

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

**Date**—August 15, 2007 at the Madison Curling Club (MCC).

**Board Members Present**—Randy Blumer (Past-President), Bill Burns, Mike Fonger, Mark Hartman, Mike Harried, Bonnie Kees, Don Kind, Kellie Krake, Steven O'Connor, Toni Swandby, and Kathy Vinge (President).

**Absent:** Hiro Kobayashi

- 1) **Call to Order**—The meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Kathy Vinge, President.
- 2) **Approval of the July 18, 2007 Meeting Minutes**—**MOTION** by Kellie Krake, Toni Swandby second, to approve the meeting minutes as presented without reading. **Motion unanimously carried.**
- 3) **Approval of New Treasurer**—**MOTION** by Kellie Krake, Toni Swandby second, to approve Jeff Sailor as the new Treasurer. **Motion unanimously carried.** Bill Burns will work with Jeff during the transition.
- 4) **Treasurer Report**—Bill Burns received a check from the USCA for the 25% grant return from the USCA pin donations for \$125. Total USCA pin donations were \$500.00 from the MCC.
  - a) **2007-08 Budget Preparation**—The July 31, 2007 financial summary distributed shows an operating balance at \$45,901.68, the Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) at \$25,000, and the total fund balance at \$70,901.68. The preliminary 2007-08 budget included an additional \$10,000, and interest, to bring the CRF total to \$36,250 based on the assumption that no major repairs or replacements are needed. In keeping with the target to develop a balanced 2007-08 budget, preliminary revenues and expenditures were reviewed in detail and modifications were based on the actual 2006-07 numbers.

On the revenue side, membership dues were increased by 3.8% based on the assumption that there will be a small increase in membership and there will be no change in the dues structure from the last season, which included a \$5 surcharge to cover the sudden USCA dues increase. It was noted that the percent change in student dues is based on dollars and not on the actual number of students. Bonspiel income is reduced by \$2,110 (-25.1%) and a decreased in proceeds is projected from the Halloween Spiel, Cash Spiel, Junior Competitive, Fowler (due to timing of proceeds), and no WSCA event. Rental income is projected at \$16,000 for an increase of \$1,135 (+7.6%). The rental income is based on a cash basis and the summer season includes revenues when there is no ice. The Fiscal Year runs from May 1 to April 30.

Under the Other Revenues category, the total is projected at \$15,950. This is \$3,254.86 less than the actual amount for 2006-07. Dinner league moneys are projected at \$1,000 (+25.3%). There was communication from the President indicating the Thursday evening league has \$2,765 in an account. The dinner leagues were recognized, as operating independent of the operating budget and the Board has given no direction on how to manage these funds. Kathy Vinge will contact the shift captains to track the balances and reported back to the Board. The Finance Subcommittee's report on the financial condition on the MCC also noted that account balances from the individual dinner leagues were not available to them. The retention of these monies will be a topic for future

discussion. One person offered the idea to approach the shift captains and propose suggestions on how to spend these dollars.

A decrease in revenues is projected under Cards, Locker Dues, and Pins. No revenues were included in Merchandise-Clothing and Toni Swandby will bring back ideas on new apparel items for discussion at the September meeting. A decrease is projected for Program Sales and the past preference to not include this line in the operating budget was noted.

An increase of 3.3% for gas and 5.2% for electric expenditures is proposed and sewer increased to \$400. Overall, a utility increase of 5.6% is projected. Mike Harried speculated that the Village of McFarland might implement a storm water utility fee. It is not known at this time whether it will be phased in over the next year or imposed on the MCC. The annual fee may be near \$2,000.

Expenditures for Dues paid based on the number of members increased by 3.7%, and Licenses were increased to \$400 under Other Expenditures since the food license alone is \$375. Mike Fonger will check with Kavanaugh about the lease on the dishwasher and explore other options for a better product. The Treasurer will make the adjustments to the budget for review in full at the September meeting. Randy Blumer commended the Treasurer for his work overseeing the budget during the past two years.

- b) **Discussion and Possible Approval of Bollards for Compressor Support Column Protection**—Mike Harried did not receive a response from Capital City Concrete to his inquiry so this item is tabled to the September meeting.
- c) **2007/2008 New Rental Agent Recruitment and Rental Cost Discussion**—Mike Harried reported Bill Swanson will step down as the rental agent as of September 1. An announcement to recruit a new Rental Agent at the same rate of \$16.00 per hour will be made using the club e-mail list by Mike.
- d) **Act on Recommendations of Finance Subcommittee Meeting**—Steven O'Connor discussed the Finance Subcommittee recommendations and asked the Board to consider item #2 to establish a 2016 target principal balance of \$100,000 to \$150,000 for the mortgage, to consider long term plans for this Board as well as future Boards, and to identify funds to get to this target range.

