

Chippewa Valley Pickleball Club
Board Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2021
Eau Claire YMCA Sports Center

Present: Steve Abele, Julie Booth, Ron Doering, Penny Graham, Sandi Harberts, Bev Hilton, Sandy Johnson, Mike Mai, Judy Mirr, Linda Nicastro, and Mike Peterson.

Also present: Club Member Marilyn Skrivseth.

President Judy Mirr called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

The following items of business were discussed:

1. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the February 23, 2021, meeting. Motion carried.
2. Treasurer's report. Mike M. presented the treasurer's report. The Club has funds totaling \$24,031.95. A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried. Discussion took place regarding the \$990.93 the Club has in the Community Parks Association. Mike will look into using those funds to pay for the new leaf blower and bag tags.
3. Fund-raising activities. Marilyn Skrivseth provided a history of the grant money received for the active aging aspect of McDonough Park and how the money would be allocated. There may be some enhancements to the pickleball area as well. She suggested ways to proceed with future fundraising, recommending that matching funds are a big incentive when seeking donations. Marilyn was thanked for her fund-raising efforts and the other contributions she has made to the Club.

Mike P. reported that Covid grant money might be available for pickleball initiatives. Julie was asked to pursue this with the City of Eau Claire.

It is hoped that the DNR grant of \$204,000 will be matched in the near future through donations and grants.

4. Opening of the Sports Center. Because elementary-aged children will be back in the classroom starting April 5, there will be no early morning staffing at the Sports Center except on Wednesdays. Through April, the Sports Center will open at 8 a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays for season pass holders and at 9 a.m. for all others. On Wednesdays the center will open at 7 a.m. for season pass holders and at 9 a.m. for all others.

5. Sports Center Banner. Sandy J. reported that Amy from the Sports Center had proposed the idea of the Club having a banner displayed at the Sports Center. The cost of advertising would be waived, and the Club would only need to pay for the banner itself. It is estimated the cost of the banner would be \$115-125. A motion was made and seconded for the Club to purchase a banner for the Sports Center. Motion carried. Discussion also took place regarding having a banner on display at the McDonough Park courts and the courts in Chippewa Falls.
6. McDonough Park courts. Mike reported that the nets will be set up, the courts blown off, and the windscreens put up at McDonough Park on Thursday, April 15, beginning at 9 a.m. A new blower has been purchased for cleaning off the courts. Mike will look into getting a new wind sock too. In the next newsletter, Linda will ask for volunteers for April 15. The Social Committee will provide treats and coffee/hot chocolate. Bag tags will be handed out to Club members, and the membership incentive drawing will be held after the work has been completed.
7. City-wide cleanup. Julie reported that April 24 is the day for the city-wide cleanup. Since Club members will be at McDonough Park on April 15, it was decided that that would be the day to clean up the park (rake leaves, pick up trash). The Club needs to register with the City to do this, and volunteers will need to sign in.

Julie also reported that the pads on the AED kept at McDonough Park will be replaced. Discussion took place regarding the best place to store the AED. In past it has been kept in the equipment box.

This spring/summer City workers will take care of emptying the trash container by the courts.

8. Zane Navratil clinic, Mad Hatter completion, future clinics.
 - Overall the Navratil clinic was well received. Several people paid their Club membership the day of the clinic to take advantage of the discounted Club member cost. It was mentioned that some people said they were Club members when they were not, and some said they would pay the membership fee but have not as of yet. Those individuals who weren't members but took advantage of the reduced cost of the clinic will need to either pay their membership or pay the nonmembership Navratil clinic cost before participating in future clinics. Clinic participants enjoyed the exhibition play that took place following Zane's instruction.
 - Discussion took place about the consistency in facility fees when pros come to the area to conduct clinics. In the past, the pros have not contributed toward the cost of the facility nor made a contribution to the Club. Club volunteers have helped with registration and other aspects of the clinics, and there is value in these services. Julie

will bring up the issue of facility fees at the regional meeting she will be attending on April 2.

- A “Mad Hatter” competition will be held at McDonough Park on May 14 and 15. This is a fun tournament in which people sign up as individuals and then draw for a partner on the day of the tournament. It will be divided into skill levels (2.5, 3.0, and 3.5). More information can be found at www.eauclaire.wi.gov/athletics.

9. Other:

- McDonough gate: The first person arriving to play in the morning unlocks the gate, and the last one out locks it. People need to be reminded that play can begin at 7 a.m. and continue until dusk.
- The kiosk at McDonough will be installed by the storage area near the courts. It will serve as a means of disseminating information.
- Sandi H. reported that another section of windscreens, a squeegee, and a storage unit are needed in Chippewa Falls. A motion was made and seconded that up to \$250 can be used to purchase the windscreen and squeegee. Sandi will look into the cost for a storage unit and report back to the Board.
- Penny inquired about the Social Committee’s budget. It was decided she can spend what is necessary to purchase beverages and treats on April 15 when the McDonough courts are cleaned up and nets installed.
- Organized outdoor play, lessons, and the Club tournament will be discussed at a future meeting.
- Committee expectations will be discussed at a future meeting. It was suggested that a handbook be created that would outline the expectations of the committees. Judy offered to contact individuals on committees who do not have a chairperson to recruit someone to serve in that capacity.

The meeting adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Bev Hilton
Secretary