

**Madison Curling Club  
Minutes of Annual Meeting**

**April 22, 2009**

1. **Call to Order**—Kellie Krake, President, called the Annual Meeting to order at 6:10 P.M. An estimated 110 members of the Madison Curling Club were in attendance. All current Board members and officers were in attendance at a front table, except the past president, who was absent.
  
2. **Introduction of Candidates and Last Call for Ballots**—In Kathy Vinge’s absence, Randy Blumer thanked the nominating committee for their efforts in selecting candidates to run for the Board. He then introduced the following slate of candidates for the next 3-year term for the MCC Board of Directors and thanked them for their willingness and interest to serve: Janet Crnich, Tim Ebert, Greg Kuelz, Jim Lookabaugh, David Maiers, Mary Jo (Mamie) O’Connor, and Steve Schally. With such a fine group from which to choose, he assured everyone that the MCC will have a great Board next year no matter what the election results. A final call for ballots was made. *[Kathy Vinge chaired the 2008-09 Nominating Committee which consisted of Mary Ann Jerred, Lori Karst, Ken Niedhart, Steven O’Connor, Cary Reich, and Mark Swandby.]*
  
3. **Introduction of this Year’s Selected Honorary and Life Members** - Kellie Krake thanked the nominating committee for their efforts in selecting members to receive the distinction of becoming Honorary and Life Members. She introduced the following members who were present and had them stand: Diane Brown, Vince Fitzgerald, and Wally Henry. She also named the other Honorary and Life Members who were not present: Bonnie Mansfield, Pat Pagel, and Celia ‘Skye’ Stevenson. Kellie stated that these members, through their commitment and contributions to curling and the club, have built the foundation on which the club continues to grow. *[Randy Blumer chaired the 2008-09 Nominating Committee which consisted of Larry Baeder, Mary Ann Jerred, Rich Lepping, Bridget Matzke, and Toni Swandby.]*
  
4. **Approval of April 16, 2008 Annual Meeting Minutes**—**MOTION** by Dave Brown, Ken Neidhart second, to dispense with reading and approve the 2008 Annual meeting minutes. **Motion passed.**

- 5. President's Report**—Kellie Krake thanked the talents of the current board members for their willing time and dedication. This was a year of committee work. But she noted that the Board can only do so much and asked the membership to continue volunteering.

Eighteen months ago, the Financial Committee reconvened and recommended to the Board that they set up the budget with 3 components; the Operating Budget, the Capital Improvement Budget, and a Debt Reduction Plan. Kellie and Jeff Sailor spent a great deal of time working to accomplish this. With this plan in place, our budget process is not stressed with unforeseen expenses. Cash gifts can now be placed in the appropriate category and used for the purpose requested by the donor. Also, the Vision Committee was formed to coordinate capital improvement projects so they can be done, a few at a time, as money becomes available, with the results being aesthetically pleasing as a whole. Their top priority is to replace the flooring in the club house by the start of next season.

This year's capital expenses included replacing the lighting throughout the ice and club houses with more energy efficient models, replacing toilets, and installing a vapor barrier between the ice and club houses.

At the beginning of the season, the Ice Usage Committee recommended to the Board that several changes be made to the league structure. One of the changes created an instructional league on Tuesdays. Kellie expressed her gratitude to Lori Mountford and Garret Perry who ran the league. She received positive feedback about the league from not only the new members participating, but also from their skips.

A Technology Committee was formed to build on the membership database and web site that Cary Reich and Nick Weber had started. Our web site reaches people we would never expect such as a group of men who drove to Madison to attend our Open House, details for which they discovered on the web site.

Kellie asked everyone to celebrate the successes of our members. She named the Wisconsin Junior Men, the rink attending the Pacific Rim Invitational, Debbie McCormick's team and its coach (which will be representing the USA in the Vancouver Olympic Games in February 2010), the International Rotary Championship winners, the National Men's Club Champions, the rink representing Wisconsin at the Women's Club Champions, the National Senior Men, and the Wisconsin Junior Women. Kellie has met many curlers from other clubs who know many of our members. She commented that

our club members are great ambassadors.

Many outstanding events were held at the MCC this season. Among the open events we hosted were the Lions' Club Bonspiel, the Cash Spiel, the Halloween Bonspiel, the Junior Bonspiel, the Badger Women's Bonspiel, and Curl for a Cure which raised \$8,900 for the UW Carbone Comprehensive Cancer Center. The club also held internal events including pick up curling on Saturdays, the Gilmore, the Fowler, the All-American, the Drives, club suppers, and wine tasting.

