

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

**Date** -Thursday, June 18, 2009 at the Madison Curling Club (MCC).

**Board Members Present** - Larry Baeder, Ericka Balgord, Richard Berling, Janet Crnich, Tim Ebert, Mike Fonger, Mark Hartman, Kellie Krake (Past President), Steve Schally, and Toni Swandby (President).

**Officers Present** - Dae Jean Jahnke and Jeff Sailor

1) **Call to Order** - Meeting called to order at 6:03 P. M. by Toni Swandby, President.

**Jump ahead on agenda.**

3) **Approval of the May 14, 2009 Meeting Minutes - MOTION** by Mike Fonger, Larry Baeder second, to approve the meeting minutes as presented without reading. **Motion unanimously carried.**

Janet Crnich arrived at 6:05 PM.

Tim Ebert arrived at 6:07 PM.

**Return to agenda.**

2) **Madison Curling Foundation**

a) **Report** - No report was given as Rob Wixson was not able to attend the meeting.

b) **Maximize Benefits of Madison Curling Foundation (MCF) Non-Profit Status**  
- Richard Berling passed out 3 documents to the Board; the Articles of Incorporation for the MCF, the Bylaws of the MCF, and his research document with recommendations on how to best take advantage of the non-profit status of the MCF.

In the past, the MCF Board has taken a relaxed approach to conducting its business. Before the MCF can take advantage of its non-profit status (applying for grants, for example) it must demonstrate the legitimacy of its charitable status. To do this, the MCF must begin taking a more formal approach to conducting its business so that substantiated proof can be provided that the MCF is pursuing its

function as a non-profit. The function of the MCF is to promote curling services, through donations, for things that are not sustained from dues paid by the members. For example, the MCF could, using donations, purchase equipment for the junior curling program and provide funds to supplement their travel expenses. This kind of activity demonstrates the legitimacy of the charitable status of the foundation.

Richard's first recommendation is to have the MCC Board regularly convene as the MCF Board, with the MCF Officers, and conduct MCF business as a distinct Board function. The first piece of business for the MCF Board is to nominate and elect officers according to the Bylaws of the MCF. The MCC Board will meet as the MCF Board July 24, preceding the MCC Board meeting. Paul Matzke, the MCF President, will be contacted to submit a list of candidates for the MCF Officers so a vote can be taken at the meeting.

Richard's next recommendation is that the MCC find things they already do that are not direct member benefits and transition them to become MCF sponsored events. For example, having the Open House events sponsored by the MCF would showcase the MCF's role in providing public education regarding the sport of curling.

At the next Board meeting, Richard will present some ideas on how to get donations to the MCF started so it has money to use for sponsorships.

### **Jump ahead on agenda.**

#### **4) Treasurer's Report**

- a) **May Month End** - Jeff Sailor reviewed the financial summary for 2009 - 2010 as of 5/31/09. For May, the majority of revenue was generated from club rentals (\$2,450). However, rental income is down by 50% over last year and this trend will continue throughout the summer. The total revenue for the month was \$2,776. The total expense for the month was \$7,972. The largest expenses included utilities (\$4,304), licenses, pins, postage, and repairs (\$2,020). The year to date deficit is \$5,200. Last year the deficit at this point was \$1,800. The deficit is higher this year because of the large repair bill.

There was little change in the Capital Budget. There was a \$1 increase due to interest income. Because the interest rate for the account is so low, Jeff will look into moving the money to a Certificate of Deposit (CD). He will report back next month with a list of possible places at which to open the CD.

- b) **2009 - 2010 Budget** - Jeff and Toni Swandby continued their work on the draft of next year's budget. They are trying their best to balance the budget without asking for an increase in membership dues. Most revenue streams are expected to remain about the same as last year. However, income from rentals will be down. Expenses from utilities, mortgage insurance, and ice materials are expected to increase. Most other expenses are expected to be about the same as last year.

Jeff explained that the Ice Contract expense will be less this year because the MCC will not be paying for Mike Fraboni's services during the week of the US National Club Championships. This raised many questions regarding the way revenue and expenses are recorded for bonspiels. It was suggested that more items should be recorded under the bonspiel's balance sheet. The result would be the same but the accounting would be different.

### **The MCC Board of Directors went into Executive Closed Session**

#### **Agenda Continued following Closed Session**

The budget for the US National Club Championship will not be included in the MCC operating budget.

Leaving the draft budget as is, the MCC will end the fiscal year with a deficit in the operating budget of \$4,540. The Board was asked to supply ideas for ways to increase revenues and decrease expenses. It is hoped that the budget can be approved at the July Board meeting.

The Capital Budget reflects the purchase of a new scraper blade and a line has been added for Carpet Replacement. However, an estimated costs for the carpet has not yet been determined.

#### **5) President's Report**

- a) **Capital Expense Projection Reports** - Toni Swandby passed out a spreadsheet with each of the capital expenditure projects listed.

#### **Jump ahead on agenda.**

#### **6) Current Business**

- a) **Vision Committee** - Larry Baeder reported that Sandy Gordon will be coming to the July Board meeting with cost estimates for replacing the carpeting. The club

house conceptual drawings are finished and Larry is looking for somewhere to put them so that club members can see them before the next Board meeting. These drawing will be presented to the Board at the July meeting. Sandy is considering hardened concrete as a flooring option during the summer rental months because of its durability and ease of care. It would be covered with some kind of carpeting during the curling season that could be removed for the summer.

