



Mission: Development of our Players and Coaches

Wednesday, April 30, 2020

1. Called meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
2. Quorum present: Heather Barth, Chad Williams, Jake Schad, Amy Ward, Chad Lewis, Barret Wendt, and Craig Connell.

Guests: Dave Sharp, Andrew Conniff, Matt Dorman, Tony Harrison, and Chad Landis

3. Adoption of Agenda: motion by Connell, 2nd by Schad. Approved 6-0.

4. New Business:

- a. Reopening – No Action Taken. Open discussion on reopening given the status of COVID-19 pandemic. The board acknowledged that the first step of the process was to submit a COVID-19 plan to the City, have the City approve the plan, then meet again to determine the start date.

Tony Harrison: Attended on behalf of the State Association as its Risk Management Director. He stated that we are fine to reopen from the State's perspective.

Chad Landis: Attended on behalf of the Referee Association and asked what our plans were on reopening, wanting to make sure that they are staffed correctly and following any of the Club's COVID-19 requirements.

Dave Sharp: Proposed a plan to reopen where the opening date was mid-May, with the first 2 weeks being primarily technical training and conditioning, and then resuming normal practices/scrimmages/small sided games June 1st. Dave's plan outlined that resuming activities would be optional for the players and that no player would be penalized for not attending practices.

Barth: Expressed concerns about the timing and perception of opening too soon and did not feel there was any upside to opening prior to June 1st.

Conniff: Felt that the plan to reopen was a good plan and supported it.

Connell: Felt that opening towards the end of May would be acceptable as it is close to the end of the school year, was a good plan by Dave, felt that a the structure and timeline is needed and must be given the members so that there is certainty and



they can plan their schedules. He felt that there is upside to reopening, specifically mental health of the members and getting back to normalcy.

Dorman: Expressed concerns about opening up too soon, specifically in the next couple weeks.

Lewis: Opposed to reopening, but was comfortable discussing it if the City approves a COVID-19 plan. His concerns were that we would lose half the club unless we did it right.

Schad: In favor of reopening sooner than later. His concerns were that we must develop a plan because we will need to at some point. He suggested that we require members and staff to perform a temperature check before participating, answer a questionnaire about their travels, and to seek MFC's input because they are our largest donor. He also expressed concern that players were going to play on their own at the parks regardless of what we are doing and that it would be better to have our players on our fields in a controlled environment. It's important that we hold a higher standard. He is concerned that we will lose members if we do not reopen and that it should be the member's choice to stay home and not participate if they have concerns.

Ward: Expressed the need to have a solid COVID-19 structure in place because of her concerns with the safety of the members/players and also how the board's actions will impact the Club's reputation. It is important that we hold a higher standard. She sees why it makes sense to stay closed until it is safe; however, also knows that we must reopen at some point.

Wendt: Stated that Dave's plan is solid and is okay reopening now under its framework. He feels that this problem will not be going away anytime in the next several years and that must learn to operate safely under a plan, and that reopening now makes just as much sense as opening three weeks from now. If circumstances change we can always adjust. He is concerned that we will lose members if we do not reopen and that it should be the member's choice to stay home and not participate if they have concerns.

Williams: Stated that we must learn to operate in a COVID-19 world because the problem will be here year after year. Asked that the board make any decisions based on the facts locally and not elsewhere in the country, that the future is always unknown when you are at the decision point, and that COVID-19 will only get worse

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in Rapid City as time goes on – specifically, that right now is as good as it will get, because the numbers are so low. Expressed the need to make our decision based on the majority of the member’s view point and not let the extreme points of view dominate our decision making as it appears that 10% of the members think that we cannot reopen until indefinitely, 10% think the pandemic is a conspiracy/overstated/hoax, and that 80% of the members fall in the middle and would operate under a COVID plan.

5. Next meeting, Wednesday, May 13, 2020
6. Adjournment. Motion to Adjourn by Barth, 2nd by Ward, Approved 6-0. 7:53 p.m.