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MINUTES of 61st ANNUAL MEETING  
OF NIHOA DIRECTORS  
Hilton Albany – Albany, NY  
Saturday - March 26, 2016

CHAPTERS

Berkshire  
Cape Cod  
Central Mass.  
Champlain Adirondack  
Connecticut  
  
Eastern Mass.  
Eastern NY  
Eastern PA-NJ  
Maine  
Metropolitan NY-NJ  
Mid-Hudson/Hudson Valley  
New Hampshire  
South Shore Mass.  
Southern US  
Vermont  
Westchester NY

ATTENDEES

Ted Kellar  
David Crary, Tom Murray  
Michael Belhumeur, Ryan Belhumeur, Tom Bowes, Jack Doherty  
Mark Stata  
Michael Barile, Anthony DeMarte, Robert Melanson, Steve Richetelli, Marty Tangredi,  
Bill Tomassi, Lev Torgerson  
Eric Doyle  
Nick DeMarte, Jr. Bill Dickerson  
Mike Ross  
Dean Berry, Michael S. Komich, Chris Parsons  
Bill Sidun, Bob Triebe  
Mark Woinicki Sr  
Michael Gould, Dana Lavoie, Alan Nixa  
Eugene Binda, David Costa, Dennis Kirwin, James McKenzie  
Nick DeMarte, Sr.  
Brian Collamore  
Anthony LoConte, Larry Scapperotti

Totals 16

36

100% Annual Attendance: Connecticut, Eastern Massachusetts,  
New Hampshire, South Shore Mass.

**Meeting Called Order**

President Tom Murray, Cape Cod, called the meeting to order at 8:25 a.m. welcoming all and thanking them for attending the annual meeting. A moment of silence was held in memory of NIHOA members who have died.

**President Called the Roll of NIHOA Chapters**

**Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting**

The 2015 Annual Meeting minutes were distributed to those in attendance for their review. A motion by Bill Sidun, Metro NY-NJ, to accept the minutes as presented passed unanimously.



### **Report of the Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee consists of Alan Nixa, New Hampshire, chairman, and Ray Lilley, Connecticut. Alan provided an overview of the process the committee used in review of the detail of revenues and expenses (both in Excel and Quicken format), along with bank, credit card(s) statements and reports provided by the Secretary-Treasurer. Alan also outlined the scope of the Committee's activities and review and read a detailed statement regarding it. The committee did have a few questions for the Secretary-Treasurer to which he responded promptly. It was noted that no anomalies, requiring reporting to the annual meeting, were found. The committee reviewed its findings with the Executive Board prior to the annual meeting and made minor recommendations in process (consider to discontinue Revenue and Expense spreadsheet).

### **Treasurer's Report**

The 2015-16 Treasurer's Report was distributed to those in attendance for their review. The Secretary-Treasurer provided an overview of the report.

### **Dana Lavoie, CIO, New Hampshire, Report**

Dana reviewed his activities over the past year for his position now three (3) years old. He discussed the operational issues transitioning from the former Secretary-Treasurer to the present that were accomplished with weekly conference calls beginning last summer. He noted the acquisition of a dedicated laptop for NIHOA files used by the Secretary-Treasurer that is backed up remotely multiple times per day to "The Cloud" and not co-mingled with any other computer records or files from other personal functions. Dana reviewed the new member and annual registration processes, and the member history that is retained back to 1997. Data prior to 1997 is kept in hard files in the Secretary-Treasurer's garage in water-protected file cabinets. Dana discussed other available Arbiter features (assigning, targeted communications, broadcast communications, testing services, background checks, Arbiter Connected, online registration and payment, etc.) and answered questions from the floor. The questions and subsequent discussion centered on background checks, roster information access, and Chapter websites.

### **Secretary's Report**

The 2015-16 Secretary's Report was distributed to those in attendance for their review. The Secretary-Treasurer provided an overview of the report which: 1) expressed acknowledgement, thanks, and appreciation to Jim McKenzie for roles on the Executive Committee and as clerk of the corporation tirelessly reviewing, opinions, and counsel to the Executive Committee, on a variety of matters pro bono. We seek to continue the agenda for the three year term of the new Secretary-Treasurer (myself): Communication/Stewardship/Brand.

