

**McLean Youth Soccer Board of Directors Meeting
February 3, 2022**

Members Present:

Nancy McGuire Choi
Julie Dabrowski
Karen Gibian
Ian Harper
Elizabeth Kaplan
Susan Mrachek
Michele Reing
Matthew Shank

Staff Present:

Louise Waxler, Executive Director
Clyde Watson, Technical Director

Meeting convened at 7:05 p.m. by Chair Susan Mrachek.

Approval of November 18 Minutes

Motion: To approve the November 18, 2021 Board Meeting minutes. Motion approved.

Financial Review and Update

Michele Reing, Treasurer, provided an update on the finances of the club.

- Kelly Key's resignation was effective at the end of January. Paula Abate, Finance Manager, has agreed to move from part-time to full-time employment and will take on many of Kelly's responsibilities. MYS also retained the accounting firm of Withum, Smith and Brown PC to provide accounting and bill paying services.
- Club remains in a good financial position.
- New accounts opened at Capital Bank and majority of funds have been transferred; small amounts remain in Fulton Bank accounts to handle any outstanding checks, etc. Team accounts will be moved to Capital Bank in May, once the 2022-2023 team treasurers are identified.
- Michele Reing and Chris Rodriguez are not permitted to work with the Investment Committee due to conflicts of interest; additional Board members are needed to join this Committee.

Recruitment Update

Karen Gibian, Vice-Chair and Secretary, provided an update on recruitment for Board positions.

- Susan Mrachek and Michele Reing terms will end in June 2022. Julie Dabrowski, Ian Harper, and Matthew Shank will be eligible for re-election to a second two-year term.
- The Annual General Membership meeting is scheduled for June 9; the Board must provide their recommended slate of nominees to the general membership at least 10 days before the AGM.

- The call for nominations will go out in March, with candidate interviews in April. The Nominating Committee will present a slate of potential candidates to the Board at the May 12 meeting or a later ad hoc meeting if necessary.
- The Nominating Committee consists of at least two Board members and two non-Board members; Karen asked for Board volunteers and recommendations for non-Board members.
- The Board agreed that the call for nominations should be posted on MYS's social media accounts as well as other forums, such as neighborhood list serves and LinkedIn, to widen the net of potential candidates.

Board Committees

Matthew Shank led a discussion on the creation of standing committees to assist with the work of the Board and that align with the strategic plan.

- The proposed committees are: (i) Advancement; (ii) Player, Coach and Volunteer Development; (iii) Finance and Investment; (iv) Board Governance; and (v) Facilities.
- Technology also should be addressed, either as a standalone committee or within the proposed committees (to avoid duplicity).
- Need to ensure that the committees are aligned with the executive director and her team's work. Committees also should have some type of formal charge and measurement of success.
- Purpose of the committees is to provide oversight, advice, and guidance to MYS staff.
- Question whether Facilities should be a standing committee, or a subcommittee or ad hoc committee.
- Board members each would be expected to sit on and contribute to the work of 2 or 3 committees.

Executive Director Report

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

- *Recreation:*
 - Winter season cancelled due to extreme weather conditions. Members were offered a full credit for the spring season and/or refund if already registered.
 - Free play will be offered in February, weather permitting.
 - 923 players registered for spring 2022 (as of 1.30.22); season begins April 2nd.
 - Spring-Fall 2022 equipment ordered.
 - Dick's Sporting Goods sponsorship renewed .
 - Winter indoor futsal sessions – 186 total registrants for Sessions I and II (U7-U12 ages)
- *Travel:*
 - Girls college id clinic postponed from November was held January 21-22.
 - Renegotiated the referee contract for ECNL/EDP matches.
 - A three (3) phase tryout process has been finalized by the senior technical staff; team information sheets will be included as part of the tryout process setting player/parent expectations.
 - AGD Cindi Harkes report: assessed and reviewed and implemented a player development plan; collaborating with Clyde and Jamil to review the coach