He advanced the Subcommittee's recommendation item #1 to invest funds, rather than reduce the principal, with the amounts "directed" to reduce the mortgage principal into a CD that earns a higher rate of interest compared to the current 4.75% mortgage. The final mortgage note is due in April 2016. Steven recommended segregating funds to go toward reducing the 2016 balloon payment rather than making an additional principal payment on March 15, 2008, which is the next opportunity to make a payment.

**MOTION** by Kellie Krake, Mike Harried second, to direct the Foundation to invest all monies received by the foundation, as "directed" by the source, be applied to reduce the principal in a secured investment that exceeds 4.75% and be used to reduce the final balloon payment due in 2016. **The motion unanimously carried.**

**MOTION** by Kellie Krake, Steven O'Connor second, to set a 2016 target a principal mortgage balance of \$100,000 to \$150,000. **Motion unanimously carried.**

The Subcommittee recommendations for items # 3 to make regular pleas for new contributions to the Foundation by the Club and Foundation membership since a new generation of curlers has not been involved in any fund raising efforts at the present facility; and item #4 to develop specific fund raising programs with the sole purpose of reducing the mortgage principal, building a reserve of funds for maintenance and repair, and expanding ice and facility space will be discussed at the November meeting.

Randy Blumer will prepare information for the next Hog Line on the role of the Foundation and that contributions can be made directly to the Foundation.

## 5) Other Business

- a) **Service Award Committee Recommendations**—Toni Swandby reported that Randy Blumer is the Committee chair and includes Mary Ann Jerred, Rich Lepping, Diane Brown, and Bridget Matzke; Toni Swandby serves as the MCC board rep. They met on July 23 to review the current Service Awards criteria and establish recommendations for MCC Board action.
  - i) **Cottrell Service Award**—The Committee discussed the original intent of the Cottrell Service Award, and in lieu of the present criteria, recommended the Award be conferred by the outgoing President of the MCC who would have the complete say in the naming of the award. This is based on the fact that the outgoing President would have three years of experience in seeing member contributions to name a member of the club whose service lived up to the legacy of Jim and Marian Cottrell.

The Committee's noteworthy advantages to such an approach were discussed. Steven O'Connor does not support the recommendations because it does not involve nominating individuals with final consideration by the Board. Mike Harried favored confirmation by the full Board by a two-thirds vote. Kellie Krake offered another option to consider which is to allow the President to consult with the Board, and to bring the names back to the Board for consideration.

There was agreement to the Committee's change with the current criteria. The Board discussed other options to grant the Award. These included: to allow the President to make the nomination and require the Board's endorsement of the name, to require a majority vote or two-thirds vote, to require unanimous veto, to require confirmation by the full Board, and endorsement of the award by a negative vote to not accept a nomination.

**MOTION** by Steven O'Connor, Mike Fonger second, to adopt the Committee's recommendation "to be granted yearly at the discretion of the outgoing Madison Curling Club President to a Madison Curling Club member who has made long lasting and extraordinary contributions to the MCC and to the sport of curling, as exemplified by the legacy of Jim and Marian Cottrell" and to add the provision that the nomination be made by the outgoing President unless the nomination is rejected by 100% of the Board members voting on the issue and to exclude the person who made the nomination from voting. **The motion carried with one opposed (Harried).**

Randy Blumer will bring a nomination for the Cottrell Service Award to the September meeting for Board consideration.

- ii) **Honorary and Life Membership**—Randy reported the Committee discussed the proposal under these two categories, which were reviewed in full by the Board.

**MOTION** by Kellie Krake, Mike Fonger second, to adopt the following Honorary and Life Membership proposal as recommended by the Service Award Committee.

### **LIFE AND HONORARY MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Life Membership Qualifications:**

1. The member has made a significant contribution to the game of curling by promoting the spirit of curling and club membership through their participation, sportsmanship, leadership and effort, influencing many others about the important traditions and values associated with curling and being a club member.
2. Membership has been maintained for at least ten years in any curling club or clubs.
3. The member has made significant contribution in either time or money to the Madison, Wisconsin or National Curling organizations.

