

Pittsburgh Curling Club Board Meeting Minutes

02/11/2013

7:30 PM

RMU ISLAND SPORTS CENTER
HAT TRICK CLUB

MEMBERS PRESENT	Andy Banfield, Matt Berwick, Dan Bliss, Steve Buffington, Michelle Crown, Amy Hannan, Amanda Marchitelli, Jen Poeschl, Daphne Roberts, Marie Rose, Brian Stuart, Jacki Temple
MEMBERS ABSENT	
OBSERVERS	Thad Fields, Beth Cubbison, Neill Turner, Mark Robinson, Len Jarabek
CALLED TO ORDER	7:38 P.M.

Agenda topics

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

DISCUSSION		
December minutes need revisions to reflect that the President's Report should be divided into report and discussion. Also, the statement about FEMA maps and floodplain information needs amendment to reflect that the floodplain is smaller, not non-existent.		
CONCLUSIONS		
Motion to approve December's minutes, with amendments: Crown/Hannan – carried unanimously. Motion to approve January's minutes: Temple/Bliss – carried unanimously.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Amend December minutes.	Temple	

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

DISCUSSION		
CONCLUSIONS		
Motion to approve the consent agenda: Bliss/Marchitelli – carried unanimously.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

MEMBER COMMENTS

DISCUSSION		
None.		
CONCLUSIONS		

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOARD MEMBERS

DISCUSSION		
<p><u>Annual Meeting:</u> The date for this year’s meeting has been set for Wednesday, March 20 at 7:30. Steve Buffington will confirm that the Hat Trick Club is available. Email blast to the membership must be sent out 10 days in advance of the meeting.</p> <p><u>Nominating Committee:</u> Brian Stuart, Marie Rose, and Amy Hannan volunteered to be on the committee in charge of selecting and asking nominees to run, asking current members up for re-election if they wish to run again, and running the election process.</p> <p><u>Board Absences:</u> Per the recent By-Laws amendments, a current Board member has missed enough meetings to warrant receipt of a letter from Steve Buffington indicating that dismissal from the Board may be imminent. The Board member has until February 25 to submit an appeal, which will be heard during the March meeting.</p> <p><u>USCA Arena Championships:</u> Steve Buffington has tried repeatedly to contact the USCA regarding whether or not stick curlers and wheelchair curlers will be allowed to participate. He finally received the response that they are considering it. He will follow up again soon to find out what their determination is.</p> <p>A total of three teams have already signed up as being interested in attending: 2 men’s and 1 women’s. A process for selection of the men’s team must be determined. It was determined by the Board that the 2 interested teams must “play down” during a Vampire League night, with the winning team winning the entry for USCA consideration. The deadline for submitting teams is April 15, 2013.</p> <p><u>Small Games of Chance:</u> Daphne Roberts has the application for license renewal ready and is awaiting the background check from the club secretary in order to proceed with submittal.</p>		

CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Communicate and facilitate the play down needed to determine the men’s team who will be submitted as our curling club entry.	Banfield	

FINANCIAL

DAPHNE ROBERTS

DISCUSSION		
Cash on hand:		
Money Market	\$155,128.91	

Checking III	8,367.52
Assoc Checking (PayPal)	2,662.02
PayPal balance	0.00
Logo Shop change	100.00
Giant Eagle Gift Cards	4,227.50
Charles Schwab account	1,000.22
Undeposited funds	\$368.00

Current cash on hand	\$171,854.17
Logo shop sales	
Logo shop change	

Grand total cash	\$

Current Liabilities (all amounts are estimated):	
RMU Ice Rental	\$600.00
Tcurl 2013 T-shirts dwnpymt	\$400.00

Current liabilities	\$1,000.00

CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

ICE OPERATIONS & EQUIPMENT

JIM MEYER

DISCUSSION		
Kenny Thomson's name is misspelled on one of our rock handles. It appears that the fault lies with the engraving company.		
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Check into getting it corrected.	Marchitelli	

JUNIOR PROGRAM

TBD

DISCUSSION		
None.		
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

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TRAINING

TBD

DISCUSSION		
None.		
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

FUNDRAISING

AMANDA MARCHITELLI

DISCUSSION		
None.		
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

OUTREACH

DAN BLISS

DISCUSSION		
<p><u>Learn-to-Learn:</u> A corporate Learn to Curl has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 27th from 12:30-3:30pm for Equitable Gas. It should be about 50 people and payment has been mailed. We'll need around 10 people to help out, but I'm hoping that isn't too hard to do since we haven't had an event like this in a year or so. The event will give us a \$1500 profit.</p> <p><u>Pop-Up Curling:</u> The Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership asked us to partner with them and set up a Pop-Up Curling event for the evening of January 25th. Despite being a very cold and snowy evening (17°F!), attendance was phenomenal, with approximately 75-100 attendants, most of whom expressed a tremendous amount of interest in the club, the sport, and our fundraising efforts, as well as in participating in our "street curling" demonstration. The PDP provided mobile heaters, and Yelp.com shared a table with us and provided hot chocolate for passers-by, both of which were a huge help in getting people to wander over to check us out. Brian had a poster displayed outlining our fundraising goals and needs. This event also garnered 2 Post-Gazette articles: great publicity for the club!</p> <p>Very special thanks go to Kim O'Dell and Thaddeus Fields for volunteering to help out and provide additional warm beverages!</p>		
CONCLUSIONS		

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
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PRO SHOP

