

Chippewa Valley Pickleball Club  
Board Meeting Minutes  
May 7, 2019  
Eau Claire Indoor Sports Center

Present: Julie Booth, Ron Doering, Geoff Groh, Bev Hilton, Patti Keske, Mike Mai, Marilyn Skrivseth, and Kimberly Wahler.

Also present: Newly elected Board member Sandi Harberts.

The meeting was called to order by Club President Marilyn Skrivseth at 7 p.m. The following items of business were discussed:

1. The minutes from the February 21, 2019, Board meeting were reviewed. Following a correction to the cost of a new windscreen (approximately \$70, not \$250), a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
2. Treasurer Mike Mai reported that there were no changes in the treasurer's report from the annual meeting. (The Club funds of \$28,669.13 combined with the Parks Association funds of \$26,361.93 gives the Club a total of \$55,031.36, plus \$5,000. from the Mayo Grant.)
3. Kimberly Wahler reported that the Club has a good start on new memberships and membership renewals. Dues are due by June 1 every year.
4. Ron reported that the USPA has several approved pickleball balls. He ordered six dozen Durafast 40 balls and is selling them for \$2 apiece. There has also been a request for the Onix ball. The balls of choice are the Durafast 40 and Onix Fuse G2. Board members offered to assist in selling balls at the various courts. Discontinued balls can be used in the ball machine for drills.
- 5, Julie provided an update on the Parks and Rec sponsored tournament to be held May 13 and 15 at McDonough Park. Currently 12 men and 16 women have signed up to play.

Marilyn reported that the Monday evening lessons held in April as part of National Pickleball month were well received. Upcoming lessons sponsored by Parks and Rec are as follows: May 21 and 28, June 4 and 11, July 9 and 11, and August 6 and 13.

Mixed up round robins will be held at McDonough Park on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.. Round robin night will be Tuesday evenings in Chippewa Falls.

6. Revamping/updating the Club's website was discussed. Marilyn distributed a handout regarding items that could be added or enhanced on the website:
- A strong visual identifying the Club's mission (diversity of players, court cleanup, lessons, tournament information, other locations, public venues)
  - Tabs leading to financial documents, minutes, bylaws, IRS documents, and members of the Board of Directors
  - Membership/donation forms;
  - Testimonials
  - Privacy statement

A revised and updated website could be developed while the current WEB site remains operational. That new site could then be reviewed by the Board as parts are completed for additional input. Once finalized the new site would then replace the current web site. Also suggested was having pictures of Board members on the website.

It was noted that a photo release needs to be signed by a child's parent or guardian giving the Club permission to use photos of individuals under the age of 18. The Club needs to be mindful of this.

Photographs on the website and information posted there needs to depict that the Club encompasses more than the Eau Claire area.

7. Venues:

Lake Hallie has six courts. Efforts need to be made to better utilize these courts. This could be done through lessons and organized play. An open house would be another means to accomplish this.

Sandi reported that lessons will be offered again in Chippewa Falls but nothing has been scheduled as of yet. Previously the Chippewa Falls Parks and Rec has advertised lessons, and the Chippewa Falls players have provided the instruction.

Bev reported that she contacted a company out of Elk Mound that rents porta potties. The cost to rent one is \$125 a month. The company would provide the

supplies and pump the unit once a week. A motion was made and seconded to have two porta potties installed on a trial basis upon approval from the City of Eau Claire. Motion carried.

Marilyn is going to find the banner that lists the individuals who have donated to the McDonough Park court improvements and have it put up. The City of Eau Claire will create a permanent donation board. Donation amounts need to be verified for accuracy.

Senn Blacktop has been working on the final grading of the driveway and parking areas. A retention pond will be added to prevent a washout like the one that occurred last year. The City of Eau Claire will assist with that project.

Marilyn distributed a handout regarding suggestions for court play at McDonough Park. The concept of having a challenge court was discussed. It was decided that Court 12 will be the designated challenge court. A bench will be located by that court for those individuals wishing to play there. While the challenge court is intended for intermediate to advanced play, ANY player may elect to play on the challenge court and should not be discouraged from doing so. Other things to consider for play on the challenge court include:

- There must be a minimum of six players for play on the challenge court, otherwise it reverts back to open play.
- Players playing in the challenge court should expect a higher level of play.
- Players who wish to challenge another team should sit/line up on the bench closest to that court so they are ready to play at the conclusion of the game in progress. Players should not quit a game on another court to assume a spot on the challenge court.
- When a game ends, the winning team stays on and stays together after their first win and a new team challenges them. The second place finishers come off the court. A team can stay on the court for three consecutive wins after which they get in the rotation of play if they choose to do so.

Players are encouraged to not play exclusively on the challenge court. The advanced players should consider themselves ambassadors of the sport, and as such, are encouraged to play some games on the open-play courts and to use those games to mix in with other players.

The concept of the challenge court will be implemented on a trial basis. If the feedback is positive, signs will be made that explain the rules of conduct for the challenge court.

Players new to the sport are encouraged to play on the lower-numbered courts. The higher numbered courts are for the more experienced players.

When courts are full, paddle lines will be used for courts 1-6 and courts 7-12.

A motion was made and seconded to implement on a trial basis the challenge court concept and the other ideas for court play as discussed. Motion carried.

An email will be crafted and sent to Club members explaining the challenge court and other proposed ideas regarding court play at McDonough. The goal is to make pickleball enjoyable, comfortable, and friendly for all.

Other: Five mile an hour speed signs will be considered for along the driveway. To reduce congestion and allow for better flow of players, the benches will be moved to the east and west sides of the courts where shade is also most prevalent .

8. Election of officers. The following individuals were nominated and elected by unanimous ballot: Patti Keske, president; Judy Mirr, vice president (pending her consent as she was not in attendance); Mike Mai, treasurer, Bev Hilton, secretary, and Kimberly Wahler, membership chair. These individuals will take office or continue in office June 1, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bev Hilton, Secretary