

SCC Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 13, 2023
6:00pm

Present:	Mike O'Brien (President)	Doug Runnoe (Vice President)
	Shevaun Stocker (Secretary)	Karen Flesvig
	Ron Bichler	John Gunnon
	Scott Laven	Charlie Johnson

Guests: Joe Kubala

Absent: Tim Bradshaw (Treasurer)

Called to order at 5:58pm.

Secretary Report – Shevaun

- **Motion** to approve August minutes as prepared (Gunnon/Johnson) – approved unanimously

Treasurer Report, including budget – Tim (Scott)

- The budget for the current fiscal year (2023-24 curling season) shows a net loss of \$25,300 (\$25,000 is the capital improvements we're doing), compared to a surplus of nearly \$16,000 last fiscal year
- Question – are there opportunities to earn better interest rates for some of our assets (accounts in CDs)? Or would that get too complicated to manage (might require changing financial institutions)?
- Is it time to develop an investment plan that goes beyond using CDs?
- **Motion** to accept (Gunnon/Bichler) – approved unanimously

Club Manager Report – Scott

- Liquor license – new board members have/will complete paperwork to be submitted
- Dehumidifiers have arrived (though we only got a 10% discount, not the 20% discount we thought we would) - ~\$8000 for both of them
- Walstrom confirmed the quote of the estimate for installing the two new furnaces; will also work on repairs to the clubhouse furnace (the heat exchanger was partially clogged – was running at only 50% efficiency or so; recommended that it gets replaced – that would be \$4300 for both the new unit and the installation)
- So for \$22k, we're getting the two dehumidifiers (and their installation), two new furnaces in the ice (and their installation), and a new humidifier in the clubhouse (and its installation)
 - Can we get any money from the fair board, Dan Litchke (who owns the summer lease for the buildings), for these (since they use the property in the off-season)?
 - Likely that we'll get energy-savings rebates from Focus on Energy?
 - Can be installed first week of October (with back-up time in the following week)
- **Motion** to approve an expenditure of approximately \$4300 to replace the clubhouse furnace (to have a high energy efficiency model) (O'Brien/Runnoe) – approved unanimously
- Dollars for Doers – Scott and Shevaun discussed models for allocating deductions for membership dues (so that the website has a way for folks to select the deduction amount that pertains to them)
- Registration opens up Friday morning (Scott will need to adjust dues amounts and add the Tri Ports League and Tuesday afternoon Leagues)
- Lake Superior Ice Festival – want to know if we're interested in doing outdoor curling (Jan 27th – 29th or thereabouts)
 - Does someone want to liaise with the Lake Superior Ice Festival group? Mike O'Brien might be able to
 - Might be an opportunity for exposure maybe less so for revenue – maybe we do mini-games?

Sponsorship update – Joe

- 1 month from deadline for the sponsorship fees being due (window is closing for in-ice ad, wall ads can be added at any time)
 - 7 outstanding sponsors – Joe is working on these
- Net income at this time is \$4115; Joe is optimistic that this will climb to around \$5500

Golf outing update (Sept. 16th) – John

- Saturday!
- We have 10 teams signed (about half the 24 we were hoping for but more than the 4 we had last year)
- John has made a brochure to help recruit for the club (many of the teams are not current curlers)

Leagues

- Sunday evening – Charlie Johnson
- Monday evening – Mike O'Brien
- Tuesday Triples League – Greg Gullicksrud (need to confirm the start time of this league – maybe 3pm? - and ice prep help; Rick cannot do Tuesday ice)
- Tuesday evening – Mick Stein
- Wednesday evening – Dave Podratz wants to be in the Tri Ports League so he's willing to help out but we need to find someone else to step in and be there
- Thursday day – Mike O'Brien
- Thursday evening – Meg Thoreson and Dale Olson
- Friday evening Doubles league – Mona O'Brien (or Kelly)

Set Dues for 2023-2024

- Reviewed dues models from regional clubs (Rice Lake and Itasca curling clubs have interesting models for compensating volunteers)
- Senior age status is age 65
- Need to decide whether folks who only curl in one of the condensed leagues (e.g., Sunday half-year league or Tuesday Triple) and juniors have voting rights. With nothing in the bylaws and no known policy, we consider all club members to have voting rights.
- Even with the conservative budgeting that we're estimating, we're still running a small deficit; a small increase in dues would help with that
 - Push to have folks do Dollars for Doers this year as it would protect against the larger dues increase we're likely to have to enact next year
- How do we encourage leagues to work on building membership for their league nights? (Like we're seeing the Sunday league do)
- **Motion** to hold dues at the 2022-23 rate (Johnson/Gunnon) – 6 approve, 1 abstain
- **Motion** to approve 2023-24 SCC Dues proposals as listed in option 1, including the low-cost leagues (Stocker/Runnoe) – approved unanimously
- We need to put a committee together to review membership dues models, to present a proposal to the general membership at the Spring 2024 meeting – Karen Flesvig will lead it (Doug and John will also be part of it); will reach out to Tim to see if he should be involved
 - Ad hoc committee on membership dues structure (may also need to develop a policy for who has voting rights)

