

**Madison Curling Club  
Minutes of Board of Directors Meetings**

**Date**—Sunday March 11, 2007 at Madison Curling Cub.

**Board Members Present**—Randy Blumer (President), Mike Harried, Bonnie Kees, Don Kind, Hiro Kobayashi, Kellie Krake, Steven O'Connor, and Kathy Vinge.

**Absent**—Bill Burns, Mary Eisenbraun, Brent Ruhland.

- 1) **Call to Order**—Meeting called to order at 5:20 p.m. by Randy Blumer, President.
- 2) **Approval of February 11, 2007 Minutes**—**MOTION** by Mike Harried, Kathy Vinge second, to approve the meeting minutes as presented without reading. **Motion unanimously carried.**
- 3) **Treasurer's Report**—Randy Blumer reported on behalf of the Treasurer that \$25,000 in Capital Reserve Funds were invested in an ING prime rate trust as approved at the February board meeting.
- 4) **President's Report**
  - a) **April 18 Annual Meeting Preparation**—A draft agenda for the meeting was reviewed and Board members were reminded to provide Randy with a summary of noteworthy activities under their respective Committee area so remarks can be prepared for the meeting. Kellie Krake will announce league winners in each category at the meeting.
    - **Hall of Fame Recognition**—The USCA Hall of Fame Recognition will be made by Mark Swandby at the end of the business meeting on April 18.
    - **Club Clean up Date**—The club clean up date was confirmed for Saturday, April 28.
  - b) **Ratify Slate of Candidates**—Randy discussed the request made at the last meeting that the Nominating Committee reconsider and change the Committee plan to bring forward 4 men and 2 women as candidates instead of 5 and 1 respectively. The Committee co-chairs determined that since the Committee had developed the list of potential candidates, and decided upon the 5 and 1 candidates, they would not be able to change the Committee's decisions. They didn't think putting the Committee together again was feasible and also had outstanding offers out to prospective candidates so they continued as the Committee had decided.

**MOTION** by Don Kind, Kellie Krake second, to ratify the names presented as the six accepted candidates submitted by the Nominating Committee: Larry Baeder, Mike Fonger, Toni Swandby, Mark Hartman, Doug Buechel, and Bill Swanson. **Motion unanimously carried.**

- c) **New Member Appreciation Night**—Lori Karst is the New Member chair and host for the New Member/Returning Member Appreciation Night with Tom Pellett as head chef on March 21. Board members were encouraged to attend so they can be introduced and have an opportunity to say a few words about their role on the Board.
  - d) **Ice Breaker**—Hiro Kobayashi will take charge of the Ice Breaker on March 30 at 6:30 PM with a spaghetti dinner for \$5 per person.
  - e) **Drives Event Status**—A total of eight teams have signed up for the Drives event scheduled for March 24-25 and is being hosted by Alane Spatola. This end of the season mixed intraclub bonspiel is open to club members only and it was clarified that the second half Friday night mixed curlers are eligible to participate. Alane is continuing her efforts to achieve enough participants to make the event possible.
  - f) **Mansfield Event Status**—Don Kind and Hiro Kobayashi as co-chairs of the Mansfield Event indicated they are developing the Mansfield playdown draw sheet.
- 5) **2007-08 High School Bonspiel Request**—Greg Schaffer addressed the Board about high school curling. He is the Sunday Junior Program coordinator, has been involved in junior curling for a number of years, and has played a more active role with high school curling in the last couple years. Columbia County high schools offer curling and there has been a steady increase in the number of high school curlers. Greg has been involved in discussions with the McFarland principal to look at offering curling in McFarland high schools. Columbia County contacted Greg about including MCC high school aged curlers in the high school curling game schedule. To allow MCC high school aged curlers to participate, Greg proposed hosting a high school bonspiel at the MCC to involve Columbia County teams on November 2-3, 2007. High school rules prohibit curling on Sundays so the bonspiel would be run on a Friday-Saturday. Greg volunteered that he would accept responsibility for running the bonspiel and expects assistance from other clubs attending. The bonspiel would be limited to 16 teams and he is considering offering a ½ day camp in conjunction with the bonspiel.

