**NEW RIVER UNITED, BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**AGENDA/MINUTES**

DATE: November 20, 2014

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Merryman Center, VT Athletics Conference Room

**BOD Members Present:** Scott Bortz. Andrew Stanaland, Jay Bass, Travis Eschlemann, Sally Poland, Kelly Pender, Chris Hudson, Amy Lawrence, Sam McDonald, Bo Webster, Chrissy Duma, Christine Lattimer, Jason Boyle

**Also Attending:** Jeff Kinney, Matt Gow

**MINUTES:**

* Accept minutes from last meeting, Thursday, September 2014;
* Minutes Accepted
* Add Mike Hunter to BOD ballot of the October minutes. Motion to add proposed and accepted.
* Public Comment (limited to 3 minutes each); None

**Board of Directors: Nominations and Voting**

* Brief explanation of positions up for vote and position responsibilities.
* A copy of the NRU by-laws to be sent to all board members
* Each year, all positions must be re-elected
* Nominations for 2014-2015:
* Secretary, Sally Poland – Elected
* Treasurer, Chris Hudson - Elected
* Vice President of Operations, Bo Webster – Elected
* Vice President of Administration, Travis Eschlemann - Elected
* President, Sam McDonald - Elected

**Technical Directors Report**

* **Recreational League:** Problems with the referees not showing up for games. Jeff Kinney and Matt Gow to meet with the current Referee Assigner to discuss problems and possibly renegotiate the contract. Also, may look into other options although there is only one Referee Assigner who works in this area.
* **Academy League:** NRU and the Academy Board met to discuss the results of the survey issued to parents, which addressed the problems within the academy league this season.
1. Discussed ideas to improve scheduling and organization.
2. Discussed parent issues involving game/coaching philosophy. A solution may be to have specific coaching ideas/strategies for each age group.
3. Discussed coaching: not enough coaches available; perhaps use parents as coaches, providing these parents with proper training and coursework.
4. NRU to determine future role of current Academy Director. Jeff Kinney proposed to nominate a parent, at the next BOD meeting, to act as the Academy Commissioner. The Academy Commissioner will act as a lesion between the parents and the Academy Director. Jeff Kinney nominated, and the BOD elected, Andrew Stanaland to oversee the Academy Commissioner and the Academy Director. This new personnel structure is aimed to address and work through issues as they arise, allowing parents and NRU to work together.
5. Discussed bringing U10 Girls and Boys into Skyline blocks
6. Discussed moving the Academy Festival location from Shenadoah fields to the Giles fields and using officials. NRU will review the partnership with Valley and CSC regarding their participation numbers in this festival.
* **Travel League**
1. For the fall soccer season, NRU moved the Skyline Boys’ teams up one age. Overall the strategy proved effective. NRU Skyline placed 3rd in the league. These teams will continue to play up an age for the spring soccer season.
2. NRU encountered some problems playing up, with the U14 (U13) and U15 (U14) boys’ teams due to age and size. These teams will continue to play up an age in the spring, however NRU will meet with the parents of these teams to address concerns and problems.
3. The Skyline League changed its policy and now allows players to play in more than 1 game per day.
4. The BRSL League changed its policy and now allows players to play in more than 1 game per day.
* **Adult League**
1. The Adult League had a successful fall season. The Goats fared well and the season ran smoothly.
* **Winter**
1. The Winter Soccer season begins mid-December.
2. NRU is currently working to form teams.
* **Futsal**
1. Currently, youth registration is at 130; Adult registration is 30.
2. NRU working to get flyers into the schools to better advertise the soccer programs and increase registration numbers.
* **Fields**
1. NRU to give 10K to the Town of Blacksburg for field capital improvements (irrigation and creation) for the new Park at South Point soccer fields. The 10K check gives NRU first rights to the fields. The NRU BOD voted to pass this measure. The measure passed unanimously.
2. During the November 14-15 soccer tournament held at CASL, a teen soccer player out of Triangle, NC was killed. In honor of this young man, CASL established a memorial fund to provide soccer scholarships. As a club, NRU proposes to contribute to this fund, an amount equal to the cost of a child playing 1 year of soccer in the CASL soccer club. Jeff Kinney will determine the exact amount and the NRU soccer BOD will vote on this proposal at the next board meeting.
* **NRU Administration**
1. NRU’s long time bookkeeper, Anjanette Brown, will be stepping down. NRU will seek a replacement for Anjanette within the next six months.

**COMMITTEES**

1. Jeff Kinney will lead the Summer Kick-Off **Tournament Committee.**
2. Chris Hudson, the NRU BOD V.P. of Administration, will join the Polly Zeiger **Endowment Committee**. Chris will attend the Endowment Committee meetings and report to the NRU BOD.
3. Jason Boyle, a newly elected BOD member, will head the **Fundraising/Sponsorship Committee.** Jeff Kinney has asked the board for ideas to support an end of the year fundraising activity. The proceeds from the fundraiser would be applied to field and equipment improvements. All ideas welcome!

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Travis Eschlemann, a newly elected board member, has proposed that Member Satisfaction surveys be released to all NRU participants. A sample survey was given to each board member. The board will discuss this further to decide if this is a useful tool.

Adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

**Next Board Meeting:** December 17, 2014, 7:30 p.m. Merryman Center Conference Room #3. Actual meeting location is subject to change.