Recommendations for building contents insurance – Charlie

- \$184 to add \$100,000 coverage for insuring building contents

- **Motion** to approve pursuing this additional building contents coverage (Gunnon/Stocker) – approved unanimously
- Between now and Spring 2024, we'll update the building contents inventory and add dollar figures for replacement cost; may need to increase the coverage, based on that inventory

Update on insurance for worker's compensation – Mike

- Mike talked with Nate at State Farm – need to talk to Holden on this (Charlie says the rate for Holden to cover this would be the same; it's a state-rate)
- We'll discuss this at our next meeting

Update on dehumidification and furnace replacement projects – Rick/Scott

- Covered above, in Scott's update

Tri Ports League update – Tim

- Three teams identified; likely have enough players for a fourth
- Limit the number of teams for Wednesday night to 9, with a waiting list
 - If the Tri Ports doesn't end up needing all the sheets we're holding for them, we could run late games on Wednesday on those sheets and have more than 9 teams
- Tri Ports League has a policy in place for weather cancellations; need to work on policy for teams who need to cancel their match

Discuss by-law changes – Doug

- **Motion** for the Board to endorse the proposed by-law changes (Runnoe/Bichler) – approved unanimously

Policy for lifetime membership – Doug

- Need to decide on the number of minimum years needed (e.g., 25? 20? 30?)
- Need to decide what 'member in good-standing' means – does that mean they have are currently paying dues when they are nominated? Does that mean they were a dues-paying member for the minimum number of years and they weren't asked to leave the club for bad behavior or failure to pay dues?

Finalize ice-in schedule and start for leagues – Mike

- Compressor kicks on – Oct 16th
- Lines & circles – Oct 21st
- Able to start to curl on the 28th (leagues start on Oct 30th)

Fall Open House – Mike/Shevaun

- We have to really work on planning and coordinating this
- Two models – free-for-all open house (people can pop in at any time) vs. Learn to Curl where people pay a nominal fee (\$10 or \$20) and sign up for a time slot (and they will get the fee credited towards dues, if they sign up for a league)
 - This has been frustrating for folks – they haven't gone well and brought folks to the club (the free-for-all open house is hard to plan for)
- Learn to Curl on Sunday, Oct. 29th, with a nominal fee (\$10 or \$20)
 - Have refreshments

- Will need a serious communication plan (chamber of commerce, city employees, sponsors – their employees may be interested, social media); news coverage (do they want to cover the ice-in? maybe there is a story in the furnace replacement)

Dollars for Doers (if time allows) - Shevaun

- Shevaun will present a package of revisions to make for Dollars for Doers (board would like to see an increase to the hourly rate - \$25 for 4 hours? – and an increase in the incentive for recruiting new members and bringing in new sponsors – maybe \$50)
 - Get this prepped and out to the Board for feedback/comments via email ASAP
- Retain that this doesn't carry-over from year-to-year; the application of the incentive only applies to your own dues, not others
- Board meeting hours are attributable to Dollars for Doers

Open (if time allows) - All

- John – Club historian was discussed at the Spring meeting; he's interested in taking this on
 - Can we digitize some of our archive (especially photos) to help preserve them?
 - Also interested in including Bud Sommerville in a naming structure (e.g., the Superior Curling Club at the Bud Sommerville Rink?)
 - Karen is interested in building 'table topics' as tri-folks on the tables?

Review assignments – Shevaun/Mike

- All
 - Lifetime membership policy – review number of years (minimum) and 'member in good-standing' definition
- Mike
 - Liaise with Lake Superior Ice Festival
 - Work with Charlie (or Chad?) on worker's comp insurance quote
- Scott –
 - Will arrange pizza and refreshments for the general membership meeting (Oct. 12th)
 - Submit new liquor license paperwork
 - Continue managing the furnace & dehumidifier purchases and installations
 - Work with Dan Litchke on cost-sharing the heating upgrades
 - Work with Focus on Energy for rebates for reducing natural gas usage
- Doug
 - Prep email language and attachments to be sent out to membership re: by-law changes
- Shevaun
 - Dollars for Doers updates – prep and send to Board
 - Learn to Curl Open House (Oct. 29th) – coordinate with Scott/Karen/others on logistics and develop communication plan
- Karen
 - Manage membership dues model committee
- Charlie
 - Activate building contents insurance
 - Work with Mike on worker's comp insurance quote
- John
 - Develop proposal for naming structure in honor of Bud Sommerville
 - Develop plan for archiving/preserving club records

- Tim
 - Explore option to transition from NBC to a bank that better appreciates our business.
 - Review options for improving interest earned (are there options beyond CDs?) and report back to the board.

Set next meeting date & time – Mike

- If needed, Zoom meeting for the Board on Wednesday, Oct. 11th at 6pm
- General membership meeting at 6pm on Oct. 12th at SCC

Motion to adjourn at 8:34pm (Flesvig/Gunnon) – approved unanimously