Larry asked if anyone knew of a HVAC (Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning) person in the club and was directed to Dan Dettmers. Larry needs to find someone willing to evaluate the equipment in and the conditions of the club and ice houses. .

**Return to agenda.**

**5) President's Report**

- a) **Capital Expense Projection Reports** - Toni explained that as the building ages, the club must be ready with funds to cover the costs to replace equipment or make repairs. The Capital Expenditure Priority List is the tool being used to keep track of these items showing a timeline of when attention will be needed and costs. She quickly reviewed each of the capital expenditure projects. Only the highest priority items were discussed at length.

Dehumidification issues were discussed. Steve Schally stated that he is working with Mark Hartman, Al Haffman, and Dan Dettmers and different vendors to get information on how best to keep the dew point at 41% in the ice house. We need a new type of equipment to do this. Installing a dehumidification system will reduce utility costs and improve the ice house environment. Vendors have been visiting our facility and have given estimates ranging from \$15,000 to \$30,000 for the purchase and installation of this equipment. Ice makers from around the country are telling us that the new systems pay for themselves in a short amount of time. Steve is still waiting to get some numbers on the cost recovery time.

Mike Fonger reported that the replacement of the hot water heater may need to occur sooner than the summer of 2010, as indicated on the spreadsheet. The hot water heater is only working at about 50% and cannot keep up with the needs of a bonspiel. The priority to replace this item has increased because the MCC will be hosting the US National Club Championships in February 2010.

**Jump ahead on agenda.**

## 6) Current Business

- b) **Host US National Club Championships 2010** - Mark Hartman talked about the planning meeting held June 7, 2009. He gave the names of the 12 people that were in attendance. He and Jeremy Roe presented financial information from the 2 most recent US National Club Championships. Their goal is to exceed the profits made at those championships.. He and Jeremy were able to get volunteers to chair about 70% of the committees. Their next tasks are to get someone to design a logo for the event and to find sponsors.

There was a second meeting held in Portage with Dave Carlson, Mark Hartman, Jeremy Roe, and Toni Swandby. They met with Dave Davidson who is a marketing expert. The meeting was very enlightening. Mark felt we haven't done well with our marketing in the past because of our lack of knowledge. One thing they will try to do is package the 2 events; the US National Club Championships and the US Junior National Championships. Sponsors will get more exposure for their dollars with this kind of deal.

Toni was at both meetings and told the Board that the group at the first meeting was very enthusiastic and that the meeting was well run. She said several good marketing ideas were presented at the second meeting.

- c) **Club Calendar, 2009 - 2010** - Mark Hartman passed out a paper copy of the calendar that is currently on the MCC web site. He also passed out a sheet that summarized the number of weeks in the season for Tuesday and Thursday leagues since 1992. The historical information can be used by the Board to help them decide how many weeks to have in the 2009 - 2010 season. A season of 19 weeks would cause leagues to start before the Halloween Bonspiel. This would mean less time to place people who join the club during the Open House. It would also force the Thursday leagues to make up an additional game beside the one that gets made up because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

The UW Mini Course is scheduled for October 13 and 20, 2009. The Open House tentative dates were picked at a previous Board meeting and are now on the calendar for October 15, 17, and 19, 2009. With Easter falling on April 4, 2010, the date the Drives event was to end, Mark may have to move it to end on March 28, 2010 instead. With February and March 2010 so full, the Curl vs. Cancer event will probably be held in January. The second curling clinic of the season might be held in the afternoon instead of the morning to allow pick up curling to take place in the morning as scheduled. The calendar will be discussed again in July.

- d) **Committee Assignments** - Toni Swandby asked the Board members to send Dae Jean Jahnke a list of confirmed sub-committee chairs so that she can update the Committee Assignment list.

Assignments under all areas will be completed by the start of the curling season and will be discussed again at the July Board meeting.

## 7) **New Business**

- a) **Rating Committee Report** - Tim Ebert would like to find a way to make the ratings more accurate. He would like the men and women to be rated using the same criteria as there seems to be discrepancies currently. He would also like to see points dropped more often than is done now. He is thinking about assembling an informal committee of people from outside the current ratings committee to have some discussions about other ideas.

Tim apologized that the ratings were not completed for the men. But, the men have a rating meeting scheduled for June 23, 2009. Walt Erbach let Tim know that with all of his other obligations, he will not be able to continue as the chair of the Men's Rating Committee. Boots Stolt has finished the women's rating. However, she will be stepping down as Women's Rating Committee chair. Tim will begin looking for candidates to replace them.

- b) **Wireless Internet Contract** - The contract for internet service for the club is currently month to month. We pay \$65 a month. If we agree to a 2 year contract, the monthly cost would be reduced to \$45. Toni Swandby asked Jeff Sailor to look into changing our service contract.

When asked if we could drop wireless service to save money, Mark Hartman mentioned that it will be needed for the US National Club Championships. It is also used for the Cashspiel. The Juniors use the service extensively as do several other members of the club. It is not a selling point for summer rentals however and Jeff was asked to see if there is a possibility the wireless service could be discontinued in the summer.

- 8) **Adjournment - MOTION** by Mike Fonger, Richard Berling second, to adjourn.  
**Motion unanimously carried.** Adjournment at 8:40 P.M.

Submitted by Dae Jean Jahnke, Secretary