

NHFOA Executive Council
Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2016
Bow High School

Meeting called to order at 6:04 p.m. by President Trask.

Those in attendance included President Tod Trask, President-Elect Jeff Delois, Commissioner Ernie Clark, Secretary Jason Patch, Councilors Chuck Robert, Jay Kelly, Mike Grondin, Michael Lafond, Bob Krupicka, Steve Bracci and Ron Sevigny.

1. A motion was made by Councilor Krupicka to approve the March meeting minutes as presented. This motion was seconded by Councilor Sevigny. The motion passed unanimously.
2. A motion was made by Councilor Sevigny to approve the Treasurer's report which was emailed prior to the call. This motion was seconded by President-Elect Delois. The motion passed unanimously.
3. The ratings have been sent out and at this point Ernie has received minimal feedback. Part I exam will be online day after the interpretation and will be open for a two-week period. The NHIAA has approved a minimum of four officials (and recommendation for five) for sub-varsity contests beginning in 2017. This will give the schools enough time to revamp their athletic budgets if necessary.

Correspondence – Bob Camirand has retired from the NHFOA.

A motion was made by Councilor Krupicka to accept the Commissioner's report and it was seconded by Councilor Sevigny. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Under old business Councilor Kelly briefly discussed the background check options available for the upcoming season. The draft policy that was put together by President Trask was reviewed. Research was done on the type of background checks that other organizations are using and there is a wide range. The Pop Warner option would be sufficient to cover the intent of what we are looking to accomplish. The company that is out of FL (Edge Information Management) would conduct the background check through an email to each member. The NHIAA registration cost is staying at \$65.00 so there is likely no movement on background checks for at least another year or two. The general consensus was that it will be much cleaner if we use a third party vendor. This is especially true if each member inputs their own data. Discussion ensued as to whether the NHFOA will pay for each official or if we will require members to offset this cost by contributing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Clark to go with Edge Information Management for the purpose of conducting a criminal background check on every member of the association. This will be paid for by NHFOA the first year and will need to be redone on a bi-annual basis. Apprentices and provisionals will absorb the cost of the background check themselves. This motion was seconded by Councilor Grondin and it passed unanimously.

A suggestion was made to have a June 15 deadline for the completion of background checks in order to be able to officiate for the upcoming season. Commissioner and President will have access to the background check results which will be in pass or fail form. (Refer to proposed form)

The policy is being redrafted based on the recommendations of the council and it will be circulated prior to the next meeting.

Councilor Sevigny discussed meeting curriculum. The first week will be a general overall rules review with one case play based upon last year's referee exam. A video will be shown on crew dynamics with

discussion on how crews should operate. During the second week we will cover mechanics, crew communication, judgment and officiating. After this we will cover rules in order of the NFHS rulebook with the last session being on the light side with playoff discussion and annual social.

With respect to classification, last year two members were not able to make the mandatory number of meetings. (Waivers were requested and ultimately denied). We reached out to former Councilor Steve Hall to get his thoughts on waiver policy if you know going into a season that you can't make the required meetings. President Trask introduced a procedure that he feels would be fair for all members and would like it added as an addendum to the classification schedule. He would like members to be able to use current season meetings to increase your standing in the classification schedule. This needs to be voted on at the business meeting as the bylaws will need to be amended to reflect this change.

Councilor Sevigny made a motion to propose the amendment to the membership at the next business meeting and it was seconded by Councilor Krupicka. The motion passed unanimously.

NHIAA / Sub-Varsity: Councilor Bracci put together a well-written proposal to the NHIAA with respect to them suggesting to the schools that NHFOA handle all sub-varsity assigning. Pinkerton and Keene are on board and the only schools that are not appear to be Alvirne and Winnacunnet. We need to express to the NHIAA some rationale for our position and ask them to hear our position on it. The redraft is going to be reviewed at the May meeting.

Projectors for local meetings – Councilor Lafond has looked extensively online and PC Connection is competitively priced. A projector with case and HDMI cable is \$570.00/each and we are looking at purchasing five of them. President Trask raised the question as to whether or not all of them need to be replaced. He is in favor of purchasing what we need as opposed to wholesaling them.

A motion to purchase the number of projectors needed to successfully run locals was made by President Trask and seconded by Councilor Sevigny. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Under new business, President-Elect Delois went over some ideas for the mechanics meeting content and makeup. In short, it will look much different this year based on the feedback that we have gotten from the membership. We are going to look into the possibility of utilizing the scrimmages and jamborees available to us before the start of the regular season. Multiple locations will be used in order to fulfill the mechanics requirement as this will give guys more of a chance to work. This will be the new format for the clinic and takes the place of the old version held at Manchester Memorial in years past. Jamborees available include Nashua / Spaulding / Queen City / Seacoast / Laconia. Registration could be done through the arbiter. Clinic would be held at each location with points of emphasis, signals, positioning. Information on mechanics can be given at the back end of the interpretation meetings. Those that are unable to attend a jamboree will be assigned a supervised scrimmage. We will take questions from the membership prior to the state meeting regarding mechanics.

Consistency needs to be established amongst all officials. This new clinic will go a long way towards reaching that goal.

Fundraising topic – Councilor Bracci works for the Department of Veterans Affairs. He brought up ideas for the NHFOA to donate or otherwise recognize veterans. He mentioned the golf tournament as a potential avenue.

Change to East/West roster – Paul Hickey is out due to injury and will be replaced by Mike Lafond

Meeting to be held at Councilor Lafond's house for the month of May (5/26) at 6:00. Potential "Go to Meeting" option for the August meeting. TBD.

6. A motion was made by President-Elect Delois to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by President Trask. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting concluded at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jason Patch, NHFOA Secretary