BRIAN STUART

DISCUSSION		
None.		
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

LOGO SHOP

JEN POESCHL

DISCUSSION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GE gift card sales were \$875 • Cart sales were \$30. • Embroidered merchandise sales were \$306 • Ordered embroidered ball caps, and a few men’s and lady’s shirts for stock in the logo cart. <p>Jen has the Tropicurl logo and can now order t-shirts, it takes about a month to order and get payment so so can pick them up, so we probably won't have them before the end of the season. Logo shop will do a pre-order like last year.</p> <p>Need to count how many club pins are left, we may need to order pins.</p> <p>Day of giving thank yous are done and building pins are included with the thank yous. Trying to give them to people in person at curling, if not they will be mailed. There are a number of thank yous that need to be mailed to people who are not at curling this year or are not members of the club.</p>		
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

EVENTS

MARIE ROSE

DISCUSSION		
<p>Steelspiel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signups posted on the glass. Info on the website. Medals have been ordered. • Junior Curler Award: Candidates are Stefan Schultz and Tony Dalesio. Discussion ensued about the merit of both candidates, and it was determined that Stefan will be awarded. • Soliciting ideas: “Other” awards: Marie needs help with ideas. • Curler of the Year and Best New Curler awards: to be determined by the next Board meeting 		

Rochester Friendly:
Signups posted on the glass. Collecting money. Info on the website.

Venture Outdoors:
May 18 - not yet time to sign up. This is a budgeted event.

CONCLUSIONS

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

MEMBERSHIP

**AMY HANNAN
BRIAN STUART**

DISCUSSION

None.

CONCLUSIONS

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

SCHEDULING

STEVE BUFFINGTON

DISCUSSION

None.

CONCLUSIONS

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

LEAGUES

STEVE BUFFINGTON

DISCUSSION

We have a plan for the Vampire "finals". During the regular season, we had randomly selected teams, sometimes had 5 or 6 person teams and often had inexperienced people in the skip or 3rd positions. We also held learn to curl and training sessions that drew vampires out of the hunt for points. Basically, the people who played the most floated to the top of the score board.

So, how can we give people the opportunity to get back into the mix a little, but still reward players that have really improved their game?

So we're going to have a skills competition. We will take the point totals from the regular league and on finals night (March 9th) run four skills where players can collect additional points. There will be 2 skills with rock throwing, one sweeping and one curling skill we're calling the swim suit competition.

Marie is working on vampire awards.

CONCLUSIONS

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

FACILITIES

ANDY BANFIELD

DISCUSSION

A small group of the Building Committee met last on Wednesday, February 6th and discussed To-Do Items:

- Information Packet and Questionnaire: to be sent out to the entire membership asking about their availability and interest in playing in a building located in the Mars/Wexford area and pay higher membership fees will go up. Beth Cubbison volunteered to run the questionnaire online through Survey Monkey. These things will help determine the level of support we can expect from the membership.

CONCLUSIONS

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

OMBUDSMEN

JEN POESCHL

DISCUSSION

None.

CONCLUSIONS

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

DOCUMENTS

DAPHNE ROBERTS

DISCUSSION

None.

CONCLUSIONS

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

TROPICURL

ALL

DISCUSSION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration is at 23 teams. It was at 18 at this time last year. • Heather Barclay has volunteered out of the blue to sponsor the Cheese Fest. This has inspired Marie Rose to start sending Tropicurl meeting minutes out to the entire membership with the hope of inspiring others to volunteer. • For the award pins, Frank Sottile is designing the award pins. Jacki Temple is designing the event pins. • Is it time to create a policy whereby we specify that all entries must be made in US funds or on US checks/money orders only? Both last year and this year, Canadian checks and/or funds have been received, incurring fees for our club. It is not always clear if the fees are for converting funds to US dollars or if they are being assessed simply because the checks themselves are foreign, even if made in US dollars. 		
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Clarify with our bank about why we are being assessed fees when we receive foreign checks.	Roberts	

PUBLIC RELATIONS

MICHELLE CROWN

DISCUSSION		
None.		
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

WEBSITE

MARIE ROSE

DISCUSSION		
<p>Added "PCC in the News" under the This N'At tab. Contains newspaper articles. Thanks to those updating the PCC's Facebook page. Good place for building committee information. Have updated Bonspiel Diaries with a couple of entries.</p>		
<p>Steve Buffington asked Matt Berwick to start collecting, culling, and publishing short essays club members write about their bonspiel experiences. Matt has also been following posts about curling on social media and is reposting them so our club members can be made aware of what's going on the community-at-large. Any other ideas should be forwarded to Matt.</p>		

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

STEVE BUFFINGTON

DISCUSSION		
<p>The building Committee held a meeting on Feb 6th, in part to identify those things we need to be doing right now as we work towards our own dedicated ice. One item we discussed was having a place or forum where experienced curlers could provide their own reasons why dedicated curling ice is important to them. To be successful in this project, we need the support of our current membership. And many of our current members have not experienced quality curling ice.</p> <p>So, the suggestion was made that we all get the word out. Spend some time during your weekly curling to talk to your teammates, your opponents and others on the sheets around you and promote the benefits that we all will see with dedicated ice, a building and facility that we control and eventually a cozy warm room and kitchen.</p> <p>The quote of the night was "We can do a lot of damage with a face to face conversation". And in this case, damage is meant as a positive influence. A face to face sales pitch will be more effective than anything we could write down and post on the glass or website.</p>		
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

MEETING ADJOURNED	Motion to adjourn: Rose/Crown – carried unanimously.
NEXT BOARD MEETING	March 11, 2013 at 7:30 P.M. – Hat Trick Club, RMU

EMAIL VOTES

ALL

DISCUSSION		
None.		
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE