sports performance; strategic competitive analysis; McLean Goalkeeping Academy; developing players from within; college assistance.

Age Group Director Update

Cindi Harkes discussed her new role as MYS Age Group Director.

- The purpose of this position is to help coaches fulfill their roles as coaches both on and off the field.
- Looking to help new Age Group Managers grow and develop.
- Focusing on:
 - Player development plan (formerly player evaluation).
 - Coach development.
 - Bridging the gap between Travel and Recreation.
 - Community engagement.
- Rethinking the tryouts process is the next big project.

Restroom and Shelter Facility at Lewinsville Park

Louise Waxler provided an update on constructing a restroom facility at Lewinsville Park.

- County requires \$220,000 to begin process (survey, designs, etc.). Would apply for Mastenbrook Grant from Fairfax County to offset some of the costs (\$20,000).
- Ultimately will be a 24-month project, costing approximately \$600,000 - \$650,000 total.
- Question regarding who would maintain the facility once it is built (county or MYS).
- Considered “Giving Tuesday” campaign to raise funds to build the facility.

Strategic Plan

Susan Mrachek discussed creating various committees that align with the Strategic Plan. The Board agreed to hold a supplemental meeting in early January to discuss committees and how they would be used to implement the Strategic Plan.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Karen Gibian, Board Vice Chair/Secretary.