- development plan; coach job descriptions are being reviewed to include coaching expectations for every team level (ECNL-Silver).
- Exploring the addition of strength/speed/agility training for U9-U18 age groups that will become part of the player experience in MYS; Jamil Walker is providing oversight of this project and has met with Capstone Performance and Perfect Performance.
 - Performance Analysis project (video recording/video analysis) in progress with oversight by Jaon Ahmad and Jamil Walker; every ECNL team is currently using the VEO system; new cameras for fall will offer video streaming service enabling live feeds.
 - College Recruiting process is being developed by Technical Director, Assistant Technical Director and Age Group Director; informational meetings, networking, id camps, showcase brochures (partially implemented).
 - CCL U23 league will be offered for MYS alumni to include a men's team in 2022.
 - November tournaments completed; increased attendance vs. 2020.
 - Training equipment has been ordered based on coach feedback – soccer tennis, goal shots, hurdles, weighted Pugg goals, etc.
 - ECNL fundraiser (raffle) for boys and girls teams is being launched and coordinated by Lisa Robertson. Items will be posted on the website; tickets may also be purchased on the club website. All proceeds benefit the ECNL program. Drawing is planned for March 3.
 - Spring MYS Tournament dates are March 5-6 (U13-U19); March 12-13 (U9-U12 Boys); March 19-20 (U9-U12 girls).
 - Clyde Watson, Lucas Winters and Brent Leiba are attending the ECNL AGM and coaching education workshop, February 4-6.
- *Fields:*
 - MYS field (Holladay field) fence and netting installation is complete. Storage box for training equipment is on order.
 - Retrofitting all portable goals (10 sets) with wheels.
 - *Programs:*
 - Women's College ID Sessions: 67 players on January 21; 72 players on January 22.
 - Spring Program registration dates are finalized; will be posted on the website in early February.
 - *Finance:*
 - Fairfax County Active and Thriving Community Grants Program – MYS qualified and was awarded a \$18,000 grant to offset club incurred costs during 2020-21 (onset of COVID).
 - Giving Tuesday - \$10,885 donated.
 - *Miscellaneous:*
 - Reviewing and modifying management staff job descriptions to assess the need for additional part time staff and/or adjustments to compensation.
 - Soccer.com rebate issued; funds were used to purchase equipment for recreation and travel programs through 2022.
 - Dr. Wesley Wang, DPT and Clinical Director at Healthy Ballers, who specializes in strength rehabilitation for players with athletic injuries, (specifically ACL injuries,

prevalent with female athletes) discussed offering proper strength training demos. The one-hour sessions would be on-field demonstrations consisting of 30 players per session.

- Ortho NOVA is interested in sponsorship opportunities with MYS. Initial meeting was held last week to discuss overall programs and available inventory for branding.
- Parent Code of Conduct has been added with the Terms of Membership for all new program/team registrations; also posted on the website. We will formally address the addition of the policy in the Sweeper.
- Miscellaneous sponsorships: TravelPerk; Buffalo Wild Wings CCL Sponsorship; LeagueApps ; DIRECTV for spring 2022 recreation season
- *Priorities for 2022*
 - Expand alliances – Executive Director would like to bring another partner into the club.
 - Continue to get Recreation and other programs back on track.
 - Improve/heighten communications.
 - Possible addition of USLW League Team (for post-college players). Louise to provide additional information to Board on cost and other factors.

Lewinsville Facility

Motion: To approve the expenditure of \$220,000 for the design and permitting of bathroom facilities at Lewinsville Park. Motion approved.

Technical Director Update

Clyde Watson, Technical Director, discussed the work of the technical team.

- The technical team has been working on identifying prominent issues and addressing them. These include:
 - Better communication with parents and within the club.
 - Clear Player Development Pathways (formerly player evaluations) – goal is to create a living document that can move from coach to coach.
 - Player Self-Assessments.
 - Try-outs – committee created to revamp and improve tryout process, to be implemented this spring.
 - Coaching Development – including an education component in coaches meetings.
 - Video Analysis – plan to expand beyond ECNL teams.
 - Mental Performance – looking into adding this to player development.
 - Parent Feedback – looking for ways to allow parents to provide feedback on coaches (including the coach evaluation survey).
- Persistent challenges that club faces:
 - Parents do not always recognize child’s skill level.
 - Teams are not always placed in appropriate league, leading to player and parent dissatisfaction.
 - Can be significant differences in skill level at top and bottom of teams, leading to dissatisfaction.
- Goal is to provide best player experience regardless of level.
- Continue to look to expand programming currently being offered.

Executive Session

The Board entered into Executive Session.

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

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