### **Report of Officers**

#### **President Tom Murray, Cape Cod**

Tom thanked Jim McKenzie for his service in providing the Executive Committee with legal counsel on a variety of matters and presented him with a plaque and gift certificate in appreciation for service. Tom is very interested in growing our membership census nationally, seeing Chapters develop succession and continuation plans, and executive healthy transitions of office within the Chapter. He plans to conduct some reach out activities across the country to attract membership opportunities. Tom called attention to the following points of emphasis moving forward: on line testing (and improving, local Chapter paths to membership,

#### **1st Vice President Nick DeMarte, Sr., Eastern NY**

Nick spoke about possible ways of growing membership at the Chapter level. Based upon an Arbiter database review: 25% of the membership is 35 and under, 30% aged 46-55. The age group 36-45 is losing numbers and the age group 55-65 is gaining numbers.

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Mark Stata, Champlain-Adirondack NY**

Mark announced the initiative to formally require Chapters to make an annual report that would reveal Officers' names, by-laws, membership requirements and reviewed the 2015-16 NIHOA Rules test administration.

**Past President Lev Torgerson, Connecticut**

Lev thanked the Jim McKenzie for his service, related his role on the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) spoke of his observations over his 42 years of service: new emphasis on video as it relates to on ice performance, and played a video about a Connecticut High School player to remind us why we are involved with the sport of ice hockey.

**Honorary Members**

A motion by Bill Sidun, Metro NY-NJ, to accept the following individuals as NIHOA honorary members was passed unanimously.

<b>Connecticut</b>
Phil Clarkin
Chuck Waimon
<b>Eastern MA</b>
Andrew Hennigar
John McCarthy
Steve Tague
<b>Central MA</b>
Bob Collins*
Craig Boutillier
*indicates deceased

**Proposed 2016-17 Budget**

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed the 2015-16 budget and presented the proposed 2016-17 budget. The recommendation of the Secretary-Treasurer was to keep the dues at the 2015-16 level. A motion by Bill Sidun, Metro NY-NJ, to accept the budget as presented was made. After further discussion a vote of the annual meeting unanimously passed the motion as amended setting the 2015-16 dues at \$48.00.

**NIHOA Excess Medical, Catastrophic, Liability and D&O Coverage**

The Secretary-Treasurer provided an overview of the association's coverage. The coverage provided through NIHOA's excess medical, catastrophic, liability, and D&O has been enhanced to: lower the medical deductible from \$500 to \$250, increased the general liability limits and provide a general liability umbrella as well. An overview of all coverage can be found on NIHOA's website. It was also noted that the commercial crime coverage was expanded to cover the entire Executive Committee as well as the Secretary-Treasurer.

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### **Correspondence**

Received from the Family of C. Thomas Lynch, President Emeritus in appreciation for the NIHOA donation in his memory and thanks from Families or charities that received donations from NIHOA in memory of deceased members..

### **Unfinished Business from Previous Meeting**

None

### **Election of Officers**

The following individual was presented as a candidate by a letter of intent:

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (One Year Term)

Mark Stata, Champlain Adirondack NY

As there were no other candidates for the above position, the Secretary-Treasurer cast one vote for the candidate since Mark previously held office and there were no other candidates who submitted letters of intent

### **Reports of Chapters**

Sixteen Chapters provided reports to the floor. Recurring themes involved challenges with respect to recruiting, attrition, and succession planning. Women officials continue to make progress with NH having a partial female crew working a state final and one member (Maine) on ice in the Women's Division III Frozen Four Final. Central Massachusetts noted the passing of longtime NIHOA member and Chapter Officer Bob Collins. Connecticut and Vermont have introduced a mandatory concussion protocol via Arbiter. Eastern PA-NJ referenced the exponential growth in college club hockey across the country. Hudson Valley also reported challenges in finding qualified NIHOA members to work college club hockey.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Northeast Ohio Chapter portal option for membership for collegiate and collegiate club officials as vetted and submitted by supervisors for one-year trial. This membership would be non-transferrable in order to respect the membership requirements of the local Chapters.

### **2017 Annual Meeting**

The 2017 Annual Meeting is trending toward being held in Providence, RI on March 25, 2017, site of 2017 NCAA East Regional Tournament. A final announcement will be forthcoming.

The meeting adjourned at 11:53a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael S. Komich Secretary-Treasurer

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