



Board of Directors
Wednesday, March 4, 2020

FULL BOARD MINUTES

1. Meeting called to order at 11:50am.
2. Members present: Tom Arria, Tim Brillo, Keith Crowley, Deborah Davis, Charles Flahive, Jeff Granatino, Thom Holdgate, Brian McCann, Wes Paul, Jim Pignataro, Dan Shine, Stephanie Sibley, Matthew Trahan, Naomi Martin, Christine Vigneux, Gordon Smith and Lindsey von Holtz. Members excused: Dan Bauer, Patrick Mara and Mark Sullivan.
3. Minutes of January 15, 2020 were approved 16-0-1.
4. Lindsey von Holtz, MIAA Finance and Personnel Committee Chair reported on the finance meeting prior to the full Board meeting. A joint meeting with MSAA took place from 9-11am today. Discussion included salaries, contracts and staff. A follow-up meeting in April was scheduled. TPG sponsorship has been going well, it is hopeful that a staff member will join the Association by March 15th.
5. Executive Director Bill Gaine reported on Educational Athletics. Members were provided with flyers and programs for GWS, Leadership Training, Captains Workshop, Teen Wellness and Vaping conference.
6. Communications Director Tara Bennett provided her communications report. Highlights are continuing to be forwarded to members. Twitter seems to still be a great means of communication with schools in regards to sports and events.
7. Special Assembly Meeting was held on February 28, 2020. The MIAA membership voted to support the Statewide Tournament proposal 193-140. A follow-up session with TMC will take place in March during the MSSADA meeting. A general session will also take place at the MIAA Annual Meeting on April 3rd. Executive Director Gaine asked Board members to consider crafting a letter from the Board to the TMC committee members thanking them for their efforts.
8. Tara Bennett summarized the Strategic Planning Committee meeting that took place immediately following the Special Assembly Meeting. There were 18 members present including 8 Board members. A review of the Mission Statement took place and discussions regarding belief statements took place. A synopsis will be forwarded today. The next meeting is scheduled for March 18th in Franklin from 9-3pm. Four areas were identified Governance,

Operations/Management, Public Relations/Communications and Educational Athletics. Board members will be provided a survey to choose which topic they would like to participate in.

9. Sister Association Communication Reports:

MSSADA – Thom Holdgate reported that MSSADA met on Monday finalizing their Annual Conference agenda. The program should be posted on their website next week. MIAA/MSSADA Sportsmanship Partnership was discussed during MSSADA Executive meeting. A meeting is scheduled on March 17th to discuss further.

MASC – Deb Davis reported that she is currently working on filling vacancies on the MIAA committees. Deb asked if the Association would consider having the Vaping Conference streamed and/or videotaped. Sherry Bryant will look into options.

MSAA – Brian McCann reported that NASSP recently reported a Vaping Bill (attached). Redistricting in regards to Principal representation will be voted on at the MSAA Board meeting.

10. Annual Meeting Planning Committee (Thom Holdgate, Lindsey von Hotlz, Keith, Crowley Jeff Granatino and Stephanie Sibley) met via conference call and reviewed the recent survey that was sent to members and the top 4 categories were determined to be the concurrent sessions for the Annual Meeting with a General Session on the Statewide Tournament. Registration for the Annual Meeting has been forward to the membership.
11. Executive Director Bill Gaine provided a preliminary winter tournament update (see attached). A final report will be provided in May. A lot of discussion took place in regards to sites and pre-determined sites of which TMC will review.
12. President Jeff Granatino reported on Rule 35.1 (Start date for fall practices). This subject has been brought up at past Board meetings in regards to a letter received from Bay State Conference in regards to re-consideration to move the start date from Monday to Thursday. Motion to have MIAC rescind the vote of Rule 35.1 voted 7-9.
13. President Jeff Granatino reported on video streaming of tournaments. Jeff asked for clarification in regards to independent companies vs NFHS Network. Media contracts are in place for radio, students and TV through the Association. The NFHS does have first right of refusal according to the contract approved by the Association a few years ago.
14. Tara Bennett reported on redistricting status/progress. We have received feedback from a large majority of districts. The nominating report will be presented at the Annual meeting.
15. TPG onboarding – a press release was forwarded to membership – a full time staff member should be in place by March 15, 2020.

16. NFHS PSA's – a mailing was sent by the Association to all radio stations. The PSA's have been updated on the MIAA website. A sample PSA was played.
17. Rugby rule change request – Phil Napolitano and Richard Pearson (see attached) – motion to recommend to approve the proposed rule regarding injury in rugby – voted 14-0.
18. Members received via email 2 new requests for member schools. Prospect Hill Academy, Cambridge and Community Charter School of Cambridge – motion to approved membership with both schools – 14-0.
19. Motion to adjourn and enter into Executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session motion Deb Lavalley - second by Gordon Smith to enter into Executive Session for purposes of discussing ongoing litigation.

1. Roll Call: Tom Arria, Tim Brillo, Deborah Davis, Charles Flahive, Jeff Granatino, Thom Holdgate, Brian McCann, Jim Pignataro, Dan Shine, Stephanie Sibley, Naomi Martin, Christine Vigneux, Gordon Smith and Lindsey von Holtz.
2. See attached letters – Cardinal Spellman High School tried to get a TRO was denied by judge and the student-athlete could not play.
3. Grafton High School – 5th year student seeking eligibility to participate in Lacrosse tournament – granted by ERB to participate in regular session, not tournament. The appellants would like to play this out then wait to see if they get into the tournament. Our legal counsel is actively working with their legal counsel to get the court date ASASP to not be descriptive to the tournament.
4. Braintree High School parents have taken Braintree High School to court in regards to chemical health rule which the school has a more restrictive rule. Girls Ice Hockey has been in 2 games with the ineligible players and have won both games. We are still awaiting a decision from the judge. If the court determines they are ineligible those student-athletes will not be able to play at their next scheduled game on Saturday – the game will be played regardless.
5. Medford High School – we have received a response to the settlement agreement agreed upon at the end of the fall season. A draft letter from our attorney has been provided to the Board to determine whether they support forwarding to Medford. Motion to accept with amendment being if the current settlement is not accepted City of Medford is responsible for all legal fees moving forward through the court process - voted 13-1.
6. Motion to adjourn from executive session – approved unanimously for purposes of going to back to open season for adjournment.