To help raise money to reduce the mortgage debt, the MCC bid for and won the right to host the 2010 U.S. National Club Championships, which will be held February 20 through 27, and the 2012 U.S. Junior National Championships, to be held sometime in February. This is a huge commitment. But when looking at other ways to raise money for our club, one way that made sense was to host events. Kellie called on the club members to volunteer to make these events successful fund raising efforts. She told the membership that 40% of them volunteer. The volunteer activities include things like working in the kitchen, selling programs at the Kohl Center, and participating in club house cleanup days. She encouraged everyone to reach out to new members and get them involved with volunteering. We cannot grow as a club without volunteers.

Kellie ended by thanking the Board members and the members who volunteered. They made her year as President easier.

6. **Recognition and Thanks to Outgoing Board members**—Toni Swandby extended thanks to the outgoing Board members, Kathy Vinge, Mike Harried, Don Kind, and Kellie Krake. These 4 will be a hard act to follow. They have been tireless in their efforts and she could have spent all night singing their praises.

Toni explained that filling the role of past president can be a 'let down' after being President, but Kathy stayed very engaged. She chaired the nominating committee which found candidates for the Board of Directors, she worked on the New Year's Eve party, and she attended the Board meetings and made many contributions to the discussions.

Toni praised Mike Harried for the role he played being responsible for club rentals. Partly because he is the Village of McFarland President, Mike's chief contribution was for club rentals. He helped with negotiations to find a rental agent. He also spent many a night, at the hours or midnight, 1:00, or 2:00 A.M., when things were exciting, coming

to the club to enforce the rules and to make sure things were safe. Club rentals provide a significant amount of income for the club. Last year, rentals brought in \$23,000. That's \$9,000 more than the previous year. Mike also knows how things work and would always remind the Board to remember the laws and restrictions that apply before making decisions. He chaired the Facilities and Maintenance Committee and the Financial Committee. We cannot replace his services and hope to always keep him as an ally along with the Village of McFarland.

Toni stated that if you don't know how much Don Kind has contributed to the club, you apparently never come to the club. He was the co-chair of the Mansfield League with Larry Baeder. He shared ice duties, learned a lot, and worked very hard. He was in charge of coordinating school and other groups of visitors and finding volunteers to come help teach the groups. He chaired the Facility Repairs committee and spent a lot of time solving problems and finding ways to fix things that would result in cost savings..

Toni ended by thanking Kellie Krake. Kellie's talents are many and not sleeping may be among them as Toni received many an e-mail from Kellie with a time stamp of 3:00 or 4:00 A.M. She also has a talent to see both the forest and the trees. She can see the big picture but also relate that to the small problems and keep them organized. Her biggest contributions as President this year were reinstating the Vision Committee and setting up the Capital Budget. Kellie is the best ambassador to curling that Toni has every known. Toni presented a gift to Kellie in appreciation for her service. Kellie will attend Board meetings one more year as Past-President.

- 7. Treasurer's Report**—Jeff Sailor summarized the 2008-09 fiscal year budget (May 1 to April 30). The cost of just about everything went up. The major increases came in the costs of utilities, beer, U.S. Curling Association (USCA) dues, and ERA labor. ERA is the company that repairs our mechanical equipment. Their labor costs went up 5%. The economy started to sink which took a toll by reducing income and increasing expenses.

Concerning revenues, membership was up slightly from the amount budgeted. There was an increase in bonspiel income. Jeff thanked Brian Bergen for his efforts in putting on the Halloween Bonspiel and Mike Fonger for handling the Lion's Club Bonspiel. Club rentals were over budget by \$9,600 because all but 3 available weekends were booked. Jeff thanked Mike Harried and Kris Lee for their efforts in getting the club rented. The Sunday Junior Curling Program donated \$1,000 to the club. Tim Funk and Greg Schaffer, who run that league, were thanked for this generous donation.

On the expense side, utilities costs were over budget by \$3,500 but, because the price of oil dropped, the club received a rebate. USCA dues were more than budgeted as they went up \$2 per member this past year. Repairs and maintenance came to \$14,000 with \$8,000 of that going to ERA for the pre-season checkup, to fix a heater, and to do something with the flow meter.. The mortgage and insurance expenses actually went down. Several years worth of banners were purchased to bring us up to date, so that expense was higher than anticipated. And under Miscellaneous, there was a \$1,000 expense to pay for name tags.

