

Chippewa Valley Pickleball Club Board
Board Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2021, 12 Noon
McDonough Park Pavilion

Present: Steve Abele, Ron Doering, Bev Hilton, Sandy Johnson, Mike Mai, Judy Mirr, Linda Nicastro, and Mike Peterson.

Also Present: Club Members Tim O'Riley and Mike Benrud and Steve Plaza.

The meeting was called to order by Club President Judy Mirr. The following items of business were discussed:

1. A concern was expressed that the City is not providing maintenance/repairs to the McDonough courts as was hoped based on the memorandum of understanding between the Club and the City of Eau Claire. Steve Plaza from Eau Claire Parks and Recreation explained that there is not enough staffing to maintain the courts on a regular basis. He also explained that some organizations (football, soccer, and tennis) pay a fee to maintain the fields they use. It was suggested that the Club and the City work together to resolve issues.

Steve Plaza also reported that a bike rack, storage shed, and water filling station will be put in place at the McDonough courts.

Also discussed were the cracks in Courts 1-6. Money is not available at this time from the City to repair the cracks. Some projects are 6-8 years out.

Sandy J. asked if the police could patrol the McDonough Park more often. Steve Plaza has asked for this. Additional recreational activity at the park has reduced the less-than-desirable activity that has taken place there in the past.

Ron brought up court expansion. The City has a lot of requests for additions/improvements for user groups. The City did help with the prep work for the six-court expansion that took place a few years ago. Mike Benrud brought up the fact that pickleball is growing fast in the Chippewa Valley and asked how new courts could be financed. Additional parking would need to be addressed along with bathrooms. The DNR grant designated to be used for active aging purposes at McDonough Park needs to be used in 2022. Ron asked if the money could be used to for pickleball court expansion. Steve Plaza will check into that.

Linda suggested a committee be formed to address the issue of adding courts. Mike Benrud volunteered to serve on the committee.

Steve Plaza also told the Board that trees will be selectively removed to open up the view of the river.

2. Club Member Tim O'Riley brought Board members up to date on the nets and posts replacement at the Chippewa Falls courts. The original bid was \$14,000, but with volunteer help and help from the Chippewa Falls Parks and Rec, the cost was reduced significantly. The total cost was \$10,150 and \$1,200 is still needed to paint the courts and fix some asphalt. A motion was made and seconded to allocate \$1,200 to the Chippewa Falls courts so the work can be completed. Motion carried.
3. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the June 22, 2021, meeting. Motion carried.
4. Treasurer Mike Mai presented the treasurer's report. The checking account has a balance of \$286.83 and the savings account has a balance of \$25,840.24 for a total of \$26,127.07 available funds. Mike also reported that the 990 tax form has been submitted (this allows the Club to maintain its tax-exempt status).
5. Linda reported on the Club's membership. The Club has 305 members. \$6,100 has been received from Club dues with an additional \$3,000 received in donations.
6. Continuing with Club committees was discussed. People who have indicated they would serve on a committee have not been contacted, and some people who have been contacted have not served on the committee they signed up for.
7. The date of the annual meeting is Wednesday, October 27, at 6 p.m. at the Indoor Sports Center. Steve, Sandy, and Mike P. volunteered to serve on the nominations committee. The terms for Bev, Judy, Sandy H. and Linda expire this year. At the meeting Judy will highlight the Club's accomplishments over the last year.
8. The end-of-year social event was postponed.
9. Judy will talk with Amy at the Sports Center regarding where to store the ball machine. It needs to be stored in an area that has access to electricity as the

machine needs to be charged regularly. A set time needs to be established for using the ball machine. Mike M. reported that the USPA insurance would cover the insurance needs in regard to use of the machine. People who have been trained on how to use the ball machine need to be present when others are using it.

10. Other.

- A Club member expressed to Sandy J. some concerns/suggestions related to pickleball, including court usage when the courts are busy.
- Mike P. reported that he could use help keeping the courts clean. Harry Gordee has helped with this but other volunteers are needed. Harry, through TruLock, provided at no cost to the Club new keys and locks for the gates. This would have cost the Club \$150. Judy volunteered to send Harry a thank you card. The gates to the courts need to be locked up every night.
- The Club will get a quote on getting the cracks fixed on Courts 1-6.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bev Hilton, Secretary