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Niagara Falls Curling Club Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2022

Call to Order

A meeting of the NFCC Board was held on Thursday, February 10, 2022 through a Zoom format with several members joining from the Club. The meeting began at 5:35 pm and was chaired by new Board President, Rob Walters.

Attendees and Regrets

Directors in attendance:

Present: Spencer Maves, Schelley Hiebert, Randy Elliott, Jackie Lynch, Sean Ford, Jeff Glover Rob Walters, June Lumber.

Late: Stephen Fish (coordinating Girls Rock)

Regrets: Jamie Brunaccioni, Tim Williams, Karen Williams, Claire Fish

Staff in Attendance

Sean Ford

Approval of the Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting was made by Spencer Maves and seconded by Randy Elliott. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to accept the January 13, 2021 Minutes was made by Schelley Hiebert and seconded by Jeff Glover. Motion carried.

New Business

- None

Business Arising from Minutes

Jackie Lynch:

Valentine's Bonspiel:

Cancelled. Sean Ford has made refunds to teams. Still waiting on vendors to be cancelled.

OCA loan and membership payment:

The Club has one remaining \$6,000 loan payment to the OCA/CurlOn along with the membership fees for the 2021-22 season.

Jeff Glover advised we pay the fees on the loan, but to hold off on repaying the loan. Board unanimously agrees to pay fees.

Calcutta

The board briefly discussed hosting a Calcutta at the end of the year. Must gauge interest from club members before proceeding.

Manager's Report

Club Manager, Sean Ford, provided the following updates:

17 squares remaining in Super Bowl pool.

Brackets on post in ice shed to be put up on Friday the 11th.

POS system has been up and running for over a week. POS system is very easy to use and very beneficial to club operations and accounting. Also helpful for reports and intelligence for sales purposes.

Lots of requests coming in for rentals. Sean is going to open a calendar for availability to board members to view.

Most administrative/operations forms and files have been lost, Sean stated they must be rebuilt and held onto to develop continuity for the future.

Sean made a request to the board to allocate money to cover workplace training / safety training courses for employees. Roughly \$400. Jeff Glover motions to approve request, Spencer Maves seconds motion. Motion carried.

NFCC is now partnered with backcheck.com, Sean recommends we motion to pay for background checks for volunteers. June Lumber makes a motion, seconded by Randy Elliott.

Looking ahead, Sean brought up the following:

- Need to do Puck Board on edges of rink, cost of roughly \$1000
- 3 fans in ice-house need to be replaced (these save us money)
- Suggestion by Sean to buy an install a second temperature probe into ice at a cost of roughly \$300
- Request to potentially rent a one person genie lift at end of the season for maintenance
- Quote will be presented for cameras at far end at next month's meeting
- Sean will provide numbers on how much the new plant costs us and how much the plant is saving the club
- We will be getting rid of the VISA account, in progress
- Sean is looking for someone to take over the Thursday night league to take it off his plate

Committee Reports:

Finance Report: Jeff Glover provided an update as follows:

Income: \$107,118

Expenses: \$110,000

Profit (Loss): (\$3000)

We are currently running at 50% of our normal hydro bill.

OCA loan still outstanding at (\$6000).

We pulled 7 names for debentures. We still owe \$74,000 on debentures in next 13 years.

Ladies section offered \$1,800 towards replacing carpets and fixing backboards.

Facilities: Tim Williams

The restart of the ice plant and the club has gone off without any major problems; a job well done by Sean. There are still some complaints regarding the runners on the end boards, the preliminary cost to replace them seems more expensive than anticipated. The reinforcement of the beams is ongoing. Dave and Doug are taking on this task. A new item of concern is some water penetration on the east wall. This may be a one-time issue due to the weather. We will keep an eye on this situation.

Communications: Stephen Fish

We continue to have a great deal of success in reaching the community through both updates on the website and through Facebook and twitter.

Recent post data from Facebook. Included are three paid promotions (dark yellow indicates the paid component in the graph). We have been lucky enough as well to have Bethlehem Housing name us a Housing Hero for the new Jr League which increases our exposure to a new audience.

Up 14 new page likes and 15 new followers.

We now have 842 page likes which is up 14 in the past 28 days.

What does this mean...our information is getting out there and we have a greater audience that will see our stuff for free.

Please continue to encourage all members to join our facebook group and share the posts as this works as free advertising for the club.

Special thanks to Rob for keeping the website updated.

Curling Affairs: Spencer Maves

General

- The 2022 restart went off well on Monday the 31st of January.

OCA (Curl On) Update – Lynne Coull

- Nothing new to report.

Learn to Curl

- Learn to Curl's have begun, and are scheduled for Thursday nights and Saturdays.

Trivia

- We are looking to host another Trivia night at NFCC in March. Date to be set soon.

Upcoming OCA Playdowns

- Most if not all have been cancelled

Strategic Planning Committee

We have moved towards developing other sub-committees, including a Social Planning Committee and a Communications committee.

Summary

- In the process of developing Club Committees as per the Strategic Plan
- Template for Committee Terms of Reference completed
- Terms of Reference for the Social Planning Committee completed
- Laurie Simpson has accepted the role of Social Planning Chair
- Recruitment of 3 core Committee members is in progress
 - Thanks to all who have put names forward
- Binder of Terms of References has been provided to Sean Ford for the office.

Section Reports

Day Men's: Randy Elliott suggested organizing another Day spiel for the Day Men's.

Day Ladies': June Lumber reported that there is a card party in the planning stages. June also announced her resignation from the board, to be succeeded by Laurie Simpson.

Co-ed leagues: Nothing to report. Looking for a new league rep.

Brodie: In Jamie's absence, it was reported that the Competitive league was going well.

Men's Section

QR Code Scanning

- Scanning with the help of Rob Walters went quicker than expected
- The 4 teams playing late cancelled their games, most likely due to weather and will scan

those curlers during their next game if they haven't already been scanned on another day

Honeymoon City Bonspiel

- We are checking with past entrants to see if there is any interest in holding the event this year

Scotties Pool

- Jeff Bolan Ran a Scotties pool and with only 1 days' notice he managed to get 32 entries and raised \$160 which he is donating to the junior program
- Brian Moore won the pool
- Jeff plans to run a pool for the Brier and will also donate 50% of the pool to the junior program

Youth Curling/Junior League: Both going well as of the restart.

Little Rock's: Little Rock's have been a success. We have had our first week of curling and it went well. There are 18 kids in Little Rock's.

Junior Curling: Junior curling has been going well. We could use some more coaches if possible. There are 16 kids in junior curling.

Girls Rock: We have had one session and it was on a no bus day so there were only 8 kids. We have 3 more weeks of girls rock and it will end on March 3rd.

Junior League: We will be starting our junior league in a week on Saturdays. It will overlap with girls rock for two weeks. We have 10 kids currently signed up and we have reached out to other clubs for participants but have not had responses. We are able to afford sweaters for the kids playing from donations of members and Senior men's donation. We have had Little Rock's/Juniors and Girls Rock looking to join. We will be starting February 19th.

Other Business

None

Acceptance of Reports

A motion was made to receive all presented reports by Schelley Hiebert and second by Spencer Maves. Motion carried.

Adjournments

A motion to adjourn was made by June Lumber, seconded by Spencer Maves.

Meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.

Next meeting to be scheduled.