Final, Jeff likes to provide this statistic each year. The average beer cost is around \$24 per person and the average soda cost is around \$18 per person.

There was a question raised from the floor about whether the budget balanced and Jeff said yes.

Jeff handed out a one page Capital Budget. Income was transferred from the Madison Curling Foundation (MCF) which was received when the MCC hosted the Olympic Trials in 2005. The other revenue was a rebate the MCC received as a result of installing the energy efficient lighting. Expenditures included \$12,000 on lights and installation and \$397 for the vapor barrier supplies. Next year's Capital Budget will be more detailed.

**MOTION** by Steve O'Connor, Dan Lynch second, to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. **Motion passed.**

- 8. Foundation Report**—Rob Wixson gave a brief history of the initial cost to build the club in McFarland, and the amount financed and secured by the Board to refinance the \$379,000 mortgage through a State of Wisconsin Trust Fund Loan at a rate of 4.75% for a term of ten years. The Foundation receives money from the Treasurer on schedule each year to pay the annual mortgage installment of \$31,000 per year with an extra \$12,000 going to the principle last year and an extra \$9,500 going to principle this year. The Village of McFarland will guarantee any additional funding needed.

Excess funds from the golf outing and steak week were used to pay down the principle and Rob thanked Mike Kosovec and Tony Wendricks for their efforts. If an additional \$6,000 can be paid toward the principal for each remaining year of the loan, by March 2015 the balloon payment will be \$166,000. The loan is due in 2016 but Rob prefers to

state the target date of March 2015 so that we can avoid paying an extra year of interest. If no additional money is paid toward the principle, The balloon payment will be \$206,000 when it comes due.

Rob is hopeful that the MCC and MCF can get the numbers down so that funds can be collected from the membership to make the balloon payment. One questions was raised regarding the amount of the original loan which Rob answered was \$585,000.

9. **Special Recognition Awards**—Special Recognition Awards were presented to the following individuals for their many contributions to the club over a number of years. This year, Kevin Thies helped install the vapor barrier and he took time off from work to help instruct groups. Mark McDermid was recognized for his work in the kitchen preparing outstanding cuisine and for also helping with the instruction of groups.

Kellie Krake recognized Don Kind as the recipient of the 2008-09 Cottrell Service Award. He was the person Kellie relied on to take responsibility for problems and find a solution. If there was a leak, an overflow, or some other kind of breakdown, Don would call with an answer of how to fix it and he'd take care of the problem.

10. **League Winners**—Larry Baeder and Don Kind announced the chairs and winning rinks for the men's and other events. Ericka Balgord announced the winning rinks for the women's events. Pins were presented to representatives from the winning teams.

Strobel - Linda Brei, Adam Slez, Sara Soma, and Brian Stowe.

**Note: All winners of various leagues and events are reported in the April 2009 Hog Line and these are not reported on individually in the minutes. The exception is the Strobel event which was not listed in the Hogline and is listed here.**

Kellie also thanked Mike Fraboni and his ice crew for the marvelous job they did for us this year in providing excellent ice conditions.

11. **Election Results**—Kellie Krake again thanked the nominating committee and those who agreed to run for the Board. She announced and congratulated the following three new Board members elected to a 3-year term: Janet Crnich, Tim Ebert, and Steve Schally.

## 12. Other Announcements

- a. **Golf Outing**—Mike Kosovec announced the Lauren Kosovec 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing is Saturday, May 16 at the Bridges Golf Course. The profits go to the MCF and to date, this annual golf outing has raised over \$20,000. He has 17 or 18 teams signed up so far. He is looking for prize donations. Re-gifting is acceptable. Tee time is 1:00 PM, the cost is \$90 per person (\$35 per person donated to the club). You can also sponsor a hole for \$200. Last year there were 10 hole sponsors.
  
- b. **Coming Next Season** - The Madison Curling Club will be hosting the 2010 U.S. National Club Championships, the Wisconsin High School Bonspiel, which is a WIAA event, the Halloween Bonspiel, the International Cash Spiel, and possibly, the Madison Mixed.
  
- c. **Other**—Bridget Matzke reminded the Board that Madison will also be hosting the Canadian Friendship Tour the first week in November.

13. **Adjournment**—**MOTION** by Mary Parker, Diane Brown second, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM

Submitted by Dae Jean Jahnke, Secretary