#### **Honorary Membership Qualifications:**

1. Member qualifies under Life Membership criteria.
2. Member has served in a leadership role for the Madison, State, or National curling organization.
3. Member has served on a number of important MCC committees.
4. Member has belonged to any curling club or clubs for a period of at least twenty years.
5. Member has served on the Board of Directors of the Madison Curling Club.

A recipient of a Life or Honorary Membership shall receive a social membership for life and be welcome to participate in all Madison Curling Club activities. If a Life or Honorary member continues to actively curl or return to active curling in club regular and special events the member will be expected to pay dues in the appropriate dues classification. The Life or Honorary members may participate in intraclub bonspiel events without any dues required.

#### **Motion unanimously carried.**

Randy Blumer will bring nominations for the Life and Honorary membership to the September meeting for Board consideration since this award has not been made for a number of years and the Committee discussed several candidates.

- iii) **Service Award Committee Membership**—**MOTION** by Kellie Krake, Don Kind second, to retain the Service Awards Committee, which is to consist of five past Presidents, including the MCC Board member in charge of Membership. The Service Awards Committee will convene at least yearly to submit a slate of candidates for Honorary and Life Memberships to the MCC Board for consideration at the March MCC Board Meeting. Should any of the members of the committee resign from the committee; the MCC Board rep will seek a replacement from past Presidents of the Madison Curling Club. **Motion unanimously carried.**

**MOTION** by Steven O'Connor, Kellie Krake second, to accept the Service Award Committee's recommendation that this Committee develop a display to be posted conspicuously (e.g. in the entry area) at the beginning of the next curling season, with photos

and a short description of the award winners and their contributions to MCC that lead to their award, to provide greater recognition of the contributions of our members and promote volunteerism in our Club. **Motion unanimously carried.**

b) **Information Collected on Rock Reconditioning**—Don Kind contacted the Canadian Curling Company and reported it would cost \$3,000 to regrind the rocks. He has heard that the rocks are running straight after one year of use from others that have used the same rocks. He spoke to Fred Veale who suggested that other factors such as the pebble and ice surface might be part of the problem. Don has information that pits accumulate in harder granite stones and this will cause the stone to pick up debris. He felt the MCC has problems with unmatched stones. The edges of some rocks are wearing down more irregularly than other rocks. Don is leaning toward a recommendation to recondition the rocks during the season. The three areas that have surfaced during the information gathering on rock reconditioning: 1) bring in members to match the stones, 2) modify the pebble and set up pebble clinics, and 3) check the dehumidification in the ice house. Mark Hartman has heard the St. Paul Club is buying similar blue honed rocks that cannot be reconditioned. Randy Blumer suggested developing a plan to present the information collected so far to the membership. Don suggested some dates and will contact Mike Fraboni and Allan Hafeman. Kellie Krake will work with those involving in leading the meeting to prepare an outline for discussion at the September meeting.

6) **President's Report**

a) **Agenda Process**—Kathy Vinge requested that any person who contacts a Board member about an item for the agenda will be asked to provide the relevant information to the Board Secretary at least one week in advance of a regularly scheduled meeting of the MCC Board of Directors. This timeframe was established to allow time for sufficient review and clarification of the issue for the Board members.

b) **Name Tags**—The cost for each name tag is \$9.50 to produce. A total of \$680 was spent on name tags for new members last season. Kathy will bring a proposal to the September meeting for discussion. Steven O'Connor voice support that the MCC continue to pay for name tags for new members.

c) **WCF/USCA Stick Rule**—The Board addressed this issue in July. **MOTION** by Kellie Krake, Don Kind second that the MCC does not adopt the stick rule as proposed but encourage members to use the proposed stick rule. **The motion carried with one opposed and one vote to abstain.**

d) **2007-08 Committee Updates**—Any changes to the Committee list can be forwarded directly to the Secretary so that an updated list is available for the September meeting. Final assignments under all areas are expected by the start of the curling season so these can be added to the Directory.

7) **2007-08 Calendar Updates**—Mark Hartman distributed a revised calendar and will continue to keep this updated.

a) **Future Meetings**—The next meetings are Thursday, September 13 at 6 PM and Thursday, October 4 at 6 PM at the MCC.

8) **Adjournment**—**MOTION** by Steven O'Connor, Mark Hartman second, to adjourn. Adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Submitted by Bonnie Kees, Secretary