



**The Annual Meeting of
The Potomac Curling Club of the National Capital Area, Inc.
MINUTES: Season 2006-07
June 2, 2007 5:00pm Lundin Room**

- 1) **Distribution of Ballots and Collection of Ballots for Board of Directors** *Nominating Committee*
- 2) **Call to order** *Banville*
5:15pm
Approximately 45 member plus the Board (Banville, Ettlin, Fry, Galebach, Hamilton, Sethi, Shirk, Yeung)
- 3) **Approve minutes of June 3, 2006 Meeting** *Banville*
Motion – John Warshawsky
Second – Howard Griffin
Vote – Passed
- 4) **Financial Report ending April, 2007 and Budget Overview** *Jennings*
The financial health of the club is strong. This season the Finance committee implemented a reserve policy regarding setting aside funds for dire contingencies. We have \$50,000 in reserve and \$50,000 in checking of which approximately \$40,000 will be spent before our dues start rolling in. Charlie Jennings provided a review of our major debts and expenses. We have created cash surpluses over the last two years, and are budgeting to break even in the next year.
- 5) **Close of Balloting** *Nominating Committee*
5:23pm
Thank you to the Committee, chaired by Bob Pelletier and including Sherri Fillingham, Dawn Findlay, Rachel Sethi, and Denis Avdic. They met 7 times.
- 6) **Proposed changes to By-laws** *Banville*
John Warshawsky gave an overview of why the by-laws have been recommended for changes. We are updating the by-laws to reflect our current membership and updates to technology (i.e. email). He also pointed out the updates that were specifically recommended.

Question: Will removing the audit requirement jeopardize the 501(c)3 status of the club?
Answer: No. Charlie Jennings spoke to clarify why that was not at issue.

Question: Is the membership roster posted anywhere?
Answer: We eliminated that because more and more people prefer to not have their phone number, etc.. posted. We will still keep the list, but not post it in the club.

Motion – John Bittner
Second – Susan Armiger
Vote – Passed

7) Forum

a) **Review of PCC Goals and Objectives**

Banville

The document was last updated in Sept of 2005. They will likely be revised soon.

Question: What is our maximum number of members? (Our goal for “increase membership” is listed as 200 nighttime curlers, maintained over 2 years time – and we are not there yet).

Answer: Maximum members is hard to say, because the facility is not being used at its full capacity during the days, etc.. We don't have a magic number.

Question: What are our goals to increase membership and facility utilization?

Answer: We do not have specific objectives other than meeting our budget numbers for membership at this time.

Question: Is there a reason that out of town folks have not been coming to our bonspiels?

Answer: Michael Fry discussed that there are several reasons that out of town curlers are only erratically filling our bonspiels. Timing, competition of other Bonspiels, and erratic publicity are some of the problems we face. When you don't get enough out of town teams, the bonspiel chairman will likely take all comers, leading to a bunch of internal teams.

b) **Membership (overview of membership counts and trends)**

Sethi

Rachel Sethi did a power point presentation of the membership analysis.

We ended with 193 curling members. We are 2nd largest club in GNCC after Broomstones and are 68% male. 70% live in MD. More than half of our current membership joined in the last 3 years.

Comment: Olympic members had a great deal at the end of the year, and then they had a break this year, and next season they will have to pay full freight. Do you anticipate a drop off because of this?

Answer: We discuss dues every year. Brian Galebach mentioned that we have added the second half rookie rate that didn't used to exist as of a couple of years ago to help with the fee transition.

Comment: Do we have an analysis of how many Olympic curlers we kept from last season?

Answer: We can do that analysis but don't have it in hand today.

c) **Gardens Icehouse (overview of our history and relationship with partner and neighbor)**

Banville

There was a general discussion of the history of the move to The Gardens Icehouse, and Clai Carr's contributions. John Bittner mentioned that we are also leasing land at \$1 annually for 50 years.

d) **Facility (listing of achieved and planned improvements)**

Hamilton

A review was given that highlighted that most work is done during the summer, and last summer we did projects such as finishing the bar, paneling under windows, trucking in piles of sand to level the ice shed, etc. We also gained the vinyl rings this past season.

This year our projects will be done on July 28th and August 26th. Our focus is general maintenance with no specific large construction projects planned, other than organizing the area around the filing cabinet where the sliders are kept. We will be creating a mailbox system as well to make things more clear about where forms are and should be put. Doug Andrew has organized the work days in the past, and will do so this summer as well. One of

our days is on a Sunday this year because he's gotten feedback in the past that all Saturdays made volunteering harder for some.

- e) **Volunteer Thank yous** *Shirk*
"Preaching to the Choir" George Shirk just wanted to say "thank you" to all of our volunteers.

- f) **Committee Issues for the Summer** *Banville*
The Membership committee will be addressing the dues structure over the summer. The committee will also be interviewing various members to find out what services our members seem to want. In the past we've done surveys, but we want to get some individual feedback from people of particular experience levels. Please feel free to let Rachel Sethi know if you would like to be one of those interviewees.

- g) **Youth Program (update)** *Warshawsky, Chalmers*
Middle Rockers (John Warshawsky) – It was a very successful year. The program depends on a lot of individualized training, and we couldn't do it without a great set of parents. Thanks also given to the support from the Chalmers and the Ice Committee. The program stresses spirit of curling, sportsmanship, etc – rather than competition. The program has a good core group of middle rockers that we expect to have returning next season, but also expects to lose a few to Juniors.

Juniors (Virginia Charlmer) – The program has many ages and many skill levels. We had about 26 kids on average each Sunday. Thanks to everyone who helps out, mostly parents, but also other people who come in and volunteer even without a junior in the league.

- We graduated 2 from the top level of the Junior Merit Program this year (Stephen Ours and Lizzy Andrew). We might have been able to get a few more in if we had a bit more ice time.
- We had 10 kids pass at least one level of the Junior Merit Program.
- We went to several other clubs for Junior Bonspiels this year, and we hosted our own Bonspiel. The Bonspiel went well. There were only 11 teams, but we had a great group of teams from several other clubs. (Next year we are trying to switch our Bonspiel out of the "busy" time and are trying the Martin Luther King weekend next season. Jan 18th – 20th, 2008.)
- We also have juniors participating in adult leagues, and adult bonspiels.
- We sent 7 kids to the GNCC Junior National Playdowns this year. Two teams placed as first alternates.
- We also had extra practices on Wednesdays with more competitive coaching – and thank you to the athletes who helped coach.

- 8) **Announcement of Election Results for the Board of Directors** *Nominating Committee*
Thank you to all of the candidates.

3 year terms:

Susan Armiger
Barry Nichols
Ben Yeung
Rick Warner

1 year term:

Bob Pursell
Scott Waters

9) Next Meeting

The 2008 Annual Meeting will occur around the same time next year.

Adjourned at 6:21pm

Submitted by FL Ettlín, Ann Drummie