The calendar items that would carry forwarded to the 2007-08 curling season were reviewed. Greg indicated that it's not feasible to schedule the bonspiel during the two in-service days at the end of October since this would conflict with the Halloween spiel. The start date of the Friday mixed curling is not known and Greg is willing to adjust the bonspiel logistics around the club calendar. Steven O'Connor recommended that high school curlers from Monroe and Blackhawk be invited to participate in the bonspiel.

**MOTION** by O'Connor, Kellie Krake second, to accept the proposal to allow Greg Schaffer to organize a High School Bonspiel at the MCC on November 2-3, 2007. Greg was instructed to work around the Friday evening mixed schedule and to determine how the MCC high school curlers could provide in-kind services to the club in lieu of charging a user fee for this bonspiel. **Motion unanimously carried.** Greg will share the response at an April high school coaches meeting he plan to attend.

Greg also shared that currently two club teams, 1 boys and 1 girls, qualify for the high school playdowns from each club. During the next 2-3 years, he expects that the number of high school curlers at the MCC to increase and this may require some consideration by the club and its Board in the future to determine how two club teams are selected to represent MCC at the high school playdowns.

6) **Other**

- a) **Ice Nipper**—Steven O’Connor asked that Board minutes reflect his concern that there was no resolution passed by the Board to approve and accept the ice nipper which was paid for by member contributions and questioned whether the Board is in a position to accept the safety risks associated with this nipper. Randy Blumer recapped the discussions at the November and December board meetings leading up to the acquisition of the ice nipper and stated the ice nipper was acquired upon the recommendation of the Ice Committee and that the club would benefit from having a nipper although no formal action was taken. The safety issues were addressed in the Hog Line, and Don Kind has been handling instruction so club members are trained in the safe and efficient operation of the nipper

**MOTION** by Don Kind, Kathy Vinge second, to ratify the recommendation of the Ice Committee, to accept the ice nipper as donated by its members, and to make this available for use by a properly trained person. **The motion passed.**

- b) **Wall of Champion Committee Update**—Steven O’Connor reported the Committee met on February 15 and they are seeking direction as reported in the Committee minutes under 1f): The Committee in aggregate believes that, based on our discussions, the Board should revisit the issue of banner permanence in the context of this Committee’s charge/recommendations.

Steve reported the Committee spent time considering whether they were charged with making a decision on elimination of the banners and opinions varied on whether the banners are to be removed and/or to remain and for how long, as well as whether or not the names would be duplicated on the wall. The “How” Committee subgroup was firm on the location of the Wall of Champions rather than reconsider another location.

The Board affirmed their position that the Wall of Champion Committee was charged with resolving the wall of champion idea, initially submitted by several members in June of 2006, which would replace the banners that are currently hanging in the ice house, and recommended that the Committee continue to discuss and make an effort to work through the unresolved issues and that the banners will hang in the ice house until something else is presented by the Committee.

- c) **Cottrell/Service Award Status**—Randy asked that Board members provide names of members to be considered for Special Recognition and the Jim/Marion Cottrell Service Award be sent to Mary Eisenbraun, Chair of the Membership Committee and charged with assignment under this area.
- d) **Update on Ice House Electrical Upgrades**—Mike Harried received approval in December to proceed adding additional circuit breakers in the ice house to alleviate problems with overloaded circuits during rentals. He reported the work will be completed soon and the costs were slightly more than estimated to add the four dedicated 20-amp circuits. The labor was provided at no cost to the MCC.
- e) **Light Beer Supply**—Mike Harried reported General beverage distributors were temporarily unable to supply the club with light beer due to product availability. Mike will explore options for distributors in the future.
- f) **Future Meetings**—The next meetings are Wednesday, April 11 at 6 PM and the Annual Meeting is Wednesday, April 18 at 6 PM at the MCC.

**Adjournment**—The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Submitted by Bonnie Kees, Secretary